

DIVISION OF ADULT OPERATIONS
CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON SOLANO
P.O. Box 4000
Vacaville, CA 95696-4000



June 5, 2009

The Honorable Ramona Garrett
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Solano Superior Court
600 Union Ave
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Judge Garrett:

2008-2009 Grand Jury Report

This correspondence is generated in response to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2008-2009 Solano County Grand Jury Report for California State Prison – Solano (SOL). This response is in compliance with the specification pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05.

Recommendation #1: California Department of Corrections should continue operating in the same manner, given current circumstances.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is in agreement with the Grand Jury's findings in that the Department is operating currently in a constrained economic climate and that organization is paramount in maintaining acceptable levels of treatment and care for incarcerated individuals. The Department will continue to operate in the same efficient manner that so impressed the Grand Jury during their visit and is appreciative of their positive review of our operation.

Recommendation #2a: The Grand Jury recommends that the California State Legislature pass legislation making cell phone possession by a prison inmate a felony punishable by an additional prison sentence.

Recommendation #2b: Given the gravity of the situation, we recommend that the Solano County Board of Supervisors sponsor legislation as part of its legislative platform to make it a felony for inmates to possess cellular phones within a state prison as well as a felony for staff or visitors to provide inmates with cell phones.

The CDCR concurs with the Grand Jury Findings. The Department in conjunction with the Office of Legislation has introduced Senate Bill 434 which if passed would create criminal penalties to anyone engaged in smuggling cell phones into state prisons.

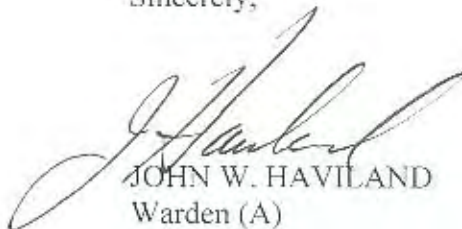
Recommendation #3: The prison administration should actively seek to increase the number of inmate work positions in the Prison Industries programs.

CDCR agrees with the Grand Jury findings and is consistently looking for ways to expand its Prison Industries Authority (PIA) programs. Unfortunately the Department's ability to increase the number of inmates who participate in the PIA programs is contingent upon the demand for PIA products and committee's ordered from various entities. As the demand for products made by PIA increases, our ability to place inmates in the program increases. Due to budgetary constraints and the current state of the economy, orders have decreased resulting in a reduction in production hours. We are hopeful that this situation will change for the better and not worsen in the coming months as PIA makes concerted efforts to expand their product line and markets current products.

Recommendation #4: The Grand Jury recommends that the California State Legislature continue to fund the SOL pilot rehabilitation program.

CDCR agrees with the Grand Jury findings in that it recognizes the impact rehabilitative programs can have on offenders and their chances at leading positive and productive lives once they discharge. The Department is optimistic that the Assembly Bill (AB) 900 rehabilitative programs will continue to function. The level at which the programs operate will be under continuous review based on positive outcomes and budgetary constraints. SOL continues to support the goals of AB-900 and the Department's mission to rehabilitate the inmates entrusted to us. SOL has developed strategies to ensure our rehabilitation programs are operating even in light of potential budget reductions.

Sincerely,



JOHN W. HAVILAND

Warden (A)

California State Prison – Solano