County of San Diego

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
(619) 531-6226
FAX: (619) 557-4060

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, STE. 209, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-2472

DONALD F. STEUER
ASST. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
(619) 531-4940
FAX: (619) 557-4060

June 25, 2013

The Honorable Robert J. Trentacosta
Presiding Judge, San Diego Superior Court
220 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Judge Trentacosta,

The 2012-13 San Diego County Grand Jury issued four reports during their tenure for the County of San Diego. The report on "The Bereavement Center" at the Medical Examiner's Office received commendations with no findings or recommendations. Three of the Grand Jury reports requested responses to their findings and recommendations. Today, the County Board of Supervisors approved responses to these three reports and directed me to forward the responses to your office, as required by the California Penal Code.

The responses, which are enclosed, correspond to the following reports:

- "Impact of Public Safety Realignment On Rural Firefighting"
- "An Unrecognized Health Hazard In Our Community"
- "Detention Facilities Report"

I thank the Grand Jury for their commitment to this process. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (619) 531-5250.

Sincerely,

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER

Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment

cc: Board of Supervisors

Printed on recycled paper

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

DATE: June 25, 2013

09

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO 2012-13 GRAND JURY REPORTS (DISTRICT: ALL)

Overview
The 2012-2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recently completed their term and issued four reports that address County programs under the purview of the Board of Supervisors. Three of those four reports contained recommendations that require a County response. The other report contained commendations complimenting County programs and did not contain recommendations for changes.

According to the California Penal Code Section 933(c), agencies that are the subject of Grand Jury reports must respond in writing to the Findings and Recommendations addressed to them. Therefore, this is a request for your Board to review and approve the draft Finding and Recommendation responses prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to transmit the responses to the Grand Jury, via the Superior Court Presiding Judge. The proposed responses address the recommendations and findings contained in following three reports:

- Impact of Public Safety Realignment On Rural Firefighting
- An Unrecognized Health Hazard In Our Community
- Detention Facilities Report

Recommendation(s)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Approve the proposed responses and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to transmit the responses to the Grand Jury via the Superior Court Presiding Judge.
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to return to the Board of Supervisors no later than June 1, 2014 with recommendations as described in the County's responses to the Grand Jury recommendations included in its 2012-2013 reports.

Fiscal Impact
This recommendation will have no fiscal impact.

Business Impact Statement
N/A

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO 2012-13 GRAND JURY REPORTS (DISTRICT: ALL)

Advisory Board Statement
N/A

Background
The 2012-2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recently completed their term and issued four reports that address County programs under the purview of the Board of Supervisors. Three of those four reports contained recommendations that require a County response. The other report contained commendations complimenting County programs and did not contain recommendations for changes.

According to the California Penal Code, agencies that are the subject of Grand Jury reports must respond in writing to Findings and Recommendations addressed to them within 90 days of the reports' issuance. Therefore, this is a request for your Board to review and approve the draft Finding and Recommendation responses prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer covering these reports and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to transmit your Board's responses to the Grand Jury, via the Superior Court Presiding Judge.

The proposed responses address the recommendations and findings contained in following three reports:

- Impact of Public Safety Realignment On Rural Firefighting
- An Unrecognized Health Hazard In Our Community
- Detention Facilities Report

The other report the County received was titled "The Bereavement Center". This report commended the County of San Diego Medical Examiner's Bereavement Center for assisting families in the community during times of crisis. Commendations do not require a response.

Individual elected officials who received Grand Jury recommendations, such as the San Diego County Sheriff and District Attorney, submit their responses separately, under the Penal Code. However, copies of all Grand Jury reports and the subject agencies' responses to them are posted on the Grand Jury website.

Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan
The Grand Jury reports listed above and the County's corresponding responses address issues associated with all three of the County of San Diego's 2013-18 Strategic Initiatives, which support Safe Communities, Sustainable Environments and Healthy Families. They also link to the County's eight Required Disciplines, which focus on the organization's commitment to: Accountability, Transparency and Ethical Conduct; Fiscal Stability; Customer Satisfaction;

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO 2012-13 GRAND JURY REPORTS (DISTRICT: ALL)

Regional Leadership; a Skilled, Adaptable and Diverse Workforce; Essential Infrastructure; Continuous Improvement and Innovation; and Information Services.

Respectfully submitted,

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)
2012-13 County of San Diego Grand Jury Responses

Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Finding 08: There are additional costs incurred by the Sheriff in connection with providing of medical services and associated transportation for County inmates housed in fire camps.

Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Finding 09: A compelling argument can be made that the State should subsidize counties for the detainment costs of those County inmates assigned to fire camps including necessary medical support services.

Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and the Director, County Public Safety Group:

13-19: Maintain a continuing and close awareness of the many issues raised in ongoing AB109 implementation with respect to rural firefighting. To assist in this process, the Director, County Public Safety Group, should develop an action plan necessary to monitor the AB109 implementation activities of public safety officials across impacted California counties relative to continuing inmate firefighter availability. The action plan should also include appropriate monitoring and support of relevant CDCR, CALFire, and State legislative activities with respect to our specific County public safety needs. This action plan should be completed and accepted by the Board of Supervisors by June 1, 2014.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented. The Board of Supervisors believes it is in the best interest of the residents of San Diego County to have 19 inmate fire crews stationed in San Diego County year round. However, the County of San Diego only has limited ability to influence the fire camps. The fire camps are operated by the state, with inmates from state prison and inmates from counties around the state. The County can, though, take two actions that will assist in maintaining the inmate fire crews in our region. First, the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for the Public Safety Group ("DCAO-PSG") will assist the Sheriff in establishing MOUs, funding and processes to ensure maximum assignment of eligible local inmates to the fire camp program. Second, the CAO and the DCAO-PSG will recommend to the Board of Supervisors a legislative strategy that will encourage laws that encourage and support the continuation of robust inmate fire crews in San Diego. By June 1, 2014, proposals for legislative advocacy and local action will be developed by Public Safety Group and presented to the County Board of Supervisors.

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors:

13-20: Develop an action plan with a goal of keeping the four existing fire camps within the County open year-round using current levels of qualified firefighting inmates from either State and/or County detention facilities. This plan should be developed by the Board in concert with the Sheriff, the County Fire Authority, and representatives of CALFire. This plan's actions should be phased in as the number of potentially qualified firefighting inmates within County custody increases over the next several years and as there is a corresponding decrease in such inmates within CDCR custody. The action plan should specifically address:

- Utilizing qualified County inmates within County fire camps.
- Working with appropriate State public safety agencies to subsidize the County for services of inmates assigned to fire camps for firefighting duties.
- Maintaining the CDCR/CALFire fire camps within the County.

The plan should include implementation actions via Board of Supervisor resolution, legislative advocacy, and other appropriate measures. This plan should be completed and accepted by the Board of Supervisors by June 1, 2014.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented. The Board of Supervisors will direct the Chief Administrative Officer and DCAO-PSG that by June 1, 2014, recommendations for legislative advocacy and local action be developed and presented to the County Board of Supervisors for consideration. These recommendations are to focus on specific efforts the County of San Diego can take to assist in the maintenance of existing inmate firefighting personnel numbers. The recommendations are to include utilization of state funding, where applicable, to offset the cost of housing local inmates at fire camps.

(Recommendation 13-21 will be separately responded to by the Sheriff.)

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RESPONSE TO 2012/13 GRAND JURY REPORT
"An Unrecognized Health Hazard In Our Community"
Issued May 9, 2013

Finding 01: DSB's (Sheriff's Department Detention Services Bureau) current policy and practice fails to meet accepted national immunization standards, including those of the CDC and Federal Bureau of Prisons guidelines for inmates. DSB does not follow the most basic and widely accepted public health standards for women in developed countries.

Response: The Sheriff's Department and the Chief Administrative Officer disagree with the finding. The San Diego Sheriff's Department is in compliance with applicable standards – which are found in Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations. Immunizations that are currently offered to jail inmates are consistent with other county jails.

DSB follows basic and widely accepted public health standards for women in developed countries. Female inmates have access to OB/GYN services in the jails which include family planning. It is in the OB/GYN's discretion to order additional immunizations for female inmates.

Finding 02: DSB's failure to provide effective counseling about the benefits of specific immunizations ensures that the inmates will underutilize the immunization program.

Response: The Sheriff's Department and the Chief Administrative Officer disagree with the finding. Inmates are provided influenza vaccination information and have ample opportunity for vaccination counseling through easily-accessible medical services.

Finding 03: DSB's failure to track immunizations using the CAIR-SDIR system increases the cost of tracking and causes delays in evaluating inmate immunization status and in implementing an effective immunization program.

Response: The Sheriff's Department and the Chief Administrative Officer disagree with the finding. The Sheriff maintains and tracks immunization information in its Jail Information Management System ("JIMS"). There is no increased cost or delay caused by using JIMS rather than CAIR-SDIR.

Finding 04: Developing a robust program for DSB will be very complicated. It will require training and input from multiple sources and disciplines to identify workable logistics.

Response: The Sheriff's Department and the Chief Administrative Officer agree with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Sheriff and the Chief Administrative Officer of the County of San Diego build a partnership to implement the following by January 1, 2014:

13-27: Develop a robust catch-up immunization program for the County jails using recommendations from the CDC, SDPHD, Medical Services Division County Jails and the Federal Bureau of Prisons guidelines.

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The current immunization practice in the county jails will be expanded as part of a preventive medicine program. The program is based on recommendations from the U.S. Preventive Task Force and is gender and age specific. While these services are outside the recommendations made by the Grand Jury, the program was designed considering the following factors: changes in length of stay and local sentencing, aging population and overall associated health risks of sentenced inmates remaining in custody for over one year and ages 40 and over. The inmates falling in this category will be offered the following immunizations: Tdap (ages 18-60), Td (over age 60), annual influenza, Pneumonvax (65 and over), and Zoster (65 and over).

13-28: Develop a counseling program to educate and promote the benefits of immunizations among inmates. Provide information for inmates to share with their visitors. Discuss the benefits of preventing sexually transmitted diseases through immunization for Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and for those under 26 for HPV.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented beginning January 2014. Information regarding the benefits of additional immunizations in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases through Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C will be included in a pamphlet that will be given to all inmates upon medical screening.

Currently, immunizations for Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C are given to inmates pursuant to a doctor's recommendation and orders. These immunizations will continue to be offered voluntarily and if medically indicated as determined by the treating physician.

The proposed preventive medicine plan will allow for all sentenced female inmates remaining in custody for over one year and who are between the ages of 18-26 will be offered the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) immunization series.

Classes on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) which are presently offered at the Las Colinas Detention Facility where female inmates are housed will be expanded to include similar training in the other facilities housing male inmates.

13-29: In partnership with SDPHD, seek funding from the recently released CDC grant to expand testing of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, and to increase earlier diagnosis and linkage to care, treatment and preventive services.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented beginning in August 2013. The Sheriff's Department will collaborate with the San Diego County Public Health Services to seek funding and grant opportunities from CDC for the expanded testing of Hepatitis B and C for jail inmates.

13-30: Training from SDPHD, begin use of CAIR- SDIR to enter and review immunizations as part of the Federal Government's Meaningful Use program by July 1, 2013.

Response: The Sheriff and Chief Administrative Officer respond to this recommendation in two parts.

First, with respect to entering or inputting immunization information into CAIR-SDIR, this recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Sheriff uses the JIMS as set described in the response to Finding 03.

Second, with respect to reviewing immunization information, i.e., using CAIR-SDIR as a source of information, this recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented by January 2014. The Sheriff's Department has contacted Public Health Services Epidemiology and Immunization Services and initiated the request for access and related training to CAIR-SDIR.

(Recommendations 13-31 through 13-37 will be separately responded to by the Sheriff)

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RESPONSE TO 2012/13 GRAND JURY REPORT
"Detentions Facility Report"
Issued May 13, 2013

ADULT DETENTION FACILITIES

(Findings and Recommendations 13-38 through 13-49 regarding adult detention facilities will be separately responded to by the Sheriff)

JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES

EAST MESA JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY

FINDINGS

Finding 01: Visiting is difficult for many reasons, including the lack of public transportation to this outlying facility.

Response: The Probation Department and the Chief Administrative Officer agree with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012-2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Probation Department and Chief Probation Officer of San Diego County:

13-50: Prepare a plan to provide a teleconferencing program by December 31, 2013 to ensure that all youth have an opportunity to visit parents or guardians.

Response: This recommendation requires further analysis. The Probation Department began exploring the use of video teleconferencing such as "Skype" for visitation purposes in the fall of 2012. Cost considerations and information technology concerns were raised at that time. However, the Service Chief and Probation Director will continue to work with the department's information technology and fiscal staff to determine the feasibility of introducing and incorporating technology to allow for increased visitation.

Juvenile Ranch Facility (Campo)

The Grand Jury report includes a favorable discussion of the Juvenile Ranch Facility but makes no findings or recommendations.

KEARNY MESA JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY

FINDINGS

Finding 01: Psychiatric service office does not have enough room to adequately handle all the psychiatric needs at KMJDF.

Response: The County and the Probation Department disagree with this finding. There are seven office areas throughout the facility as well as offices in the medical clinic that are utilized by psychiatric personnel.

Finding 02: The ability to serve approximately 7,000 sessions of psychological counseling is difficult to accomplish in the current room.

Response: The County and the Probation Department disagree with this finding. There are seven office areas throughout the facility that are utilized by psychological personnel to conduct counseling sessions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer of San Diego County:

13-51: Expedite the delivery and installation of a doublewide mobile home to increase the area available for psychiatric/psychological services no later than December 31, 2013.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but should be implemented by the end of August. The Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) is responsible for this project. Preliminary work has been completed to allow for delivery of the trailer. The delivery and installation are the only items which are pending. Probation will continue to support HHSA.

GIRLS REHABILITATION FACILITY (GRF)

FINDINGS

Finding 01: Cracked blacktop exercise area is a safety issue.

Response: The County and the Chief Probation Officer agree with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer of San Diego County:

13-52: Resurface the blacktop area used for outdoor activities immediately due to safety concerns.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented. The area in question is the 400 quad at Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility that is used for GRF recreation. The department concurs that this area needs to be resurfaced. Our Fiscal Year 2012/13 major maintenance improvement plan identified this area is in need of resurfacing. Work is expected to begin within the next month.

CAMP BARRETT

FINDINGS

Finding 01: Some buildings are in need of paint, inside and out.

Response: The County and the Chief Probation Officer agree with this finding.

Finding 02: Gang-related graffiti on walls, schoolbooks and furniture needs to be removed.

Response: The County and the Chief Probation Officer agree with this finding.

Finding 03: Some blacktop areas, walk ways, and exercise areas show signs of wear.

Response: The County and the Chief Probation Officer disagree with this finding. There are no blacktop areas at Camp Barrett.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012/2013 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the Chief Probation Officer of San Diego County:

13-53: Prepare a plan to repaint buildings inside and outside by December 31, 2013 and implement by June 30, 2014 with special attention to removing graffiti.

> **Response:** This recommendation has been implemented. The facility has already painted most areas. There is one area remaining by the school classrooms that we will work with General Services to have painted.

13-54: Resurface blacktop areas by October 31, 2013 in regard to safety issues.

> **Response:** This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. There are no blacktop areas at Camp Barrett.

13-55: Prepare a plan to replace textbooks, refinish desks, repaint classroom walls, and establish strict rules stating that gang or other graffiti will not be tolerated by June 30, 2014.

> **Response:** This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but the Probation Department will have an implementation plan completed by the end of September 2013. The Probation Department will request and work with the San Diego County Office of Educations on a plan to replace textbooks, refinish desks and paint classroom walls. Camp Barrett has strict rules regarding gang and graffiti and will continue to educate and correct negative behavior in these areas.

13-56: Locate a larger classroom and acquire more computers by December 31, 2013 in order to increase the number of inmates who can receive training and/or have more frequent access to online job opportunities.

> **Response:** This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Although the present lab is limited in both number of computers and space inmates have community access to the one stop career center located 1.4 miles from the Work Furlough Facility. In addition, weekend and evening hours have been added to accommodate the population. Based on the aforementioned explanation, an expansion is not necessary at this time.