Other Public Funded Agencies and Organizations: Responses to Final Report

Contents

Response Matrix to 2001-02 Grand Jury Final Report

City of Yuba City Police Department

City of Yuba City Utilities Department

Leo Chesney Center – Cornell Companies, Inc.

Sutter County Auditor-Controller

Sutter County Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

Sutter County Superintendent of Schools Office

Sutter County Treasurer and Tax Collector

Winship Elementary School

Yuba City Unified School District

(Responses not received from Yuba City Fire Department and Casa de Esperanza)
## Response Matrix to 01-02 Final Report

The following matrix for the Grand Jury activities for 2001-2002 notes the agencies that were inspected/investigated. It denotes those agencies which are headed by an elected official and which have recommendations that the agency head needs to respond to in a timely manner [90 days of receipt of Final Report for county and city administered officials and 60 days of receipt for elected officials – Penal Code Section 933 (c)].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Headed by Elected Official?</th>
<th>Date Response Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information &amp; Technology</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer &amp; Tax Collector</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>07/11/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor-Controller</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>07/10/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter Co. Animal Control</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sutter Co. Sheriff</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>07/31/02</td>
</tr>
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<td>Leo Chesney Prison</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>08/16/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yuba City Police Dept.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/23/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-County Juvenile Hall</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge St. School</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/28/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Ave. School</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/28/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-County ROP</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/28/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winship Elem. School</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>11/01/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YCUSD – Citizen Complaint</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>10/28/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sutter Co. Airport</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Yuba City Fire Dept.</td>
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<td>Pleasant Grove Fire Dept.</td>
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<td>Women, Infants, Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program (WIC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Casa de Esperanza</td>
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<td>No Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Guardian-Conservator</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foster Home Licensing</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-County Mental Health</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Dept.- Social Services</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter Co. Public Works</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09/30/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuba City Utilities Dept.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/29/02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Mr. Page:

I have received your correspondence of October 18th, 2002, relating to the lack of a Police Department response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report.

I apologize for the error; however, the report was very complimentary in nature and the recommendations specifically addressed programs we had instituted and briefed the Grand Jury on their operation. They were pleased with our recruitment efforts and asked we monitor the success of the program. Additionally, they appreciated the “paperless report system,” and our Community Policing efforts. These are ongoing programs, which receive continual evaluation.

There were no problems or concerns by the 2001/2002 Grand Jury relating to the operation or service delivery by the Yuba City Police Department.

Again, my apologies for the lateness of the response.

Respectfully,

RICHARD J. DOSCHER
Chief of Police
October 29, 2002

Charles W. Page, Jr., Foreperson
Sutter County Grand Jury, 2002-2003
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991

Dear Mr. Page:

Pursuant to your letter of October 18, 2002, the City of Yuba City Utilities Department acknowledges receipt of the Grand Jury’s findings and final report. All findings were true and correct. There were no Grand Jury recommendations and the Utilities Department has no comments on the report.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond. Should you have further questions, please contact me at (530) 822-4639.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
William P. Lewis
Utilities Director

WPL/rn
C: Jeff Foltz, City Administrator
The Honorable Robert H. Damron, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
County of Sutter
Courthouse West
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991

Dear Judge Damron:

This is provided in response to the final 2001/2002 report of the Sutter County Grand Jury. We concur with the finding of the Grand Jury. Funding for the continued operation of the Leo Chesney Center has been included in the 2002/2003 State budget. However, as of this date we understand that the State budget has not been accepted by the State Assembly nor signed into law.

Sincerely,

Susan Hickey
Facility Director

cc: Robert Nunez, Foreperson
The following comments in bold print are my response to the Grand Jury’s report on the Sutter County Auditor-Controller:

**Selection of Independent Auditor**

To clarify the statement, “The Auditor-Controller is not involved with the awarding of the [independent audit] contract”:

The Auditor-Controller has been allowed a more active role on the audit committee for the past several years so he has had some input into recommending the independent auditor. This is only as part of the committee and he is not involved in the hands-on process of awarding the contract or overseeing the audit process. All management contacts during the course of the audit are with the CAO.

**Information Technology**

To clarify the discussion of the organization chart:

The Auditor-Controller’s office is comprised of the elected Auditor-Controller and 11 employees. The organization chart reflects an indirect relationship to the Information Technology department to recognize the office’s dependence on its services. This organizational relationship with centralized control of IT operations is the result of Board policy. In 2001-02, $304,139 (31.6%) was budgeted for IT services provided to the Auditor-Controller out of a total Auditor-Controller’s budget of $961,342.

The Auditor-Controller’s dependence on this arrangement with Information Technology has had a profound effect on the operation of the office over the years and in some instances has impeded the progress of the office. However, although the Auditor-Controller sees advantages to the County in having an enhanced ability for him to manage the services his office requires, the current situation with the new Information Technology manager is working well.
July 29, 2002

To: Robert H. Damian, Presiding Judge, Sutter County Consolidated Courts

From: Jim Denney, Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

Subject: Response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Final Report

The following are the responses of the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to the findings and recommendations of the 2001-2002 Sutter County Grand Jury Final Report.

**Criminal Justice**

Finding #1:

*It is anticipated that current vacancies in the Patrol and the Support Services Division will be filled in a timely manner. It was noted that unfilled positions are not an isolated problem within the Sheriff’s Department. Law enforcement agencies in the area have experienced similar problems.*

Recommendations:

*Continue to actively recruit additional Deputies and Dispatchers to fill current vacancies.*

Response:

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator agrees with the findings and recommendations. At the direction of the Sheriff and in cooperation with the Personnel Department, an intensive recruitment has been on-going for the past ten months to fill those vacant positions. Currently, there are two openings remaining of the 13 vacancies in the Patrol Division and one unfilled vacancy in the Communications section of Support Services. These personnel are in various stages of the hiring process from initial background to pending the results of the medical examination.
Finding #2:

The boat patrol is going to be relocating one of their boats closer to the Pleasant Grove Fire Department service area. A qualified deputy lives within the area and will be available for response for rescue with the boat.

Recommendations:

Move one of the patrol boats to the site located near the Pleasant Grove Fire Department.

Response:

The Sheriff agrees with this finding and recommendation. To provide better service to the citizens of the south county the Sheriff entered into a contract with Verona Marina, the only viable option that could provide both ease of access and protection in the Pleasant Grove Service area. This contract will generally run into the winter months prior to the rainy season when safety of the vessel would demand it be removed from the Sacramento River. The vessel will again be berthed at the marina when conditions in the spring permit. The Resident Deputy has been issued a pager in order to respond to emergency call-outs.

Finding #3/Recommendation:

Complete the Fire CAD system improvements as the vacancies are filled within the Department.

Response:

The Sheriff agrees with the Grand Jury recommendation and intends on making the implementation of the Fire CAD system a “top” priority for members of the Support Services Division once staffing levels have returned to full capacity in the Division.

Respectfully Submitted

JIM DENNEY
SHERIFF-CORONER-PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR
October 28, 2002

Mr. Charles W. Page, Jr.
Sutter County Grand Jury
Courthouse
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA. 95991

Dear Mr. Page:

I am in receipt of your letter dated October 18, 2002, in which you indicate that neither you
nor the presiding judge has received a response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Final Report.

In past years when the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools Office, or a department of
this office, was the subject of a review, I received notice of the review and a subsequent
copy of the Final Report.

Unfortunately, I was not notified of a review of the Tri-County Regional Occupational
Program by the Grand Jury, and as of this date, I have not received a copy of the Final
Report. Having said that, I must somewhat sheepishly say that a brief inquiry has resulted
in the location of a copy of the report within my office. Apparently, the report was
addressed to “Department Head” and was delivered to Mr. Randy Page, Director, Regional
Occupation Program. Mr. Page was unaware that a reply was necessary and consequently
no reply has been sent in response to the report.

I have subsequently reviewed the Final Report and concur with the findings and
recommendation of the Sutter County Grand Jury. On behalf of Mr. Randy Page and
myself, I would also like to thank you for the kind statements contained in the report.
Please consider this communication our response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury’s Final
Report’s Findings and Recommendations.

Sincerely,

John Boyd
County Superintendent of Schools
July 11, 2002

To: Sutter County Grand Jury

From: Jim Stevens
Sutter County Treasurer-Tax Collector

Re: Response to 2001-2002 Sutter County Grand Jury Final Report

Findings:

1) Investment Portfolio:

The respondent agrees with the findings.

2) Employee Compensation:

The respondent agrees with the findings.

Observation and Findings:

1) Operations of Staff:

The respondent disagrees partially with the findings.

A) This issue was reviewed and it has been determined that 'headsets' would interfere with the employee’s mobility and would be a distraction while conducting transactions with counter customers.

B) A more desirable purchase would be a voice mail system which would allow employees to accept and direct phone calls in a more productive and efficient manner.

Recommendations:

1) Employee Compensation:

This recommendation addresses personnel matters of a department headed by an elected official. Under penal code 933.05,4,c both the Department Head and Board of Supervisors shall respond.
As recommended by the Grand Jury an honest and forthright attempt will be made by the Treasurer-Tax Collectors Office and the Sutter County Personnel Department to resolve this matter through job classification and compensation review.

2) Telephone Head Sets:

This recommendation will not be implemented as a result of a consensus, limited mobility in work stations and would be a distraction while conducting transactions with counter customers. However, further research will be made into the possible purchase of a voice mail system.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Stevens
Sutter County
Treasurer-Tax Collector

JS;tdm

Cc: Larry T. Combs, County Administrative Officer
    Sang Kim, Principal Analyst
November 1, 2002

Charles W. Page, Jr.
Sutter County Grand Jury
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA  95991

Dear Mr. Page,

Winship Elementary School was a subject of review by the 2001-2002 Sutter County Grand Jury. I have reviewed the Final Report by the 2001-2002 Grand Jury and agree with the content and their findings.

Sincerely,

Tom Reusser
Superintendent/Principal
October 28, 2002

Charles W. Page, Foreperson
Sutter County Grand Jury, 2002-2003
Sutter County Courthouse
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991


Dear Mr. Page:


The District agrees with the findings and recommendations contained in the report. Consequently, the District does not intend to request any amendments or changes to the report.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Patrick Godwin
Superintendent