Other Public Funded Agencies and Organizations:
Responses to Final Report

Contents

Response Matrix to 2002-03 Grand Jury Final Report
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Responses not received from:
  Auditor-Controller, Sutter County
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  Yuba City Unified School District – Director of Student Services
    Program – Yuba City High School Drug Policy & Enforcement
The following matrix for the Grand Jury activities for 2002 – 2003 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 respond to in a timely manner.

Penal code Sections 933 (c) [No later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority, the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body, and every elected county officer or agency head for which the grand jury has responsibility pursuant to Section 914.1 shall comment within 60 days to the presiding judge of the superior court, with an information copy sent to the board of supervisors, on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of that county officer or agency head and any agency or agencies which that officer or agency head supervises or controls. In any city and county, the mayor shall also comment on the findings and recommendations. All of these comments and reports shall forthwith be submitted to the presiding judge of the superior court who impaneled the grand jury. A copy of all responses to grand jury reports shall be placed on file with the clerk of the public agency and the office of the county clerk, or the mayor when applicable, and shall remain on file in those offices. One copy shall be placed on file with the applicable grand jury final report by, and in the control of the currently impaneled grand jury, where it shall be maintained for a minimum of five years.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Headed by Elected Official yes/no</th>
<th>Date Response Filed with County Clerk</th>
<th>Location of Response</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration, County of Sutter Land Use</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 13 – 14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 2.3)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Auditor-Controller, Sutter County</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No Response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 2.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bi-County Juvenile Hall</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 17 – 22; also see attached response from Probation Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 3.1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Services Animal Control</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 7 – 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 2.1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Services, Department of Mental Health Services</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 67 – 72.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 6.3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Services, Department of Programs: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families &amp; Calworks Programs</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 61 – 66.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 6.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Services, Department of Program: Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response Page 73 – 74.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Final Report Section 6.4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo Chesney Community Correction Facility “Overseen by Cornell Corrections Inc.”</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>Cornell Companies Response see attached.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Response</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Board of Supervisors Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Library, Sutter County</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Page 15 - 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Oak Unified School District</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meridian Fire Protection District</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>12-5-03</td>
<td>Chairman Meridian Fire Protection District Board see attached.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Guardian/Conservator</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Page 55 – 60.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works, Sutter County Airport</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>09-8-03</td>
<td>Page 78- 81.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter Union High School District</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuba City Charter School</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>Yuba City Charter School see attached.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yuba City Fire Department</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>City of Yuba City Response see attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuba City Police Department</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>City of Yuba City Response see attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuba City Unified School District- Director of Student Services Yuba City High School Drug Policy &amp; Enforcement</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>9-29-03</td>
<td>Phone message 10-30-03 – No planned response.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10-31-03</td>
<td>Manager of Mosquito and Vector Control District see attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
July 29, 2003

To: Sutter County Board of Supervisors

From: Christine D. Odom, Chief Probation Officer

Re: Response to Grand Jury from Bi-County Juvenile Hall

Attached please find the response to the Grand Jury from Bi-County Juvenile Hall Superintendent Frank Sorgea. I have reviewed his responses and concur with them. Please advise me if you desire further information from me.

cc: Jennifer Lambert, Sutter County Courts via e-mail

Attachment
YUBA - SUTTER JUVENILE HALL
CAMP SINGER YOUTH GUIDANCE CENTER
MEMORANDUM

TO: Christine Odom, CPO, Sutter County
FROM: Frank D. Sorgea, Superintendent
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SUTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
DATE: July 28, 2003

RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:

Agree. We are proud that the Grand Jury recognized that Juvenile Hall operations function well on a daily basis. We are pleased that they recognized the efforts of staff to maintain a clean, orderly and well-supervised facility. While recognizing that the Policy and Procedures manual update has taken longer than anticipated, the committee was incorrect in assuming that no functional manual exists or is available to staff. In fact multiple printed copies of the manual are available to all staff within the facility. In addition staff are required to undergo a protracted training program, directly linked to the manual. The manual is also available to staff on diskette for their personal review.

The process of updating the manual is ongoing. The process of configuring the manual in electronic format and cross-indexed remains as the final step in developing this resource to staff. Recently the Juvenile Hall was linked to the Yuba County computer network, a process that enabled the sharing of files between a number of computer workstations made available to the staff. The goal of a computer-based manual is one, which was initiated by the Superintendent, and is not a requirement established by law or regulation. The current manual continues to meet regulatory standards established by Section 1324 of Title 15, California Code of Regulations.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Process of developing the cross-referenced and indexed manual remains an ongoing project. Printed copies of the manual remain available to staff. Printed copies of the manual can be been made available to interested parties, however concern exists relative to the general dissemination of this manual as it contains information which if not appropriately secured could compromise the safety and security of the facility, staff and residents. The current manual continues to be reviewed and updated as required.
June 30, 2003

The Honorable Robert H. Damron, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
County of Sutter
Courthouse West, 446 Second Street
Yuba City, California 95991

Dear Judge Damron:

This is provided in response to the final 2002/2003 report of the Sutter County Grand Jury. We concur with the findings of the Grand Jury.

The Leo Chesney Community Correctional Facility is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of the inmates in our care, our employees and the Live Oak community.

I appreciate the time and effort made by all the Jurors that toured our facility. If I can be of any further assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact me at (530) 695-1846 Ext. 302

Sincerely,

Ron Murray
Facility Director

CC: Charles W. Page Jr.
Foreperson
November 16, 2003

Mr. Mike Sarrinagar Foreperson
Sutter County Grand Jury
Courthouse
446 Second Street
Yuba City, California 95991

Dear Mr. Sarrinagar:

In response to the 2002-3 Grand Jury Final Report regarding the Meridian Fire Protection District, attached is a brief response to the three major issues challenging our District (MFPD): Volunteer fire fighters, limited budget and equipment needs.

Recruiting volunteers is our primary problem. Few community members have shown interest in being volunteers. Those employed out of the area are unavailable for calls. Since your June report we have sent a two-man team to a recruiting workshop to help stimulate interest in our fire department. Current enrollment stands at one paid fulltime and seven volunteer fire fighters.

Our budget is extremely tight. Currently, we are preparing to eliminate three vehicles from our equipment inventory. Special Tax (Law 218) originally proposed to the voters to maintain the District’s required level of operation was successful. The revenue increased our annual budget to approximately $148,000. This was the first tax increase in the District’s revenue since its conception over forty years ago.

The ad valorem tax increase currently allows the Department to continue fire suppression, medical aid duties and supports our employee, Captain Jason Cooper and one seasonal employee. The seasonal employee is usually selected from local fire academies. The employment period for the seasonal fire fighter is from June through October.
Since the Grand Jury’s inspection, the District has approved the purchase of a new Type I fire truck. Total cost of the truck is approximately $270,000. The truck will be purchased through the Public Capital Corporation on a lease purchase agreement over a period of ten years. The department has acquired a new computer that is capable of handling the new State’s operational reporting system. The question of buying the software and “on-line” service fees or paying another fire district to enter the data is being considered. With the generous help from Colusa Indian Bingo, the Department has acquired a new defibrillator.

At present, we are without a volunteer chief and are considering replacement options. Our young Board is committed to the preservation of the District as a positive and professional service to the community.

Sincerely,

E. Lyle Callaway, Chairman
Meridian Fire Protection District Board
Meridian Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. Box 298
Meridian, California 95957-0298

cc: MFPDB
    file
July 3, 2003

To: Robert H. Damron, Presiding Judge, Sutter County Superior Court

From: Jim Denney, Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

Subject: Response to the 2002-2003 Grand Jury Final Report

The following are the responses of the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to the findings and recommendations of the 2002-2003 Sutter County Grand Jury Final Report.

3.0 Criminal Justice Committee Report

3.3 Sutter County Sheriff's Department

Finding #1:

Sheriff Denney reported that the department has filled all of its vacancies for the deputies and dispatchers, and is now conducting ongoing testing for new recruits. He also noted that the department is accepting lateral transfers from other law enforcement agencies.

Recommendation:

None.

Response:

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator partially concurs with the finding. All vacancies are aggressively recruited for by both the sheriff’s department and the personnel department. Additionally, sheriff’s department personnel actively recruit candidates from several Northern California law enforcement academy sites. Despite this ongoing effort, there currently exist several vacancies in both deputy sheriff positions and dispatcher positions. Both the sheriff’s department and the personnel department are doing everything humanly possible to fill the vacant positions with good, qualified candidates without compromising our minimum standards and requirements.

Finding #2:

The patrol boat recommendation presented last year has been addressed.
Recommendation:

None.

Response:

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator concurs with the finding.

Finding #3:

*The Fire CAD system is still being worked on and the department hopes to have it operational in the near future*

Recommendation:

None.

Response:

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator concurs with the finding. Because of dispatcher vacancies that currently exist in the communications section, the development of the Fire CAD system is slow in progress because of the lack of staff to input the data. This remains a high priority and will be accomplished as soon as staffing will allow its completion.

Finding #4:

*The Sheriff has met and/or exceeded the recommendation of last year’s Grand Jury report.*

Recommendation:

None.

Response:

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator concurs with the finding and personally thanks the Grand Jury for their comments and thorough review of the department’s operation.

[Signature]

Respectfully submitted,

JIM DENNEY
SHERIFF-CORONER

2
July 22, 2003

Robert H. Damron, Presiding Judge  
Charles W. Page, Jr., Foreperson, Sutter County Grand Jury  
Superior Court of California  
County of Sutter  
446 Second Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

Dear Judge Damron and Mr. Page:

RE: Response to Education, Home Schooling in Sutter County  
FINAL REPORT OF THE SUTTER COUNTY GRAND JURY

I am pleased the Sutter County Grand Jury has investigated the issue of “home schooling in Sutter County.” As I mentioned during the interview with members of the education committee, I have been aware of the confusion surrounding the issue of “home schooling” in California for sometime and have attempted to initiate steps to clarify the issue on a statewide level. Confusion surrounding “home schooling” extends well beyond the bounds of Sutter County and cries for clarification at the state level.

In concept this office has no issue with the recommendations of the Education Committee, and in fact, has communicated the position of the California Department of Education to our district superintendents and parents in the community on numerous occasions. While I have supported former State Superintendent Eastin’s position relative to home schooling, we now have a different State Superintendent who may have a different view of the home schooling issue. Therefore, I have inquired of current Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jack O’Connell, relative to his position on this issue.

Relative to the second recommendation, i.e., sharing the position of the State Superintendent with the citizens of Sutter County and local school district officials, I will certainly share this information with our local district officials as I have in the past. Sharing the State Superintendent’s position with the citizens of Sutter County relates to the third recommendation and will be explored.
This office is unaware of any home school advocacy group(s) in this area and has no way of knowing who home schooling families are. There is no formal identification process or listing of home schooling families that school officials are aware of. While there is no doubt that misinformation exists and that clarification relative to educational options in Sutter County is desirable, communication between school officials and such groups is problematic until we can determine how best to communicate with a group that is currently unidentified. This office will, however, initiate affirmative action to establish a communication system with those families interested in the various alternative education options available in Sutter County.

Because the report provides no indication if the committee is aware of the rather robust Independent Study programs offered by several districts in Sutter County, I want to be sure you are aware of these programs. The Findings section of the Report states: "Home-based educational options are a viable and critical option for the students and parents in our state." The Sutter County Superintendent of Schools office and several districts in our county do indeed provide Independent Study options for students in Sutter County. These programs are legal, home-based, and are known to every district in Sutter County. In addition to Independent Study options there are numerous alternative education programs provided by the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools and districts in Sutter County.

Thank you for addressing this serious educational issue for California's children and families. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further information.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

John Boyd
County Superintendent


JB/sh
July 22, 2003

Jack O'Connell
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education
P.O. Box 944272
Sacramento, CA  94244-2720

Dear Superintendent O'Connell:

The 2002-2003 Sutter County Grand Jury investigated “alternative education, and specifically, what is home schooling?” Among the recommendations were the following:

The superintendent of the Sutter County Office of Education needs to determine the position of Jack O'Connell, California Superintendent of Public Instruction, on requiring the credentialing of Home School parent teachers.

The position of the State Superintendent needs to be shared with the citizens of Sutter County and local school district officials.

I am in the process of responding to the Grand Jury and need information from your office relative to the above recommendations. I contacted Sue Stickle's office on July 6, 2003, and asked for clarification of the Department’s position relative to the issues surrounding home schooling and have received no information to date.

The position of the Department while Delaine was in office was well known; however, due to rumors that you may have a different point of view, and upon receipt of a news release from the California Homeschool Network indicating that in fact the Department will reverse its previous position relevant to home schooling, there is some confusion about the Department’s current position.

I would appreciate clarification of the Department’s position relative to the above two recommendations so I may respond accurately to the Sutter County Grand Jury’s Final Report. Due to my imminent retirement, I will need to respond to the report by July 30, 2003.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John Boyd
Sutter County Superintendent of Schools

JB/sh
October 29, 2003

Sutter County Grand Jury
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991

The Honorable Robert H. Damron:

The Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District was a subject of
review
by the 2002-2003 Sutter County Grand Jury. I have reviewed the final
report
by the 2002-2003 Grand Jury and agree with the content and their
findings.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. McBride
District Manager
Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District
P.O. Box 726
Yuba City, CA 95992
July 24, 2003

The Honorable Robert H. Damron
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
County of Sutter
Courthouse West, 446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991

Re: Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Damron:

The City of Yuba City is in receipt of the 2003 Grand Jury Final Report. The City appreciates their review of the City's departments. We have reviewed their findings and recommendations and will act accordingly.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Foltz
City Manager

JP: cw

Enc. (disk)