



# SUTTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

J. PAUL PARKER  
SHERIFF - CORONER

July 8, 2011

Chris Chandler - Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California  
County of Sutter

# FILED

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By [Signature] Deputy

## RE: Response to the 2010-2011 Grand Jury Final Report (Animal Control)

The following are the responses of the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to the findings and recommendations of the 2010-2011 Sutter County Grand Jury Final Report as it related to animal control.

### Animal Control

#### **Finding**

*The Grand Jury finds that the Sutter County Animal Shelter may be in violation of California Penal Code 597, California Veterinary Practice Law 4826, California Veterinary Practice Law 4840, California Veterinary Practice Law 4831, and California Civil Code 1834.*

#### **Recommendation**

*The Grand Jury recommends Sheriff J. Paul Parker immediately begin an investigation to include the violations of California Penal Code 597, California Veterinary Practice Law 4826, California Veterinary Practice Law 4840, California Veterinary Practice Law 4831, and California Civil Code 1834. In the course of the Sheriff's investigation of these findings, individuals who are found to be culpable should be charged.*

#### **Response**

The Sheriff's Office concurs that conditions presented by the Grand Jury from their findings at the animal control facility are dismal and is investigating those issues presented. The Grand Jury not only presented issues that may be violations of the law, but also recommended that if individuals are found to be culpable, they should be charged either criminally or civilly. The Sheriff's Office must investigate not only the question of whether certain acts did or did not occur, but if they did occur, who was responsible and lastly, was there some type of criminal intent or neglect of duty. In order to bring any type of criminal charge, our investigation must go beyond mere suspicion and determine a conclusion supported to a moral certainty and beyond a reasonable

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TRAFFIC DIVISION

doubt. Until the investigation is complete, we can neither concur nor disagree with the findings.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Paul Parker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. PAUL PARKER  
SHERIFF-CORONER

cc: Sutter County Board of Supervisors  
Stephanie Larsen, County Administrative Officer