



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Board of Supervisors

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Belia Ramos
Chair

August 15, 2017

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

FILED

AUG 21 2017

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 2016-2017 Final Reports, "The Napa County Fairgrounds: The County's Orphan Asset," "Napa Child Abuse Hotline (707) 253-4261 or (800) 464-4216," "Juvenile Hall," "Napa County Jail - Where are we headed?" and "Napa Valley Transportation Agency Vision 2040 Plan."

Grand Jury activity takes place over the course of a number of months. The Board acknowledges the members of the 2016-2017 Grand Jury for the time they have devoted in preparing the reports.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Belia Ramos in black ink.

Belia Ramos
Chair of the Board of Supervisors

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NAPA COUNTY
RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT ON
NAPA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACILITIES: COUNTY JAIL

August 15, 2017

Napa County Criminal Justice Facilities: County Jail

Finding 1: The employees and inmates of Napa County are at risk of physical injury due to understaffing and overcrowding at Napa County Jail.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors disagrees with this finding. Overcrowding and understaffing are issues that can create operational stress in a jail facility. However, attributing these factors directly to increased risks of physical injury is an oversimplification of the issue. The classification of inmates and the risk factors associated with higher security levels, increases in violent and mentally ill offenders, and influence of more sophisticated inmates are factors that may affect safety and security for staff and inmates. A crowded condition with a lower custody population does not create the same level of concern as with inmates with higher custody status. Staff is trained to address mentally ill offenders and the department relies on overtime to ensure appropriate levels of staffing. The department also relies on court-ordered releases to prevent crowding and such releases are reviewed on a daily basis. The Department has made great strides in improving its staffing through aggressive recruitment efforts using job fairs, information sessions, and nationwide recruitment using online resources. To this end, the Department has been successful in bringing eight (8) new correctional officers by August 2017. The department is also beginning testing for new officers from its most recent recruitment and hopes to fill the remaining vacancies through this process.

Finding 2: The County Jail needs enhanced mental health and addiction facilities and increased counseling resources.

Response, Board of Supervisors: The Board of Supervisors disagrees with this finding. The department currently provides services through an agreement with Napa County Health and Human Services agency and has three mental health workers available on-site. This is an increase from the two positions that the department had a few years back. Jails are not designed to include addiction facilities that may be common in prisons and in an out-of-custody setting. Primarily, this is because of the relatively shorter term that offenders stay in a jail as compared to a prison facility. Substance abuse and addiction-related services are provided through the in-custody portion of the day reporting center and the Community Corrections Service Center once inmates are released from NCDC custody and placed under the authority of the probation department. The department is already working on increasing mental health services as part of

