



COUNTY OF SOLANO

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Christopher Hansen
Chief Probation Officer

Donna L. Robinson
Chief Deputy Probation Officer

July 9, 2013

To: The Honorable Paul L. Beeman
Presiding Judge

From: Christopher Hansen
Chief Probation Officer

RECEIVED
e

JUL 10 2013

SOLANO COUNTY
GRAND JURY

RE: Response to Grand Jury Report 2012/2013 - Inspection of Solano County Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) Complex

The Honorable Judge Beeman,

Pursuant to Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, I am responding to the following findings and recommendations contained in the 2012/13 Grand Jury Report that pertain to matters under my control as the Chief Probation Officer.

Finding 1

Juveniles are transported from the Juvenile Detention Facility Complex to the Vallejo and Fairfield courts. This process is time-consuming, costly, and a safety concern to the community.

Response to Finding 1

I agree with the finding of the Grand Jury.

Recommendation 1

Solano County Probation Department explore alternatives to the current juvenile transportation issues, such as holding hearings in existing vacant space within the Juvenile Detention Facility Complex.

Response Recommendation 1

This recommendation will be implemented in the future. Probation has consulted with the Courts and will continue to do so in exploring alternatives to transporting juveniles to court in Fairfield and Vallejo. Unfortunately, the only remedy to this issue appears to be

MAIN OFFICE
475 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533
Tel: (707) 784-7600, Fax: (707) 784-7605

JUVENILE HALL
740 Beck Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533
Tel: (707) 784-6570, Fax: (707) 784-2428

the construction of a courtroom at the JDF. Without funding from the state court or extensive County resources, which are not available at this time, this remedy appears unlikely in the foreseeable future.

Finding 2

Juvenile Detention Facility Complex does not have the “Institutional Module” to document, track and organize statistical information on incidents within the facility.

Response to Finding 2

I agree with the finding of the Grand Jury.

Recommendation 2

Solano County Probation Department upgrade its computer system to include an “Institutional Module” which allows the documentation, tracking and organization of this statistical information.

Response Recommendation 3

The recommendation requires further analysis. Staff are reviewing the current case management system to see if it is being utilized to its fullest capacity, which might negate the need to purchase the costly institutional module upgrade. A decision to upgrade the existing system will be made after the review is completed within the next 6 months.

Finding 3

Juvenile Detention Facility Complex security surveillance system is inadequate and contributed to the escape. The camera placements cannot monitor all secured areas. The Juvenile Complex does not record or store images on their video system.

Response to Finding 3

I partially agree with the finding of the Grand Jury. The current placement of video cameras cannot monitor all secure areas and the system does not record or store images. The escape of two wards from the JDF is currently under investigation, therefore, at the present time no conclusions can be drawn as to what contributed to their escape.

Recommendation 3

Solano County Probation Department upgrade its security surveillance and recording systems.

Response to Recommendation 3

This recommendation has been implemented. Prior to the release of this report and this recommendation, the Probation Department hired a consultant to review and recommend

an upgrade to the current video surveillance system. The consultant's recommended upgrades will be implemented upon completion of the County's bidding process.

Finding 4

Two juveniles were allowed in a recreational area unsupervised by staff, violating stated Juvenile Detention Facility Complex policy.

Response to Finding 4

I cannot respond presently to this finding because this incident is currently under investigation and any additional comment would be inappropriate.

Recommendation 4

Juvenile Detention Facility Complex Staff adhere to their stated policy.

Response Recommendation 4

I cannot respond presently to this recommendation because this incident is currently under investigation and any additional comment would be inappropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Hansen

cc: **Grand Jury**
Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator