

April 28, 2009

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

Sheriff's Response to the Solano County Grand Jury Report Dated April 6, 2009 Entitled: **Solano County Juvenile Hall.**

### **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Finding #3** At the time of this report there were remaining issues relating to the communication problems between the Sheriff's Dispatch Center and Juvenile Hall Counselors. When Juveniles are in the courthouse, Sheriff's Dispatch Center is unaware of movement of juveniles, which is under the control of Juvenile Hall Counselors.

**Recommendation #3** All movement of juveniles within the courthouse should be communicated to and monitored by the Solano County Sheriff's Dispatch Center for the safety of the juveniles and Juvenile Hall Counselors.

**Response:** The Sheriff disagrees with the recommendation of the Solano County Grand Jury. While it appears logical and operationally efficient to have the Sheriff's Dispatch Center manage all Sheriff's Office radio traffic, in practice this has proven to be counterproductive to Court Security operations. Court Security operates on Sheriff radio channel #3, a lesser used frequency. Although monitored by Dispatch, the volume of Sheriff radio channel #3 is normally turned down to prevent this frequency from interfering with dispatchers monitoring a higher volume of priority radio traffic on other law enforcement and fire frequencies. To minimize Dispatcher overload and better manage radio traffic specific to Court Security operations, Court Security is now responsible for primary monitoring of Sheriff's channel #3. Response to requests for assistance on Sheriff's channel #3 are received and directed by Court Security and the Sheriff's Dispatch center monitors as back-up. This has proven to be an efficient method of communicating the security needs of Juvenile Counselors, Correctional Officers and Court Security staff. As of the date of this response there are no outstanding or unresolved communication issues relative to the movement of juvenile offenders within the Courthouse.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Stanton  
Sheriff-Coroner