



SUTTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
J. PAUL PARKER  
SHERIFF - CORONER

ENDORSED FILED

June 30, 2011

OCT 11 2011

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

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By JACKIE LASWELL Deputy

**RE: Response to the 2010-2011 Grand Jury Final Report**

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.

**Jail**

**#1 Findings:** *The Grand Jury finds the minimum security area needs to be upgraded to medium security. The Sheriff's Department is currently waiting for the design phase of the facility to be completed.*

**Recommendations:**

*The Grand Jury recommends the completion of the design be expedited to help prevent any further escapes from the minimum security area.*

**Response:** The Sheriff's Department **concurs** with the recommendation and is working with the Community Services Department and its Engineer to complete this project which has been approved by the County. It is our understanding that all of the design phases other than the remote camera layouts are completed and the whole project will go out to bid within the next several weeks.

**#2 Findings:** *The Grand Jury finds that the GED preparation program is necessary programs that can help inmates take something positive away from their stay at the Sutter County Jail.*

**Recommendations:**

*The Grand Jury recommends that the Sutter County Jail hire a teacher to replace the one who resigned.*

**Response:** The Sheriff's Office **concurs** with the recommendation of the Grand Jury and recruiting is underway. In the meantime, GED preparation textbooks have been

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purchased and placed in the inmate law library for their use. One of the problems with running a General Educational Degree (GED) program in a County Jail was that many of the inmates have short stays which disrupts their ability to complete their GED program. The Sheriff's Office believes that the need/demand for the GED program may increase in the coming years with the passage of California Assembly Bill 109 which will require to County Jails to house certain prisoners for significantly longer periods of time.

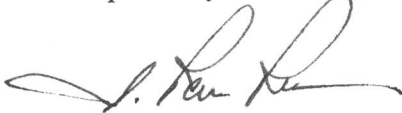
**#3 Finding:** *The Grand Jury finds that even though the recent escape from the Sutter County Jail is similar to a "walk away" that can take place at any time by any minimum security inmate that is detailed out in the community, this risk could be reduced by the completion of the medium security upgrade that is now in the engineering phase stage.*

**Recommendations:**

*The Grand Jury continues to recommend that completion of the medium security upgrade. Part of this upgrade includes a much higher fence and three strands of razor wire versus the barbed wire now in place, cameras inside and outside the building to allow staff to monitor the inmates. Even though this will not preclude an escape of this nature from ever happening again, it will certainly reduce the risk.*

**Response:** The Sheriff's Office wholeheartedly concurs with the Grand Jury. See response to question #1.

Respectfully submitted,



J. PAUL PARKER  
SHERIFF-CORONER

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