



OFFICE OF
SHERIFF-CORONER

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

7000 Michael N. Canlis Blvd.
French Camp, California 95231-9781

July 31, 2013

Steve Moore
Sheriff-Coroner
Public Administrator

*Honorable David P. Warner
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 303
Stockton, California 95202*

RE: 2012-2013 GRAND JURY RESPONSE

Dear Judge Warner:

Following are the Sheriff's Office responses to the findings and recommendations made by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury.

Finding F1:

Blind spots in the common areas of the housing units can be an officer safety concern.

Response to Finding F1:

The Respondent disagrees with the Finding.

In the Direct Supervision housing units, staff has a central work station affixed in the middle of the unit. It affords the housing officer a 180 degree panoramic view point of both the upper mezzanine and ground floor levels of the housing unit.

The central work station was not intended to be a fixed post position. It is a resource center for all of the functions and tasks that are to be handled by the housing officer throughout their shift. The Custody Division policy requires security checks be conducted every 30 minutes and these are recorded via a hand held check point system. This promotes the kind of presence and interaction staff is to have with the inmates as part of the direct supervision inmate management philosophy.

Recommendation R1:

The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department, by December 31, 2013, identify the blind spots in the common areas of the housing units and install mirrors, surveillance cameras, or other aid so the correctional officers are able to visually monitor all areas of the housing units.



Response to Recommendation R1:

The Sheriff's Office is not prepared to install mirrors within the housing units. Mirrors present security concerns and are not appropriate for Direct Supervision Housing. The design and philosophy of Direct Supervision is to promote constant engagement between officers and inmates. With constant movement and interaction, officers assigned to supervise inmates in a Direct Supervision housing unit are trained and expected to utilize keen observation and communication skills to adequately remain abreast of all inmate activity within that housing unit.

A sophisticated and long range measure would be the addition of a surveillance camera system for each individual housing unit. This advanced technology is a viable option only as funding sources are identified and become available. The Sheriff's Office is continuously seeking ways to implement up-to-date technologies that are cost efficient and non labor intensive. Any surveillance camera system that would be considered for implementation must be compatible with systems presently in place. In addition, there are added long term costs associated with such equipment as it will require ongoing 24-hour monitoring, support and maintenance.

The Sheriff's Office does not disagree that implementing such a system would provide added security measures and will continue to seek suitable systems as funding is available.

Finding F2:

There is a lack of positive activities for idle inmates at the Honor Farm after completion of their work assignments.

Response to Finding F2:

The Respondent disagrees with the Finding.

The Sheriff's Office jail facilities offer a wide variety of programs at both the sentenced and pre-sentenced facilities. These programs include education, literacy, life skills, transitional preparedness, as well as vocational training. Community partners include Friends Outside, the San Joaquin County Office of Education, Manteca Unified School District, San Joaquin County Human Services, Work Net, Behavioral Health, C-Tech Vocational Services, and seventy two community volunteer program providers including religious services, peer mentoring through Narcotics/Alcoholics Anonymous, and a wide assortment of self help, esteem and self worth programs.

In addition to the traditional programs that are offered, there has been an unforeseen interest from correctional officers in extending their knowledge and skills to inmates that demonstrate an interest in horticulture, painting, minimal construction, underground irrigation, grounds maintenance, and sewing. A select group of officers have been assigned to positions that allow them to facilitate such training that is thought to be useful in day-to-day life outside of jail. This has instilled a great deal of ownership and personal pride in inmates specifically at the Honor Farm.

All fruits and vegetables that are grown and harvested by inmates at the Honor Farm are donated to the San Joaquin County Food Bank, Women's Center, and Haven of Peace.

Inmates that are involved in the Honor Farm sewing program have saved the county over \$10,000.00 in clothing replacement cost during the previous five months.

The C-Tech vocational program was recently introduced and is comprised of a five component platform that offers official certification in five separate forms of wiring. This certification is recognized nationally and is accepted by local retailers that are partners of the company and are willing to employ those that have completed the certification program and may have felony backgrounds.

Educational programs have been the focus and are required prior to participation in vocational training. During the last year, there have been 84 GED's earned and 6 high school diplomas, compared to the previous year where 51 GED's were earned and no high school diplomas. This is a direct result of the Sheriff's Office's sincere desire to provide education to those leaving custody and potentially entering the workforce.

Court ordered programs such as Anger Management, Parenting, Substance Abuse, etc. are all validated and evidence based programs that are provided during jail time and are recognized by Probation as meeting the conditions of probation and court ordered sentencing requirements.

Below is a list of current programs being offered throughout the jail facilities:

- ANGER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
- PARENTING
- CREATIVE CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ANGER MANAGEMENT, AND STALKING OFFENDER COUNSELING
- GED
- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

- OFFICE TECHNOLOGY - STEPS TO SUCCESS...RESUME BUILDING 101
- PRE-RELEASE PROGRAM
- TRANSITIONAL LIFE-SKILLS COUNSELING
- SUCCEEDING IN LIFE AND CAREER
- TYGR PROGRAM "SEEKING SAFETY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING"
- HIV PRE AND POST TESTING
- RELIGIOUS SERVICES
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS
- BASIC EDUCATION/LIFE SKILLS
- LIBRARY ACTIVITIES/READING PROGRAM

Recommendation R2:

The San Joaquin Sheriff's Department, with the assistance of other agencies, by December 31, 2013, implement additional educational (vocational or other) programming for its Honor Farm inmates.

Response to Recommendation R2:

The San Joaquin Sheriff's Office continues to develop and introduce additional educational, vocational and therapeutic programming that is validated and evidenced based. Every effort is made to introduce meaningful and useful programming that is broad in spectrum and contains content that is conducive to transitioning from jail to community. These efforts will continue and expand as programs including education, life skills, vocational training, and transition are identified.

With the introduction of AB109, the Sheriff's Office has made strides in targeting partnerships and building community relationships that have proven to be productive and effective in bolstering inmate education and programming at the San Joaquin County jail facilities.

Sincerely



Steve Moore
/Sheriff-Coroner

c: Chairman Ken Vogel, Board of Supervisors
Rosa Lee, Interim County Administrator
Mimi Duzenski, Clerk of the Board