



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

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William D. Gore, Sheriff

Thomas J. Cooke, Undersheriff

July 20, 2011

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SAN DIEGO
COUNTY GRAND JURY

Honorable Kevin Enright
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County Courthouse
220 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Judge Enright:

Response to the San Diego County Grand Jury's Report Dated May 20, 2011, "Detention Facilities Inspection"

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933, the following is my response to the Grand Jury's Recommendations 11-54, 11-55 and 11-56.

SAN DIEGO CENTRAL JAIL

RECOMMENDATION 11-54

The 2010/2011 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Sheriff:

While the San Diego Central Jail appears to be a well-appointed facility, it would be improved significantly by replacing the outdated surveillance equipment with a new digital video system at a projected cost of \$1.5 million when funding becomes available.

Our Response:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The Department of General Services, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department, is currently in the process of replacing the video surveillance and touch screen system at the San Diego Central Jail with a digital video recording system. The selection of a contractor has been finalized and a contract has been set to be signed by July 1, 2011. The engineering and design phase is expected to start by mid-July. It is unknown at this time how long the replacement of the system will take until the engineering and design phase has been completed.

VISTA DETENTION FACILITY

RECOMMENDATION 11-55:

The 2010/2011 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Sheriff:

Consider enlarging the size of the visiting area to enhance the otherwise excellent facility.

"Keeping the Peace Since 1850"

Our Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented. It is extremely cost prohibitive at this time to enlarge any of the facilities visit areas. Our Inmate Processing Division has implemented several changes to the visiting process to enhance the accessibility to scheduling visits and the overall visit experience. Family and friends of inmates can now schedule visits online, 24 hours in advance of the visits; and changes have been made to make check-in procedures more efficient thereby ensuring maximum use of available space.

GEORGE BAILEY DETENTION FACILITY

RECOMMENDATION 11-56:

The 2010/2011 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Sheriff:

Consider purchasing rather than renting Continuous Positive Airway Pressure units and supplies.

Our Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented. The Medical Services Division, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department, believes it is more efficient and cost-effective to rent the Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) equipment due to ongoing maintenance costs and the short period of time the units are used by individual inmates. This eliminates the cost of sterilization equipment and requirements for each unit before they can be supplied to other inmates after use.

In closing, I would like to thank the Grand Jury for their efforts in working with the Sheriff's Department through this investigation.

If further clarification or additional discussion is needed, please feel free to contact Sgt. Steven Wicklander of the Detention Support Division at (858) 974-2091.

Sincerely,



William D. Gore, Sheriff

WDG/sew

Cc: Members, Board of Supervisors
Walt F. Ekard, CAO
Thomas J. Pastuszka, Director, Clerk of the Board
Richard J. Carlson, Foreman, San Diego County Grand Jury