

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DETENTION FACILITIES CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT

SUMMARY

The California Penal Code 919(b) requires each Grand Jury to investigate the condition and management of its county detention facilities (jails). The 2017/2018 San Diego County Grand Jury toured the seven adult detention facilities operated by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and four juvenile units run by the County Probation Department. In general, the Grand Jury found that the facilities were clean and in good condition, had adequate staff, were following established procedures, and were providing inmates access to medical, dental, and mental health care.

PROCEDURE

The Grand Jury toured the following:

Adult Detention Facilities:

- San Diego Central Jail (men only)
- Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility (women only)
- George F. Bailey Detention Facility (men only)
- Facility 8 (men only)
- South Bay Detention Facility (men only)
- East Mesa Reentry Facility (men only)
- Vista Detention Facility (men and women)

Juvenile Facilities:

- Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (female and male)
- East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (male)
- Girls Rehabilitation Facility (female)
- Camp Barrett (male)

At each facility staff provided the Grand Jurors with a briefing about the site's inmate population, programs available to inmates, and any special management challenges posed by either the population or the facility itself. During each tour Jurors spoke with sworn and support staff as well as inmates.

The Grand Jury reviewed:

- California Code of Regulations Title 15, "Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities" (Title 15)
- Assembly Bill (AB) 109 (The Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011)
- Proposition 47 (2014)

DISCUSSION

Adult Detention Facilities

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) categorizes jails as Types I through IV, with Type I providing maximum security and IV minimum security. All seven San Diego

County jails are Type II, which qualifies them to house any level of offender. Only the Central, Vista, and Las Colinas jails have booking areas for newly-arrested people. Each facility also has a BSCC rated capacity establishing the number of inmates it was designed to accommodate. Some units also have a court-ordered capacity which may differ from the BSCC capacity. The Grand Jury noted that the population at several County jails exceeded the rated capacity and recommends the Sheriff's Department develop a plan to alleviate overcrowding at these facilities.

Adult Detention Facility Custody Levels

Custody level refers to the inmate's potential to cause harm to staff and/or other inmates and relates to the manner in which the inmate is managed. The levels range from 1 to 6.

- **Level 1:** Minimum custody level. Inmate poses the lowest risk to staff and other inmates. He is non-assaultive, without disciplinary problems, is sentenced and lacks criminal sophistication.
- **Level 2:** Low custody level. Inmate has no current or significant prior assaultive history. Also has no escape or known disciplinary problems.
- **Level 3:** Medium custody level. Inmate has no current or significant prior assaultive history, no escape history or known disciplinary problems. However is somewhat more criminally sophisticated than level 2.
- **Level 4:** High Custody level. Inmate must meet one of the following criteria: current assaultive charge(s), prior assaultive history, or deemed an institutional behavior problem.
- **Level 5:** Maximum Custody level. Inmate must meet a combination of two criteria: current assaultive charges, prior assaultive history, or deemed an institutional behavioral problem or escape risk.
- **Level 6:** High-Maximum custody level. Inmate poses the highest risk to staff and other inmates. The inmate must have a combination of current assaultive charges, a prior assaultive history, or be an institutional behavior problem. In addition they may have a high profile case or extreme act of violence which jeopardizes public safety or provides the inmate with status that would allow him/her to have power or authority over other inmates. A Level 6 inmate is housed individually unless approved by higher authority.

Each inmate's risk category is indicated by a colored wristband allowing easy identification of risk category. Inmates' housing type and the recreational, educational, and visitation privileges available to them vary by risk classification. Inmates in segregation/protection units have the most restrictive living environment.

The reentry facilities typically allow inmates the most privileges, with incentive-based housing that emphasizes preparing inmates for a successful return to their community with less chance of becoming a repeat offender (recidivism). Reentry inmates have individual case plans, educational services, and wellness plans. Staff help inmates ready for release connect with services that will continue their treatment after they leave the jail. Although a key goal of reentry programs is to reduce recidivism, the Sheriff's Department reports were insufficient for the Grand Jury to assess the effectiveness of reentry programs after AB 109.

Detention Facilities

Jail housing units typically consist of modules with accommodations ranging from individual cells for inmates requiring protective custody or administrative segregation, to dormitory-style rooms for the low-risk general population. Most housing modules have a control center where deputies can supervise activity visually, both through windows and video cameras. Most housing modules also have a common area for meals and recreation. These areas often contain pay phones available to inmates on a pre-determined schedule.

Title 15 requires inmates to receive one hour of exercise at least three hours per week. Las Colinas, East Mesa Reentry, and George Bailey have outdoor exercise areas, the others are enclosed. Most of the jails have no exercise equipment. The Grand Jury finds that the majority of inmates lack adequate exercise opportunities as well as access to fresh air and sunshine.

All County detention facilities have medical units that evaluate inmates' physical, dental, and mental health needs at intake. Medical units typically are staffed by RNs and LVNs with regularly scheduled visits by doctors, dentists, and behavioral health specialists. The Sheriff's Department contracts with Tri-City Medical Center in North County for specialized procedures and hospitalization. Inmates with life-threatening emergencies are transported to the nearest hospital.

All the County jails provide visitation opportunities for family members as well as for attorneys and counselors. Family visits are typically non-contact (e.g., via telephone at a viewing window), although Las Colinas allows some inmates one-on-one visits with their children. A remote telecommunication service, provided by Securus is available at Las Colinas and Facility 8.

The Sheriff's Department has centralized food, laundry, and clothing production. The kitchen at East Mesa Reentry is state-of-the-art and produces all meals for the seven adult and three of the juvenile facilities, including vegetarian, kosher, halal, diabetic, and other special diets. Other jails have smaller kitchens where meals are prepared and served, cafeteria-style, for deputies, staff, and visitors. The laundry, also at East Mesa Reentry, handles 8,000-10,000 pounds of wash daily from all adult detention facilities. Women at Las Colinas sew clothing for inmates at all facilities.

Inmates who are scheduled for release or have otherwise earned special privileges have educational and work opportunities. All adult jails offer some education and rehabilitation programs, including HiSET (High School Equivalency Test, formerly GED), Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, anger management, and "Thinking for Change," a program that helps inmates learn to recognize thoughts and behaviors that trigger anti-social behavior. The reentry facilities have more extensive educational opportunities, including computer literacy and access to college-level courses.

Work opportunities vary by facility, but include kitchen, laundry, sewing, landscaping, and maintenance duties. Workers earn \$0.50 daily, and can achieve certifications (e.g., food handling) that can help them obtain employment upon release. Inmate pay is deposited in a

special account and may be used to purchase food and personal items from the Commissary. Family and friends may also deposit money in an inmate’s account.

Mentally-Ill Inmates and Suicide Prevention

The Sheriff’s department is the largest mental health service provider in San Diego County. The Sheriff’s Department strives to implement best practices in the delivery of mental health services to inmates, including adherence to model policies and practices established by the National Commission on Correctional Healthcare (e.g., security checks every 15 minutes for individuals in the Inmate Safety Program). Their recent and ongoing suicide prevention efforts include:

- Recognizing the challenges associated with providing quality medical and mental health care within the detention facilities.
- Doubling its budget for inmate mental health services to \$14 million annually.
- Receiving approval for an additional \$3 million per year to recruit and hire more mental health professionals for the detention facilities, including mental health clinicians, to provide timely and efficient mental health services.
- Contracting with Liberty Healthcare Corporation to facilitate the hiring of psychologists, psychiatrists, and psychiatric nurse practitioners.
- Developing mental health training curricula for deputies and professional staff.
- Establishing special enhanced observation housing units for inmates considered at-risk for suicide.
- Establishing structured clinical assessments and quality assurance mechanisms, as well as a follow-up program for those identified as at risk.
- Retaining a statistician to independently review inmate suicide statistics.

Table 1 shows the in-custody suicides from 2010 to 2017. There have been seven attempts and one suicide to date in 2018.

Year	In-custody Suicides	Year	In-custody Suicides
2010	1	2014	5
2011	4	2015	5
2012	2	2016	5
2013	3	2017	1

San Diego Central Jail

The San Diego Central Jail (Central) opened in May 1998 and is the booking facility for most male arrestees in San Diego County. Approximately 69,000 new bookings are initiated at Central annually, with an average daily population of 974. The rated capacity is 944 beds and at the time of the Grand Jury’s visit, August 2017, the facility housed 1,080 inmates. Of the adult detention facilities Central provides the widest range of medical and psychiatric services, including on-site dialysis, infectious disease control, and dental care. The Psychiatric Stabilization Unit can accommodate 30 inmates.

Central houses all inmate levels 1 to 6, including newly-booked inmates awaiting transfer to other facilities, those awaiting arraignment or trial, those with serious medical and psychiatric challenges, and defendants facing high-publicity trials. The facility is staffed by over 208 sworn staff and nearly 200 professional staff members. Staff make-up is diverse and communication

can be provided in English, Spanish, Tagalog, and American Sign Language. If an interpreter is needed for any other language, one is provided. The Sheriff's Department does not screen inmates for legal status but Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) assigns agents to work in booking facilities.

The San Diego Central Jail makes extensive use of touch-screen controls and video surveillance. At the heart of the facility, the Central Command Center has the ability to electronically control all jail operations in the event of an emergency or major system failure.

Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility

Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility (Los Colinas) serves as the primary intake center for women in San Diego County. Las Colinas is the County's newest jail. It opened in August 2014 and has the feel of a college campus with 25 buildings on 45 acres of land. It can accommodate 1200 inmates. Population at the time of the Grand Jury's visit was 852. The longest sentence being served at the facility is five years and 24% of the inmates are categorized as Levels 4 to 6. Lower-level inmates are allowed privileges, such as being allowed to walk across the grounds without an escort. Some inmates are allowed one-on-one contact visits with their children. Video visitation is available for visits with inmates who are not able to have on-site visits.

The facility is staffed by approximately 278 sworn staff and 143 professional staff. When male officers work in housing units they generally must be accompanied by female officers. The male officers mostly work the perimeter, transport inmates, and supervise the kitchen. Las Colinas also has a couple of canine units.

As a reentry facility Las Colinas offers educational, vocational, psycho-social, and wellness classes in 11 classrooms with smart televisions. Specialty classes include Women's Way 12 Step, Beyond Anger and Violence, and Healing Trauma, all of which are based on gender-specific and trauma-informed communication and teaching. Love on a Leash is a program run by a nonprofit organization to provide animal-assisted therapy. There is a large library and a group of female judges provides a book club for inmates. The library walls display inmates' art. Grossmont Adult School offers classes and certificate programs such as culinary arts, sewing, laundry, and landscaping to lower-level inmates. Some training is available with Cal Fire. Inmates need at least a six-month sentence in order to finish courses leading to a certificate of completion. For example, a sewing certificate requires 300 hours of participation.

As the newest County detention facility Las Colinas offers two features that differ from other County jails. The first is open booking, where intake occurs in a large room with access to telephones and restrooms, rather than in holding cells. The intake area has body scanners to help staff detect and prevent drugs and contraband entering the jail. The second new operational procedure is Direct Supervision, in which deputies are stationed in inmate housing areas rather than in enclosed observation posts. Direct supervision allows for increased interaction and the ability to resolve conflicts before they become more serious.

Vista Detention Facility

Vista Detention Facility (Vista) is the intake center for both men and women arrested in northern San Diego County. Vista was built in 1978 and is the oldest county jail. Vista has 886 beds; on

the day of the Grand Jury's visit there were 828 inmates. It has an average daily booking rate of 30 to 60. There are 135 sworn staff and 34 medical personnel.

The Vista inmate population includes all risk levels and consists primarily of those awaiting court proceedings for North County cases. The special-handling inmates include those with medical challenges, under psychiatric care, and in administrative segregation, as well as defendants facing high-publicity trials.

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Vista opened the first veterans module in the San Diego detention system on November 1, 2013. The Veterans Moving Forward program is dedicated to helping incarcerated veterans by providing the necessary in-custody programs, services, and community resources to reduce recidivism. This program promotes an environment of responsibility and accountability. Participants are expected to demonstrate positive actions, work proactively toward their own success, and support their fellow inmates. They are required to participate in all assessments and programming.

Entrance into Veterans Moving Forward is voluntary and limited to low-level inmates. It comes with privileges and incentives not available in standard housing units. These require compliance with facility rules and regulations. Participants have daily contact with correctional counselors, VA social workers, and Sheriff's sworn staff to help achieve participant goals. The Grand Jury interviewed four inmates in this program whose comments demonstrated hope and positive goals for their coming transition back to society.

East Mesa Reentry Facility

The East Mesa Reentry Facility provides specialized programs to help inmates return to society as productive citizens. It serves Level 1 to 3 inmates with five years or fewer remaining in custody. East Mesa Reentry has a college-campus like design and focuses on identifying and redirecting decision-making and thinking errors, rehabilitation, and reducing recidivism. East Mesa Reentry was expanded in 2014 to accommodate AB109 inmates, and now has a rated capacity of 956 beds; occupancy was 723 when the Grand Jury visited. There are 131 sworn staff.

Special programs at East Mesa Reentry focus on educational, vocational, and psycho-social needs. The Community Involved Vocational Inmate Crew Services (CIVICS) program trains inmates in post-release life skills. Vocational programs include training in print-shop services, janitorial services, construction trades, landscaping, baking, laundry, and food handling. A job center helps inmates find employment upon release. One of the most popular vocational programs, a bicycle repair shop, was not open at the time the Grand Jury visited.

The vocational, educational, and other reentry programs at East Mesa are incentive-based and promote participation and improved behavior. Inmates who participate successfully have more frequent access to a large, well-equipped outdoor recreation and exercise yard.

George F. Bailey Detention Facility

George F. Bailey Detention Facility houses the most inmates of any County jail. It had 1,612 inmates on October 6, 2017 when the Grand Jury visited, and a rated capacity of 1,380. There

are six housing units accommodating all inmate risk levels. Recreation areas have stationary bikes and other recreational equipment. There are 189 sworn staff.

Medical facilities include telemedicine with Tri-City Medical Center doctors and nurses. This program was initiated in November 2016 because the detention center is not close to any major medical facilities, and transporting inmates to Central Jail is expensive and time-consuming. The medical staff believe inmates receiving advice onsite via telemedicine are more likely to keep follow-up appointments than those who have to be transported.

Detention Facility 8

Facility 8 was built as medium security and now houses Level 1 to 3 inmates in three housing modules and Level 4-5 in one of those. There are 300 beds. When the Grand Jury toured there were 254 inmates with 25 sworn staff.

In March 2013, Facility 8 installed touchscreens for all control systems, including high-definition monitoring cameras. New video screens have been placed in each housing module to allow remote-access visitation.

South Bay Detention Facility

The South Bay Detention Facility (South Bay) is in the City of Chula Vista, in the basement of the South Bay Regional Justice Center. South Bay has a rated capacity of 386 and on the day of the Grand Jury tour there were 427 inmates. South Bay houses Level 1 to 5 inmates who have no medical restrictions. All inmates are either awaiting trial or serving sentences of one year or less. There are 57 sworn deputies and 80 professional staff.

At South Bay only inmates who are considered a low-security risk may have jobs. Work opportunities include kitchen, laundry, maintenance, painting, and janitorial duties. Inmate workers who comply with rules and regulations and participate in behavior-modification programming are eligible to live in a special module with extra privileges (e.g., more recreation time).

FACTS AND FINDINGS

Fact: The inmate population at several County jails exceeds the rated capacity.

Finding 01: Several County jails are out of compliance with State standards.

Fact: Only East Mesa Reentry, Las Colinas, and George Bailey have outdoor recreation yards.

Fact: Most detention facility recreation areas have no exercise equipment.

Finding 02: Most detention facility inmates lack access to sunlight and appropriate exercise equipment.

Fact: Detention facility reentry programs are designed to reduce recidivism.

Fact: The Sheriff's Department has not provided clear, understandable data and analyses to assess recidivism.

Finding 03: Without clear definitions and measures of recidivism, the Grand Jury cannot judge the success of reentry programs.

Juvenile Detention Facilities

As noted previously, the Grand Jury toured the four juvenile detention facilities operated by the San Diego County Probation Department. The Probation Department reports to the County Administrative Officer. At each location the commanders and staff gave a briefing, including data on inmates and incidents. Staff all appeared committed and dedicated to helping the juveniles in their charge become responsible, productive adults.

At each juvenile facility the Grand Jury inspected:

- Physical plant (lighting, temperature, sleeping accommodations, drinking water)
- Emergency/fire and safety equipment and procedures
- Officers' gun lockers (no guns are permitted inside)
- General appearance (cleanliness of inmates, rooms, bedding)
- Procedures (rules, discipline, schedules, grievance process)
- Kitchen and food service (cleanliness, inmate worker regulations and supervision, proper food handling, nutrition)
- Certificated school, administered by the San Diego County Office of Education
- Medical clinics, staffed by RNs, LVNs, physicians, dentists, and mental health professionals
- Availability of religious services
- Visitation schedules (posted, with telephone use explained)

Medical facilities are staffed with RNs and LVNs, with doctors and dentists rotating among the four units. All Probation Officers are CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) certified. Probation staff in the Trauma Responsive Unit (TRU) are trained specifically in an educational and therapeutic intervention model designed to prevent and treat conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, severe anxiety disorders, depression, dissociative disorders, and numerous other stress-related disorders.

A new core curriculum for Probation staff adopted in the last year builds on current training and includes: Restorative Practices, Adolescent Brain Development, Bridges Out of Poverty, Trauma Informed Care, and Positive Youth Development. Probation staff participate in this extensive and comprehensive training which builds rapport with youth and may defuse tense situations before they become critical.

All youth are required to attend school Monday through Friday at the SOAR (Success, Opportunities, Achievement, and Results) Academy, which is administered by the San Diego County Office of Education. Youth can earn credits (transferable to all County school districts) toward their high school diploma or earn a certificate of graduation by passing the High School

Equivalency Test (HiSET). Those who already have their diploma or have passed HiSET may also have the opportunity to participate in online college-level courses and earn college credit.

To improve the quality of education, the SOAR Academy individualizes the curriculum around the achievement and/or grade level of the youth. Ongoing evaluations are conducted to assess reading and math skills. Some are not academically prepared to complete work at a ninth-grade level. Some are eligible for online courses for college credit at Southwestern, Palomar, Mira Costa, and Cuyamaca Community Colleges as well as with Grand Canyon University. East Mesa Juvenile also has a vocational unit that teaches woodworking and furniture construction.

All youth in detention have access to other programs including anger management, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, social awareness training, and, if they have children themselves, parenting classes. In addition, many juvenile inmates are initially assigned to Breaking Cycles, a family-centered delinquency and intervention program with commitments of 90, 150, 240 or 365 days. Each commitment level has different programs and services, making it critical for the Probation Department to properly assess each youth's needs prior to court hearings. On occasion youth are committed from Drug Court to complete these programs.

Minors with 90-day commitments automatically enter the Short Term Offender Program (STOP), which focuses on youth in the early stages of delinquent behavior. STOP provides physical training, school attendance, drug/alcohol education, and work programs. After as few as 20 days in juvenile hall, and depending on achievement of program goals and parental participation, youth will generally return home. Minors with a 90-day commitment released from STOP typically do not receive the same post-release services as youth with longer Breaking Cycles commitments.

The Grand Jury was particularly interested in the five-year plan for the new San Diego Juvenile Justice Campus, which will accommodate the current populations of the Kearny Mesa Juvenile Facility, the Girls Rehabilitation Facility, and Camp Barrett. Phase I of this project is construction of an urban camp for female and male youth with academic, career, technical education, and health services, with space for mental health staff in the living units. Phase II will rebuild the existing juvenile hall with classrooms, food services, an intake area, and expanded indoor and outdoor recreation areas. Phase III, when funding is identified, would provide for the Probation Department's headquarters. The Juvenile Justice Campus plan is currently undergoing environmental review.

Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility

Kearny Mesa is the intake facility for all juveniles in San Diego County. It was built in 1952, and renovated in 1994 and 2002, but appears outdated. Presently Kearny Mesa houses youth 12 to 18 years old, with some up to age 21. Generally, these are youth who are on probation or have new charges filed against them, and are awaiting a hearing in juvenile court. Data collected when juveniles are booked and screened indicates that 40% of the youth are taking prescription psychotropic drugs. The facility's bed capacity is 359 with an average of 148 in custody. The administrative staff tries to keep the population at 20 to 24 per unit which allows more effective management and engagement with the youth and their families. All youth have their own rooms

that they are required to keep clean. During Grand Jury interviews with the youth some of them stated that they would rather stay in juvenile hall than be released.

Youth participate in physical exercise at least two hours per day including one hour of physical education. Recreation space is provided in the dayrooms and outdoor areas. Basketball hoops, but no other equipment, were observed in recreation areas. All eligible youth in the facility are permitted to work or perform chores on a voluntary basis. Work assignments include working in the kitchen and/or clean-up crew. Special programs or activities offered include Art, Words Alive, Playwright Project, and Book Club.

The staff to youth ratio is 1 to 8 during the day and 1 to 24 at night. The facility is budgeted for 350 staff positions and Probation officers expressed the need for more. Staff members in all juvenile facilities participate in extensive training to provide them with the skills to communicate and interact with youth in an educated and appropriate manner. Several probation officers are fluent in Spanish. Contract interpreters are available for speakers of Spanish, Arabic, Farsi, a Mayan dialect, and other languages.

Girls Rehabilitation Facility

The Girls' Rehabilitation Facility (Girls Rehab) is an intensive, highly-structured program serving up to 50 young women between the ages of 13 and 17 and a half. They offer programs to meet the personal, emotional, and educational needs for the girls committed by the Juvenile Court. Family counseling group sessions offer parents additional tools and parenting tips to assist in the transition of their youth back home.

There are five phases of a rigorous program that each youth must pass in order to be eligible for release from the Girls Rehab: Boarding, Departure, Journey, Arrival, and Destination. Each phase has expectations, as well as earned privileges. Each girl is assigned to a Probation officer who is responsible for ensuring that she participates in the various programs that address her treatment needs. Graduation is a special occasion. Girls Rehab recently hosted a high school graduation ceremony for four youth and over 100 guests, with the girls wearing traditional caps and gowns.

Juvenile Court orders girls who have committed serious felonies such as carjacking or shooting at police to complete the Youthful Offender Unit (YOU). At the time of the Grand Jury visit there were 3 girls in the YOU program.

Girls Rehab offers a 5K running program as well as a horticultural training program. Through the running program some of the girls have participated in 5K races in the city of San Diego. The horticultural program is taught by master gardeners who specialize in edibles and cuisine. The girls maintain an onsite garden and, under supervision of Probation staff, prepare and serve the fruit and vegetables grown there.

East Mesa Juvenile Facility

East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility (East Mesa Juvenile) opened in 2004, and looks very much like a traditional jail. The building layout is clean but has a very sterile appearance. Due to its remote location, the number of visitations is low, and the facility offers Skype. Each youth

is permitted a staff-assisted, free phone call weekly. Visits are allowed six days per week. Some of the youth at the facility are fathers so they are provided opportunities to visit with their children.

East Mesa Juvenile has a rated capacity of 290 and is currently staffed for 150 inmates. At the time of the Grand Jury's visit, there were 140 youth in custody. The facility primarily houses minors who have been committed by juvenile court. However, they also accept behavioral or special needs youth from Camp Barrett and Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility. Languages spoken by Probation staff include English, Spanish, Tagalog, Farsi, and American Sign Language. The majority of youth at this facility are bilingual as well. If required, interpreters are available.

Each youth has his own room. If special accommodations are needed due to pre-existing illness or injuries, appropriate supervision is provided. The daytime ratio of Probation staff to youth is one to ten. Under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) the mandated ratio is one to eight. The ratio is 1 to 24 at night which provides adequate safety for both youth and staff.

The typical age range at East Mesa Juvenile is 13 to 21 years. The older youth were diverted from the Department of Justice California Youth Authority and are serving 6 to 18 month sentences. These older youth enter the Second Chance program, in which Probation officers act as case managers to oversee reentry programming and services. The Second Chance program provides resources meant to help these youth find their way to a positive, successful future. For those youth involved in Second Chance and other reentry programs officers hold release meetings with the youth, parents, Probation, and other support staff to set up a transition plan.

East Mesa Juvenile had 93 violent incidents that involved injuries and two assaults on staff in 2017. Officers also discovered contraband such as weapons or controlled substances (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, or prescription drugs for which the youth did not have a prescription). Reports indicate a high number of incidents when youth try to hide their prescribed and staff-administrated medications by holding them inside their mouths. The staff is trained to mediate and refer the youth to counselors in lieu of punishment for this behavior.

A majority of youth at East Mesa Juvenile have some sort of gang affiliation which triggers most of the violence on site. The staff tries to alleviate this problem with a program called Project Aware which helps youth rethink the gang mindset. In general, the facility is required to devote a lot of attention to gang issues. The Probation staff is vigilant in their observations; they anticipate and mediate as needed.

Camp Barrett

Located in the rural community of Alpine, Camp Barrett, with a capacity of 135 beds, houses high-risk male inmates between the ages of 13 and 18. The staffing numbers fluctuate based on the daily juvenile population. At the time of the 2017/2018 Grand Jury visit the population was 77 and the facility was understaffed. The State requires a ratio of one sworn staff to every 15 youths during waking hours. Medical staff is always present. Religious services are provided and visitation is allowed every Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

At times, gang-related issues create volatile situations and some violence. Staff makes every effort to redirect energies with recreation and educational opportunities.

The goal of this facility is to provide youthful inmates with the training and skills necessary for successful transition and integration back into society. To accomplish this goal, each youth is required to attend school, complete assigned work tasks, and finish demanding, structured programs. Youth with disabilities who meet the criteria for commitment to Camp Barrett can be accommodated. Behavior modification programs are used to increase the likelihood of successful reintegration into society. These programs include Steps to Success, Aggression Replacement Therapy, Social Tolerance/Gang Awareness, and Teen Relationship Violence.

Camp Barrett is currently participating in a one-of-a-kind literacy program called Lindamood-Bell which has pioneered programs to develop the sensory-cognitive processes that underlie reading, spelling, math, visual-motor skills, language comprehension, and critical thinking. Customized learning plans are developed to address each student's unique needs, and classes of three to five students receive daily blocks of instruction ranging from three to four hours per day. At Camp Barrett youth can also earn certificates of accomplishment in culinary arts, fire science, graphic design, horticulture, team leadership training, and work readiness. Substance abuse education and treatment are provided by contracted support staff. Youth with learning disabilities are assessed for an individualized educational program. Camp Barrett also offers weekly parenting classes for juveniles with children or those who are expectant fathers.

Facts and Findings

Fact: There were almost 100 violent incidents in the East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility in 2017.

Fact: Gang affiliation triggers most of the violent activity in the East mesa facility.

Finding 04: The East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility needs to develop programs aimed at reducing violence in the facility.

Fact: At Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility each youth participates in a physical exercise program for at least two hours daily.

Fact: Recreation space is provided at Kearny Mesa Juvenile.

Fact: Limited recreational equipment was observed by the Grand Jury at Kearny Mesa Juvenile.

Finding 05: Kearny Mesa Juvenile may need additional equipment to facilitate a better and more productive physical exercise program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2017/2018 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Sheriff's Department:

18-21: Develop and implement a plan to bring the County detention facilities into compliance with BSCC rated capacity.

- 18-22: Consider development of incentivized physical education programs tied to inmates' personal goals for all adult detention facilities.**
- 18-23: Improve the assessment of recidivism to permit evaluation of the success of reentry programs.**

The 2017/2018 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Probation Department:

- 18-24: Improve programs aimed at reducing violence in the East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility.**
- 18-25: Consider increasing the amount of exercise equipment available at Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility to enhance the exercise program.**

REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

The California Penal Code §933(c) requires any public agency which the Grand Jury has reviewed, and about which it has issued a final report, to comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the agency. Such comment shall be made *no later than 90 days* after the Grand Jury publishes its report (filed with the Clerk of the Court); except that in the case of a report containing findings and recommendations pertaining to a department or agency headed by an elected County official (e.g. District Attorney, Sheriff, etc.), such comment shall be made *within 60 days* to the Presiding Judge with an information copy sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Furthermore, California Penal Code §933.05(a), (b), (c), details, as follows, the manner in which such comment(s) are to be made:

- (a) As to each grand jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
 - (1) The respondent agrees with the finding
 - (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.
- (b) As to each grand jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:
 - (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
 - (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.
 - (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when

applicable. This time frame shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

(4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

(c) If a finding or recommendation of the grand jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the grand jury, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision making authority. The response of the elected agency or department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.

Comments to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in compliance with the Penal Code §933.05 are required from the:

<u>Responding Agency</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Date</u>
San Diego County Sheriff's Department	18-21 through 18-23	7/30/18
San Diego County Probation Department	18-24, 18-25	8/27/18