



BENICIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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April 5, 2006

David E. Power
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Solano Superior Court
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Honorable Judge David E. Power:

I have reviewed the Solano County Grand Jury's report issued March 22, 2006 entitled "Annual Inspections of City Holding Facilities Within Solano County." I am responding pursuant to, and in the manner described in, California Penal Code Section 933.05.

Regarding Findings #1 and #2, and the associated Recommendations, the current safety and seismic upgrade to our facility will not remedy either situation. Our existing holding cell doors will be replaced, however the new doors will also be secured by a sliding deadbolt lock. However, a security door leading to the remodeled prisoner holding area, which contains our holding cells, will be secured with both key and electronic locking mechanisms.

Please note that our prisoner holding area, along with our two holding cells, have also been inspected by the State of California Board of Corrections, Solano County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission and the Solano County Health and Social Services Department. No recommendation was made on changing the locking system on the holding cell doors. California Board of Corrections also reviewed and approved the safety upgrade to the holding cells and the upgraded locking system.

Relative to the listed Recommendations:

Recommendation #1 is inaccurate. No prisoner has ever escaped from the holding cells and prisoners are unable to unlock the holding cell doors. (933.05(2)(b)(1) PC).

Recommendation #2 is inaccurate (although Finding #2 is accurate). Unfortunately, due to space and budget constraints, a cell specifically set apart for juvenile prisoners is not feasible. Again, California Board of Corrections, Solano County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Solano County Health and Social Services have inspected

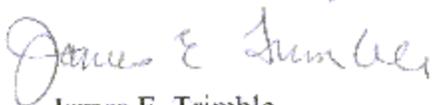
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James E. Trimble • Chief of Police

and approved the use of the holding cells for juveniles. We do have areas where juvenile prisoners are kept while in non-secure detention, however we will not be able to provide a separate secure cell solely for juveniles.

If there are any further questions regarding this issue, please have your staff contact Captain Michael Daley at (707)746-4259 or via e-mail at mdaley@ci.benicia.ca.us.

Sincerely,



James E. Trimble
Chief of Police

H:PD-Admin/Chief/JET.

cc: City Manager