

**Recommendation #1: California Department of Corrections should build additional units to accommodate the growth of inmate population.**

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) agrees with the Grand Jury Findings. Housing capacity in the CDCR systemwide is determined utilizing occupancy standards, classification levels, institutional missions, special housing designations, and the correctional facilities' program needs. The conventional correctional wisdom of the American Correctional Association and national standards for prison and jail housing is one inmate per cell.

The CDCR has developed the concept of "a manageable level of overcrowding," a unique California concept. Overcrowding refers to the extent a correctional facility safely houses inmates at occupancy levels above the original design of one inmate per cell, or a single level of bunks per dormitory. This overcrowding is based upon California's experience and its accompanying operational policies and protocols, staffing patterns, and each correctional facility's mission.

Adult General Population inmates are usually housed two per cell ninety percent of the time and double-bunked in dormitories. Specialized facilities, such as those housing condemned, mentally ill, or inmates segregated from the General Population, are most often not double-celled. Additionally, within the General Population, the number of inmates that cannot be double-celled because of gang affiliation or have a propensity toward violence or have a mental illness, has been growing rapidly and is significantly impacting systemwide housing capacity.

Nevertheless, the CDCR is experiencing an unprecedented increase in the growth of the adult inmate population. Along with the increased demand for single-celled housing, current population pressures have required the activation of temporary overcrowding beds. Therefore, Level II & III institution's (medium security) gymnasiums and dayrooms have been and remain activated for temporary housing. In some cases, gymnasiums and dayrooms will be triple-bunked. Because temporary housing is not as safe as housing units designed for this purpose, there are strict criteria for selection of inmates to be housed in this non-traditional setting. All institutions are experiencing some level of overcrowding; several, such as CSP-Solano are able to house many more inmates than the designed capacity.

The CDCR is actively working with all impacted stakeholders, including the Governor's Office and the California Legislature to identify and develop the resources necessary to house all of our inmates in a safe and secure environment. The provision of health care services and other program opportunities such as work and academic/vocational education are components of these plans.

The construction of appropriate facilities is only part of the solution. The CDCR is also aggressively pursuing a variety of other strategies to improve public safety and reduce recidivism, which should have a positive impact on the rate of the inmate population growth. These strategies include, but are not limited to: creating law enforcement and public safety partnerships that will reduce crime and delinquency; linking offender risk and need assessments to a continuum of programming targeting successful community reintegration; and, expanding and improving evidence-based substance abuse, educational and life skills training and other offender treatment programs.

It is CDCR's desire, through its collective efforts, to reduce the current inmate population at CSP-Solano, and all of our prison facilities

**Recommendation #2: The Prison Industry Authority (PIA) Program should work towards enlarging its facilities/capacity to meet inmate interest in the program's training.**

The CDCR agrees with the Grand Jury Findings.

The PIA Metal Fabrication Program at CSP-Solano is in the process of expanding the program which will increase job opportunities by 50-75 inmates. This is dictated by the enormous amount of work that has been assigned to CSP-Solano from Cal Trans, the largest customer. The approximate activation date for the expansion is June 1, 2006.

The PIA Book Bindery is estimated to increase by 15 more inmate workers. As space becomes available, plans are to add a printing and tabbing function to the bindery to facilitate the demand for Unit Health Records and Central Files that are produced. This would employ approximately 20-30 additional inmates.