



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

**Board of Supervisors**

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**Alfredo Pedroza**  
Chairman

August 30, 2016

The Honorable Mark S. Boessenecker  
Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California, County of Napa  
825 Brown Street  
Napa, CA 94559

**FILED**

**SEP - 6 2016**

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court  
By: C. Brennan  
Deputy

Dear Judge Boessenecker:

As required by Penal Code Section 933(c), enclosed are responses to the Grand Jury's 2015-2016 Final Reports on "Maintaining Food Quality in Napa County," "Napa River Reclamation District" and "Napa County Criminal Justice Facilities: County Jail."

Grand Jury activity takes place over the course of a number of months. The Board acknowledges the members of the 2015-2016 Grand Jury for the time they have devoted in preparing the reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AP", written over a horizontal line.

Alfredo Pedroza, Chairman  
Napa County Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

Cc: Foreman, 2015-2016 Grand Jury

**Brad Wagenknecht**  
District 1

**Mark Luce**  
District 2

**Diane Dillon**  
District 3

**Alfredo Pedroza**  
District 4

**Keith Caldwell**  
District 5

NAPA COUNTY  
RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT ON  
MAINTAINING FOOD QUALITY IN NAPA COUNTY

August 30, 2016

The Grand Jury requested responses from the Board of Supervisors, which are included below.

**Finding 1.** While food-borne illnesses cannot always be prevented, the Retail Food Program within Napa County's Environmental Health Division does an effective job of partnering with food providers to minimize food-borne illness risk.

*Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services' Response:* The Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services agrees with this Finding. The Consumer Protection unit within the Environmental Health Division investigates over 200 food-borne complaints each year. The goal in each case is to ascertain whether the facility was the source of the illness, determine what procedures led to the outbreak, and work with the food operators to immediately correct all problems. In addition, staff provides workshops and informational updates to educate operators and their employees in the most current requirements. This process is time-consuming, but is critical to minimizing potential threats to the public health and safety related to food preparation.

*Board of Supervisor's Response:* The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services.

**Finding 2.** The Grand Jury finds that the continuous education of businesses and staff is a reasonable and cost-effective means of minimizing food-borne illness risk to Napa County residents and visitors.

*Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services' Response:* The Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services agrees with this Finding. The eight staff of the Consumer Protection unit within the Environmental Health Division inspect over 1,000 separate facilities every year, including restaurants, stores, bed and breakfasts, food trucks, cottage (home) preparation, institutions, and temporary events. Many of these facilities are inspected multiple times each year. The program is both efficient and effective in the services it provides in assuring a safe food supply for the public.

*Board of Supervisor's Response:* The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services.

**Recommendation 1.** The Board of Supervisors is encouraged to direct the Department of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services to expand resources devoted to the training of restaurant owners and employees regarding food-borne illness prevention and food safety practices.

*Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services' Response:* The Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services partially agrees with this Finding. The Consumer Protection program is currently operating efficiently and is meeting its responsibilities. However, as the local economy continues to improve and as the range of food service alternatives expand, the number of facilities is increasing. At the same time, staff from the Consumer Protection unit has been temporarily reallocated to the Land Use unit, as that program has seen a significant increase in regulatory requirements recently related to water wells and septic systems. Consequently, although additional resources for the Consumer Protection unit are not presently required, the Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services recommends that staffing levels for both the Consumer Protection and the Land Use programs be evaluated as a part of the mid-year budget review.

*Board of Supervisor's Response:* The Board of Supervisors agrees with the County Executive Officer and the Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services.

**Commendation.** The Grand Jury commends the professionals employed by Napa County's Environmental Health Division for their persistent and dedicated actions to minimize food-borne illness risk to Napa County residents and visitors.

*Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services' Response:* The Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services agrees with this Finding. Staff of the Consumer Protection unit is knowledgeable, well-trained, and diligent in their duties. They also provide inspections after hours and on weekends to accommodate business needs and to ensure the safety of the many festivals and events within the County. The recognition of their service by the Grand Jury is greatly appreciated.

*Board of Supervisor's Response:* The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Director of Planning, Building, and Environmental Services.