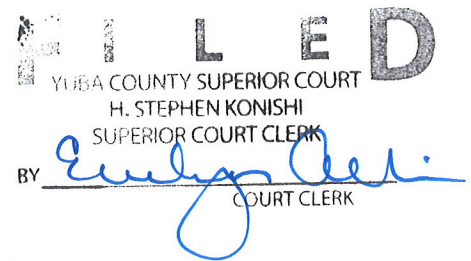




CITY OF MARYSVILLE

SEP 7 2007



526 "C" Street • P.O. Box 150 • Marysville, CA 95901 • (530)749-3901 • Fax (530)749-3992

September 5, 2007

Debra L. Givens
Judge of the Superior Court
Yuba County Grand Jury
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

SUBJECT: Response to 2006-2007 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Givens:

This letter is sent in response to findings made by the 2006-2007 Grand Jury regarding the City of Marysville's participation in the Senior Nutrition Access Card (SNAC) Program as outlined in the June 28, 2007, Grand Jury Final Report (See Pages 35 and 41).

Finding 3

"The SNAC program is a valuable and productive effort to provide physical and emotional assistance to senior citizens. The City of Marysville has announced termination of funding."

Recommendation

"Funding for this program should be pursued by the City of Marysville."

Response:

Since members of the Grand Jury never met with or discussed this matter with City Staff or Council, we can only surmise that the Grand Jury either misunderstood or were not provided with the complete facts on this Program.

The City of Marysville has provided over \$45,000 of funding, plus administrative support, towards the SNAC Program since 2003, from our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In 2003, the City had over \$1.5 million surplus of CDBG funding available for allocation to needed community improvement programs, such as SNAC. HUD (Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development) who controls the money, advised the City that we needed to spend this funding down within three years or potentially lose this funding. Consequently, the City conducted an aggressive program to spend down this funding so that by

2007, all funding would be used on eligible community activities. Examples of recent projects completed with CDBG funding have included, among others, improvements to the Ellis Lake sidewalks, handicapped access improvements to sidewalks throughout Marysville, improvements to the Friday Night Live (Packard Library Building) and Marysville Youth and Civic Center, and temporary funding for the Veterans Housing Assistance Program.

At the time the County approached the City for funding, the SNAC Program was managed by Ginny Tuscano, who has since retired. The City's understanding with Ms. Tuscano was that the County would seek additional funding sources in the future, to eventually offset this temporary funding source from the City, since the Program has always been fully funded by the County and should continue to be funded by the County. Section 7-C of the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and County clarifies the City's funding limitations and clearly indicates that this one time funding source is intended to *supplement and not supplant* participants in the SNAC Program:

“GENERAL COMPLIANCE. YCHHSD agrees to comply with the requirements of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 570 (the Housing and Urban Development regulations concerning CDBG funds). YCHHSD also agrees to comply with all other applicable Federal, state and local laws, regulations, and policies governing the funds provided under this MOU. **YCHHSD further agrees to utilize funds available under this MOU to supplement, rather than supplant, funds otherwise available.** Recipients receiving nutritional services pursuant to this MOU must be residents of the City of Marysville.”

This was further clarified in 2006, with a letter dated May 4, 2006, to Susanne Nobles, Director of Yuba County Health and Human Services Department (See attached), when there appeared to be a problem with the County's understanding of the Agreement. In 2003, eleven (11) City residents/participants of the program were being funded by the County's budget. In 2006, 11 City residents/participants were funded by City's funds and none were funded by the County's budget, SNAC administrators apparently pulled funding from the Marysville residents over time in direct violation of our agreement. Had SNAC Program funding from other sources been expanded as originally conceived, it would have had the financial capacity to fully serve demand without the City funding support in 2007. Unfortunately, Program demand has increased way beyond financial resources, and now 29 City residents are on the SNAC waiting list (66% of the total on the SNAC waiting list). The City hoped that there would have been a greater commitment by the County to support more City residents with this funding; however, it is our understanding at this time that no recipients currently covered will be cut from the Program. Eventually, the Program would be self supporting, without the City's temporary funding source. The City is very encouraged that the County does not plan to drop City residents/participants from the SNAC Program.

The City has offered to work with the County to seek additional funding opportunities to expand funding to more residents, through grant programs and other funding sources. However, there must be some recognition that the City is not properly staffed nor does it have the financial wherewithal to directly provide these services, which have traditionally been provided by the

Mr. Steve Casey, City Manager
July 6, 2007
Page 3

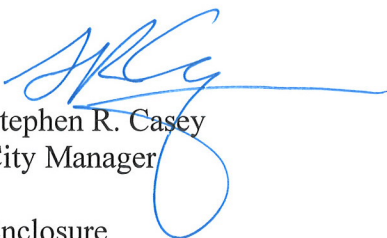
County. In response to Finding 3 of the Grand Jury's report, the City, to the extent feasible, is committed to working with the County to seek additional funding for this Program.

In Summary:

- ❖ It is unfortunate that no one from the Grand Jury actually spoke with anyone from the City before making their finding.
- ❖ The money set aside for the SNAC Program, by the City, were grant funds and were intended to supplement the program and not supplant County funds.
- ❖ When the original donation was made to the SNAC Program, the City Council clearly set up the guidelines, so that no misunderstanding of the nature or use of any City funding would occur, but it appears that the SNAC administration did not follow the guidelines that were established for its use.
- ❖ On several occasions, City staff reiterated both verbally and in writing the nature of this funding to the SNAC administration.
- ❖ The City Council and City Staff have the greatest admiration for the SNAC Program. The City made a commitment to senior citizens in Marysville, that as long as CDBG funds were available a portion of the funds would be used for SNAC participants. The SNAC administration must now emphasize its own commitment to the Program and request any additional funding it needs from the Board of Supervisors.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the findings of the Grand Jury. We hope, as always, that SNAC and programs like it will continue to help those in need in our community.

Sincerely,



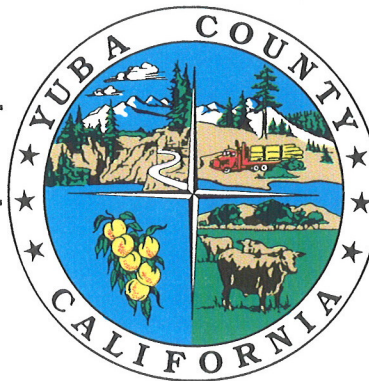
Stephen R. Casey
City Manager

Enclosure

cc: City Council

The County of Yuba

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

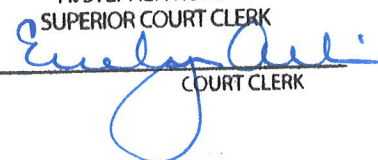


915 8th Street, Ste. 109
Marysville, California 95901
(530) 749-7510
(530) 749-7353 FAX

August 28, 2007

The Honorable Debra L. Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

AUG 31 2007

FILED
YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
BY 
COURT CLERK

Re: RESPONSE TO 2006/07 GRAND JURY REPORT

Dear Judge Givens:

Provided pursuant to Penal Code Section 933(c) is the comments from the Board of Supervisors related to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2006/07 Grand Jury Final Report. Consistent with Section 933(c), responses do not address departments under control of elected officials or outside agencies, except where a specific response was solicited and then our response is consistent with provision of Penal Code Section 933.05(c). Therefore, we incorporate the responses of the various departments with our responses.

COUNTY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS – SEQUOIA DIRECT RECORD
ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEM

Finding 2: Poll workers are well-trained, but became anxious and tended to rush through the various processes which resulted in delays in the opening and closing of the polls on Election Day 2006.

Response to Finding 2: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 2: The Yuba County Office of the Clerk/Recorder should develop a checklist to assist the poll workers with the correct steps for opening and closing the polls.

Recommendation to Finding 2: At each poll location, two specific members of the precinct board, in addition to the precinct inspector, will have additional, specialized training on the opening/closing procedures associated with the electronic voting equipment. In addition to the instructions provided in the poll worker manual, a laminated step-by-step sheet will be provided in each precinct supply box to reinforce the opening/closing training procedures.

SUPERVISORS

Commendation: The County Clerk/Registrar of Voters would like to thank the Grand Jury members for their commendation to election staff. The success of Yuba County elections is a direct result of the integrity, commitment and interest reflected by staff on a daily basis.

YUBA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
EARLY WARNING SYSTEM
GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM/WIDE AREA RAPID NOTIFICATION
(GIS/WARN) SYSTEM

Finding 1: Administrative Services Information Technology (IT) Division has implemented and coordinates Yuba County's Early Warning System including the GIS/WARN technology.

Response to Finding 1: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 1: Administrative Services IT Division should continue to evaluate current operations and develop additional ways to improve the usefulness of its GIS technology.

Response to Recommendation 1: The respondent agrees with this recommendation. The IT Division is continuing to seek new ways to improve the usefulness of GIS. Work is underway to produce a series of First Responders Maps and on-line tools to assist in emergency situations. Yuba County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the FireSafe Council are working on this project.

Finding 2: Administrative Services IT Division provides technical assistance and GIS/WARN system training to all agencies of Yuba County's government.

Response to Finding 2: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 2: IT Division should continue its bi-annual training of county employees.

Response to Recommendation 2: The respondent agrees with this recommendation. The respondent plans to continue training staff in the use of the Early Warning System. This training will be conducted at least two times per year to maintain readiness in the use of WARN.

Finding 3: There is a remarkable level of cooperation and sharing of information between the Administrative Services IT Division and all the other various governmental departments and agencies.

Response to Finding 3: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Commendation: The Administrative Services IT Division wishes to thank the Grand Jury for its commendation and desire to continue striving to improve its level of service.

There is one comment in the background history of Yuba County flooding that refers to the February 1986 flood as “killing 12 people”. This may not be correct. One person died as a result of hiding in the trunk of his car during the event, but Yuba County Emergency Services has no record of any other deaths as a result of that flood.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – ADULT SERVICES
DIVISION

Finding 1: The Board of Supervisors has not adopted as a resolution nor made operative Chapter 12, *Protective Placement and Custody of Endangered Adults*, of the Welfare and Institution Code (15701.05-25705.40) in Yuba County.

Response to Finding 1: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 1: The Board of Supervisors respond as to why the County has not adopted nor noted any discussion of this resolution, even though Senate Bill 2199 was enacted in 1998.

Response to Recommendation 1: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 15705.37, makes the provision of involuntary protective custody provisions optional and at the Board’s discretion. Yuba County provides protection of elderly persons and dependent adults through voluntary services including, but not limited to, social services case work and case management, development of individualized case plans, appropriate referral and emergency response services, counseling, temporary shelter, respite services, alternative housing and housing assistance, in-home supportive services, adaptive equipment, transportation, and other health-related services and referrals to legal services and advocate agencies.

Finding 2: Abuse case investigations have more than tripled from 2006 to 2007. The county’s population is increasing significantly, with an assumed increase in caseload investigations. The county’s allocation from the state general fund declined annually since 2002.

Response to Finding 2: Partially disagree. While funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006/07 is much less than it was in FY 2001/02, it has been somewhat erratic; slightly more in some years than the previous year and less in the subsequent year.

Recommendation 2: The Board of Supervisors develop a plan to assure continuation of services at a level at least equivalent to today’s.

Response to Recommendation 2: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Health and Human Services Department receives state funding

for APS and the county pays an additional share of the costs. Historically, the level of funding for APS has been low in comparison to the number of referrals and investigations, which, as noted by the Grand Jury, are increasing. Although \$12 million additional funds have been set aside by the Legislature in the proposed FY 2007/08 state budget, it is unknown whether the funds will be available when the final budget is signed by the Governor.

Finding 4: The Adult Protective Services Policies and Procedures handbook is in draft form.

Response to Finding 4: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 4: The Department of Health and Human Services, Adult Services Division provide a process and timeline for completing and adopting the handbook.

Response to Recommendation 4: The recommendation has been implemented. Since meeting with the Grand Jury earlier this year, the Adult Services Division has finalized most of the policies and procedures related to operating the various program components within its scope of responsibility. In addition to being available in hardcopy, the policies and procedures are posted on the department's Intranet site and are easily accessible and usable by employees.

Finding 5: Yuba-Sutter does have 24 hour response system, but does not have a letter of agreement as mandated by the state.

Response to Finding 5: The respondent disagrees with this finding.

Recommendation 5: Yuba County should take the lead and draft a letter of agreement with Sutter County concerning responsibilities of the 24-hour response system and incorporate it in their policy and procedure manual.

Response to Recommendation 5: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Contrary to the Grand Jury's findings, Yuba County and Sutter County do not have a bi-county "response system". Each county individually, in accordance with State statute and regulations, maintains a 24-hour system to respond to allegations of abuse and/or neglect of dependent adults and seniors. For many years, the Adult Services Division has had written policies and procedures related to the provision of 24-hour response services.

Commendation: The respondent wishes to thank the Grand Jury for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations and appreciates the interest taken by the Grand Jury members in Yuba County's Adult Services programs. Additionally, the respondent agrees with the commendation in regards to the Board of Supervisors, for approving the construction of a new Health and Human Services building.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT: YUBA-SUTTER JUVENILE HALL
MAXINE-SINGER YOUTH GUIDANCE CENTER

Finding 1: The name, Severe Habitual Housing Unit/Secure Housing Unit/SHU, is a term traditionally used in adult detention facilities.

Response to Finding 1: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 1: Rename the building after a person or idea that encourages a positive life style.

Response to Recommendation 1: Recommendation may be implemented in the future at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors. Construction of the Security Housing Unit was completed as a portion of the Juvenile Hall and Camp construction projects in 2002. The name utilized in identifying the unit was established by colloquial practice prior to construction. All other units within the complex are identified alphabetically (A thru E). The respondent appreciates the issue identified by the Grand Jury, as the department has in many ways attempted to generate a positive and supportive impression to the minors in their care. The unit is distinct from the balance of structures and was intended specifically to generate an impression of enhanced security. The department is open to suggestions related to renaming this unit in honor of a community member whom the Board of Supervisors feels is deserving of distinction. As a practical matter however, staff will continue to identify the unit in a manner which facilitates effective radio and tactical identification.

Finding 2: The interior walls of the entire Juvenile Hall are faded and dull. Cell lighting is poor. Cell doors do not close correctly and are covered with graffiti. The carpet in the day room is stained and worn out.

Response to Finding 2: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 2: Repaint the interior of the Juvenile Hall. Replace all cell doors and old carpet. Replace all light bulbs and fixtures to provide sufficient light for reading and studying.

Response to Recommendation 2: Recommendation has not been implemented, but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated. The interior walls of the facility were repainted in 2005. This was done to cover prior graphic designs which had become difficult to maintain. The department recently completed a detailed survey of facility needs, anticipating the availability of grant funds becoming available to modernize juvenile facilities. The elements identified by the Grand Jury were amongst the items staff has targeted for replacement.

Finding 3: There is no video monitoring system in any outdoor or indoor recreation areas and the height and construction of the walls surrounding the indoor arena make security questionable.

Response to Finding 3: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 3: A video monitoring system should be installed in all indoor and outdoor recreation areas.

Response to Recommendation 3: Recommendation has not been implemented, but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated. While the facility does not have a video monitoring system in place in the outside recreation areas, staff is always present and directly supervises minors during recreation periods. Recreation which occurs within the Boy's and Girl's day rooms is monitored by video equipment at the Central Control Room. Staff anticipates that with facility upgrades, enhanced video and audio systems capable of recording will be requested.

Finding 4: For the last two years no one has been confined to the Secure Housing Unit.

Response to Finding 4: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 4: Use the Secure Housing Unit as alternative housing while repairing Juvenile Hall.

Response to Recommendation 4: Recommendation will be implemented as facility upgrades are undertaken. Due to a declining population of minors in custody, the Security Housing Unit has not been occupied in the past two years. The department fully anticipates utilization of this unit during periods of remodel and repair of the Main Facility.

Finding 5: There is no covered outdoor recreation area at the Juvenile Hall.

Response to Finding 5: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 5: Find a solution that allows minors in Juvenile Hall to exercise outdoors in bad weather.

Response to Recommendation 5: Recommendation has not been implemented, but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated. Finding #5 is relevant to the Juvenile Hall and is not an issue with the Camp. Presently minors participate in recreation in the Boy's, Girl's and Central dayrooms during periods of inclement weather. The recreation area adjoining the Security Housing Unit is often used for recreation as it affords greater security from potential issues created by the facility's proximity to the levee. The area has an enclosed wire mesh roof structure capable of supporting a weather proof membrane. Staff will include this recommendation in final developments of remodel plans.

Finding 6: Counselors are assigned to classrooms to maintain behavior while classes are in session, however at times the help with instruction.

Response to Finding 6: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 6: The Yuba County Office of Education should assure adequate provision of teacher's aides to help with instruction.

Response to Recommendation 6: Recommendation will not be implemented as it is not warranted. In most facilities throughout the state, custody staff does not supervise minors in the classrooms. It has been the department's practice to have staff in contact with the minors throughout their shift. Staff members assigned to classroom duty are encouraged to remain actively involved with the youth. Some teachers prefer not to have staff assist, some welcome the assistance. Staff assisting minors is not a reflection of inadequate staffing by the County Office of Education; it is a reflection of our staff's commitment to assist youth in any manner possible. All of the department's custody staff have college degrees and are often able to offer insight and assistance to a particular minor. The teaching staff is sufficient to meet the needs of the minors, with or without the assistance offered by custody staff.

Finding 7: The location of the woodshop limits expansion and storage availability for materials.

Response to Finding 7: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 7: This area should be expanded or relocated in order to maximize its full vocational and education benefits.

Response to Recommendation 7: Recommendation has not yet been implemented; dialogue will be initiated with Superintendent of School to explore possible expansion. The workshop located at the SW corner of the camp gymnasium/classrooms is a small project which is an adjunct to the construction technology program offered by the County Office of Education. Camp minors participate in two hours of construction class per day during the regular academic year. There is no plan to expand this shop at this time. Some potential for expansion of industrial arts programming does exist and will be explored in the future.

Finding 8: The indoor carpet in the Camp Singer recreation area is dirty and has unsecured seams. The glass basketball backboards are dirty and the protection pads are not secured.

Response to Finding 8: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 8: Consider having the arena carpet cleaned professionally and inspected for damage annually. Clean the glass backboards and reattach protective pads.

Response to Recommendation 8: Recommendation has been implemented. The carpet referred to is indoor/outdoor carpet which was loaned to the program by Friday Night Live. The carpeting is used in the indoor soccer arena and is held to the floor with velcro.

The carpet was removed this year during basketball season and a basketball court was painted on the floor. The basketball standards which were damaged have been either removed or replaced with portable backboards. Some consideration has been given to a significant upgrade to the gymnasium facility. At some point Friday Night Live will want to have their arena structure returned to them. The department plans to address the gymnasium upgrade at that time.

Finding 9: Minors who have graduated from high school and elect not to attend school are locked down.

Response to Finding 9: The respondent disagrees partially with this finding.

Recommendation 9: Assign duties within the facility that would keep these minors productively occupied and out of their cells during school periods.

Response to Recommendation 9: Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. This issue would pertain to the Juvenile Hall only, as minors in the Camp are never locked down. Minors always have the option to attend or not attend school. The vast majority of minors attend regularly. It is the rare exception that a minor would be in the Juvenile Hall and a high school graduate. Such a minor would always be afforded the opportunity to attend school regardless of his status. Any minor out of their cell requires direct supervision by staff which is impractical.

Finding 10: There is no criminal background check on volunteers and contract personnel having contact with the minors during counseling sessions.

Response to Finding 10: The respondent disagrees with this finding.

Recommendation 10: All volunteers and contract personnel having contact with minors of Yuba-Sutter Juvenile Hall and Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center must have a criminal background check completed before counseling minors. (Cal. Code of Regs., Title 15, sec. 1320c).

Response to Recommendation 10: The recommendation has been implemented as existing policy and practice. The Juvenile Hall and Camp programs do not utilize volunteers to individually counsel with minors. The department has no specific volunteer program beyond occasional educational internships for which the department requires a background check. The only community volunteers who come into contact with minors are individuals who provide church services and AA/NA programs. These individuals are supervised by custody staff at all times. All custody staff, either full time or extra help, undergoes a thorough peace officer background evaluation prior to being allowed direct unsupervised contact with minors.

YUBA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
JAIL DIVISION

Commendation: Though the 2006/07 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report does not require a formal response to any matters concerning the Sheriff's Department, the Sheriff/Coroner wishes to extend his sincere appreciation to the jury for their service to Yuba County. During the inspection of the Yuba County Jail, staff found the jurors to be thorough and professional in fulfilling their duties.

The staff at the Sheriff's Department is committed to establishing and maintaining a safe community. The department works hard each day to ensure staff provides the safe, efficient, humane and secure custody of all persons incarcerated in the jail facility.

The Board of Supervisors would like to express their gratitude to the members of the 2006/07 Grand Jury, for their dedication and commitment to improving government in Yuba County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hal Stocker", written in a cursive style.

Hal Stocker, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

The County of Yuba

COUNTY CLERK RECORDER

915 8th STREET, SUITE 107 - MARYSVILLE, CA 95901-5273



Ms. Terry A. Hansen

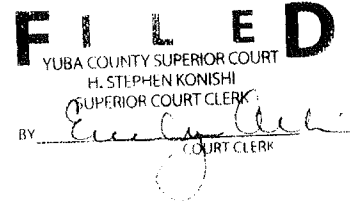
(530) 749-7851

February 23, 2007

The Honorable Debra Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, California 95901

Re: **2006/07 Grand Jury Response**

FEB 26 2007



Dear Judge Givens:

I would like to personally thank the members of the 2006-07 Grand Jury for their interest, professionalism, and thorough review of Yuba County's Direct Record Electronic Voting System during the November 2006 election.

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933.05 and with regard to Findings and Recommendations, I submit the following:

Finding 2: *"Poll workers are well-trained, but became anxious and tended to rush through the various processes which resulted in delays in the opening and closing of the polls on Election Day 2006."*

Response to Finding 2: Agree.

Recommendation to Finding 2: At each poll location, two specific members of the precinct board, in addition to the precinct inspector, will have additional, specialized training on the opening/closing procedures associated with the electronic voting equipment. In addition to the instructions provided in the poll worker manual, a laminated step-by-step sheet will be provided in each precinct supply box to reinforce the opening/closing training procedures.

Commendation: I would like to thank the Grand Jury members for their commendation to my election staff. The success of Yuba County elections is a direct result of the integrity, commitment, and interest reflected by my staff on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

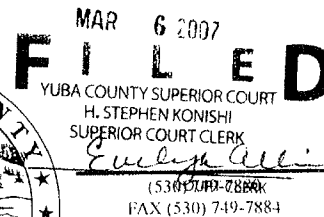
Ms. Terry A. Hansen
County Clerk - Registrar of Voters

Cc: Board of Supervisors
County Administrator

The County of Yuba

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

STEPHEN G ANDROVICH - Director



March 5, 2007

To: Honorable Debra Givens, Grand Jury Presiding Judge
From: Steve Androvich, Director of Administrative Services
Subject: Response to the 2006-2007 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report on the Yuba County Administrative Services Information Technology Division: Early Warning System and Geographic Information System

We have reviewed the Grand Jury report covering the Early Warning System and Geographic Information System (GIS.) The Grand Jury members were quite thorough in their investigation, conducted a number of interviews, and viewed demonstrations of the systems to complete their review.

Responses to the Findings and Recommendations of the Grand Jury:

Finding 1 and Recommendation

The respondent agrees with this finding. The IT Division is continuing to seek new ways to improve the usefulness of GIS. Work is underway to produce a series of First Responders Maps and on-line tools to assist in emergency situations. Yuba County OES and the FireSafe Council are working this project.

Finding 2 and Recommendation

The respondent agrees with this finding and plans to continue training staff in the use of the Early Warning System. This training will be conducted at least two times per year to maintain readiness in the use of WARN.

Finding 3 and Commendation

The respondent agrees with this finding. The Administrative Services IT Division wishes to thank the Grand Jury for its commendation and desires to continue striving to improve its level of service.

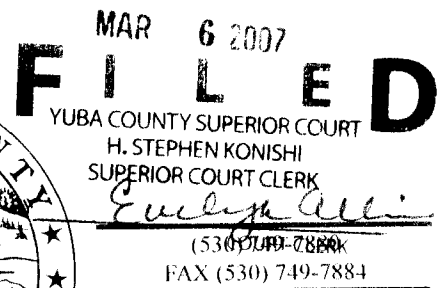
There is one comment in the background history of Yuba County flooding that refers to the February 1986 flood as "killing 12 people." This may not be correct. One person died as a result of hiding in the trunk of his car during the event, but Yuba County Emergency Services has no record of any other deaths as a result of that flood.

Cc: CAO and Board of Supervisors

The County of Yuba

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

STEPHEN G ANDROVICH - Director



March 5, 2007

To: Honorable Debra Givens, Grand Jury Presiding Judge
From: Steve Androvich, Director of Administrative Services
Subject: Response to the 2006-2007 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report on the Yuba County Administrative Services Information Technology Division: Early Warning System and Geographic Information System

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Finding 3 and Commendation

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Cc: CAO and Board of Supervisors



Marysville Joint Unified School District
1919 B Street Marysville, CA 95901 (530) 741-6000 • FAX (530) 742-0573

APR 2 2007

FILED
YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
BY *Emily Allen*
COURT CLERK

March 29, 2007

The Honorable James Curry
2006-07 Grand Jury Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: Response to the 2006-07 Final Report of the Yuba County Grand Jury

Dear Judge Curry:

Attached is the response to the findings included in the 2006-07 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report relating to the Marysville Joint Unified School District. The district has reviewed the report specific to the MJUSD and given significant consideration to the findings and recommendations made by the Grand Jury.

I have directed Dr. Gay Todd, Superintendent of the Marysville Joint Unified School District, to submit the response on behalf of the MJUSD Board of Trustees.

Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Superintendent at 749-6102.

Sincerely,

Jeff D. Boom
President
Board of Trustees



Marysville Joint Unified School District

GAY TODD, SUPERINTENDENT

1919 B STREET—MARYSVILLE, CA 95901 (530) 749-6100 FAX (530) 741-7894

March 29, 2007

The Honorable James Curry
2006-07 Grand Jury Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
215 Fifth Street, Department 5
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: Response to the 2006-07 Final Report of the Yuba County Grand Jury

Dear Judge Curry:

The 2006-07 Yuba County Grand Jury School's committee reviewed Dobbins Elementary School. As a result of that review, the Grand Jury listed four findings and four recommendations in its final report.

In compliance with Penal Code section 933.05(b), I am submitting the following response on behalf of the Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD):

Finding #1:

The finding reads:

"Before school and after school programs are needed."

Recommendation #1:

The recommendation reads:

"Determine population of students who are in need of such programs. If Dobbins School meets the 15 students per teacher requirement, submit funding request to district. If not, the school should submit a funding request with a waiver."

District Response:

All district school sites have the ability to run an after school and before school program. Since this state-funded program reimburses the MJUSD at the rate of \$3.25 per hour per student, it is necessary to have a minimum of 15 students per hour to cover the hourly cost (plus benefits) of the certificated teacher. Since this program also provides funding for our summer school programs, there are no additional district funds to cover a lower student/teacher ratio.

Since December 2006, Dobbins School has been participating in the new state program known as the After School Education and Safety grant. The MJUSD has renamed our program STARS (Students Together Achieving and Realizing Success). Currently, there are 34 students participating in the three hour, five day per week program. An additional 16 slots are currently available to students who wish to join in the homework and recreational program.

Finding #2:

The finding reads:

“Majority of computer equipment is three years old or older and considered obsolete by district standards.”

Recommendation #2:

The recommendation reads:

“Make a list of equipment that needs to be replaced in order of utility and age. Provide list to district so it can project replacement schedule with the rest of the district.”

District Response:

In August 2006, members from the MJUSD Technology Department went into all the classrooms and the office to personally count the number of computers currently being used. All computers were counted regardless of their age or condition. At that time, 31 computers were identified by the Technology Department. Of the 31 computers, 15 of them were purchased prior to 2002 and another four were purchased during the 2002 calendar year. Approximately five of the computers belonged to the Indian Education program, but were included in the final count. The remaining 12 computers were purchased between 2004 and the beginning of the 2006-07 school year.

The Director of Technology, Bryan Williams, met with the Dobbins School Technology Committee in November 2006 to discuss upgrading options. The committee was informed that the district would be purchasing ten new computers for Dobbins School. The new computers will replace the ten computers purchased prior to 2002. The new machines are currently on site at Dobbins School, and they will be installed the week after spring break as requested by the site. This is the first step to what will hopefully become a regular upgrading program for their computer systems.

The Technology Department is also in the process of upgrading the network infrastructure at Dobbins School. By the end of July 2007, all routers and switches at the site will be upgraded to current district standards. This will allow for Dobbins School to take advantage of all of the programs the district will be able to offer in the near future.

The Technology Department and the Dobbins School Technology Committee understand the importance of keeping that site current with its technology. I believe that the communication we have started and the systems we are installing will help us in achieving that goal.

Finding #3:

The finding reads:

“With the addition of five acres, a landscaping contract and/or additional custodians and equipment are needed.”

Recommendation #3:

The recommendation reads:

“Develop plan for maintenance of additional five acres.”

District Response:

District response to recommendation #3 is incorporated with district response to recommendation #4.

Finding #4:

The finding reads:

"Asphalt play area will be excavated in 2007 leaving the children without a play area for handball and basketball."

Recommendation #4:

The recommendation reads:

"Develop plan for creation of suitable play area."

District Response to Findings #3 & #4:

The district is currently developing a site master plan for all sites, including Dobbins School. The Dobbins School site master plan has been developed by an architectural firm with extensive input from staff, including the site principal, and it has undergone initial Board of Trustee review.

Projects are being developed for Phase I. Future phases do not currently have an identified funding source. The site master plan is designed to maximize current resources in the best interest of Dobbins School. The site master plan includes play areas for the students.

Finding #5:

The finding reads:

"Balls go outside the fenced playground into the street during recess."

Recommendation #5:

The recommendation reads:

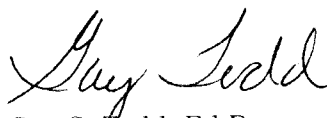
"Devise and implement a plan to correct child safety concern."

District Response:

The referenced "street" is actually a driveway from Marysville Road to the front of the school. At present, all students have been instructed not to leave the fenced-in area of the playground. If any of the playground equipment manages to clear the five foot fence separating the play yard and the driveway, students know they are to report it to one of the highly visible yard duty supervisors.

As in past years, the Board of Trustees and I would like to thank the Grand Jury for their recommendations. Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact me at 530-749-6102.

Sincerely,




Gay S. Todd, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Marysville Joint Unified School District

North Yuba Water District
P.O. Box 299 - Brownsville, CA 95919
Phone (530) 675-2567 - Fax (530) 675-0462

APR 23 2007

FILED
YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
BY 
COURT CLERK

April 19, 2007

The Honorable Debra L. Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

Re: 2007/2007 Yuba County Final Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Givens:

The North Yuba Water District (formerly Yuba County Water District) is in receipt of the 2006/2007 "Yuba County Final Grand Jury Report". Please be advised that the District is in agreement with the findings adopted by the Grand Jury on March 6, 2007.

Sincerely,



Bill Hamilton
President of the Board

cc: Yuba County Board of Supervisors

The County of Yuba

COUNTY CLERK RECORDER

915 8th STREET, SUITE 107 - MARYSVILLE, CA 95901-5273



Ms. Terry A. Hansen

(530) 749-7851

February 23, 2007

The Honorable Debra Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, California 95901

Re: **2006/07 Grand Jury Response**

Dear Judge Givens:

I would like to personally thank the members of the 2006-07 Grand Jury for their interest, professionalism, and thorough review of Yuba County's Direct Record Electronic Voting System during the November 2006 election.

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933.05 and with regard to Findings and Recommendations, I submit the following:

Finding 2: *"Poll workers are well-trained, but became anxious and tended to rush through the various processes which resulted in delays in the opening and closing of the polls on Election Day 2006."*

Response to Finding 2: Agree.

Recommendation to Finding 2: At each poll location, two specific members of the precinct board, in addition to the precinct inspector, will have additional, specialized training on the opening/closing procedures associated with the electronic voting equipment. In addition to the instructions provided in the poll worker manual, a laminated step-by-step sheet will be provided in each precinct supply box to reinforce the opening/closing training procedures.

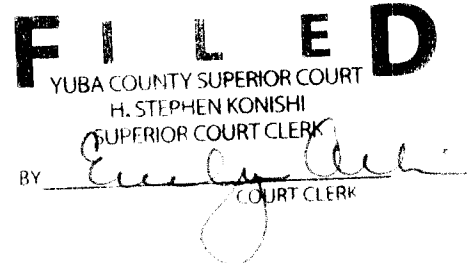
Commendation: I would like to thank the Grand Jury members for their commendation to my election staff. The success of Yuba County elections is a direct result of the integrity, commitment, and interest reflected by my staff on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

Ms. Terry A. Hansen
County Clerk – Registrar of Voters

Cc: Board of Supervisors
County Administrator

FEB 26 2007

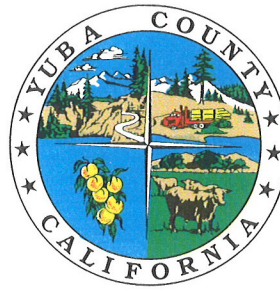


The County of Yuba

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Suzanne Nobles, Director

6000 Lindhurst Ave., P.O. Box 2320, Marysville, California 95901
Phone: (530) 749-6311 Fax: (530) 749-6281



**Joseph W. Cassady, D.O.,
Health Officer**

Phone: (530) 741-6366

AUG 6 2007

July 27, 2007

Honorable Judge Debra L. Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, California 95901

FILED
YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
BY *Evelyn Allen*
COURT CLERK

Subject: Response to 2006/2007 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Givens:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the findings and recommendations in the 2006-2007 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report. This year, the Grand Jury reviewed the Adult Services Division in the Health and Human Services Department. Our response follows:

Finding #1:

The Grand Jury found that the Board of Supervisors has not adopted as a resolution nor made operative Chapter 12, *Protective Placements and Custody of Endangered Adults*, of the Welfare and Institutions Code (15701.05-15705.40) in Yuba County.

Response:

We agree with the finding.

Recommendation #1:

The Grand Jury requested a response from the Board of Supervisors as to why the County has not adopted, or noted any discussion of a resolution to make operative, Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code 15701.05-15705.40, Chapter 23, *Protective Placements and Custody of Endangered Adults*.

Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. W & I Code, Section 15705.37, makes the provision of involuntary protective custody provisions optional and at the Board's discretion. Yuba County provides protection of elderly persons and dependent adults through voluntary services including, but not limited to, social services case work and case management, development of individualized case plans, appropriate referral and emergency response services, counseling, temporary shelter, respite services, alternative housing and housing assistance, in-home supportive services, adaptive equipment, transportation, and other health-related services and referrals to legal services and advocate agencies.

Finding #2:

The Grand Jury found that abuse case investigations have more than tripled from 2006 to 2007. The county's population is increasing significantly, with an assumed increase in caseload investigations. The county's allocation from the state general fund declined annually since 2002.

Response:

We disagree partially with the Grand Jury's finding. While funding for Adult Protective Services in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006/2007 is much less than it was in FY 2001/2002, it has been somewhat erratic; slightly more in some years than the previous year and less in the subsequent year.

Recommendation #2:

The Grand Jury recommended the Board of Supervisors develop a plan to assure continuation of adult protective service investigations at a level at least equivalent to today's.

Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Health and Human Services Department receives state funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) and the county pays an additional share of the costs. Historically, the level of funding for APS has been low in comparison to the number of referrals and investigations; which, as noted by the Grand Jury, are increasing. Although \$12 million additional funds have been set aside by the Legislature in the proposed FY 2007/2008 state budget, it is unknown whether the funds will be available when the final budget is signed by the Governor.

Finding #4:

The Adult Services Policies and Procedures handbook is in draft form.

Response:

We agree with the Grand Jury's finding.

Recommendation #4:

The Grand Jury recommended that the Health and Human Services Department, Adult Services Division, provide a process and timeline for completing and adopting a handbook of policies and procedures.

Response:

The recommendation has been implemented. Since meeting with the Grand Jury earlier this year, the Adult Services Division has finalized most of the policies and procedures related to operating the various program components within its scope of responsibility. In addition to being available in hardcopy, the policies and procedures are posted on the Department's Intranet site and are easily accessible and usable by employees.

Finding #5:

Yuba-Sutter does have a 24-hour response system but does not have a letter of agreement as mandated by the state.

Judge Givens
Page 3.

Response:

We disagree with the Grand Jury's finding.

Recommendation #5:

The Grand Jury recommended that Yuba County should take the lead and draft a letter of agreement with Sutter County concerning responsibilities of the 24-hour response system and incorporate it in their policy and procedure manual.


Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Contrary to the Grand Jury's findings, Yuba County and Sutter County do not have a bi-county "response system." Each county individually, in accordance with State statute and regulations, maintains a 24-hour system to respond to allegations of abuse and/or neglect of dependent adults and seniors. For many years, the Adult Services Division has had written policies and procedures related to the provision of 24-hour response services.

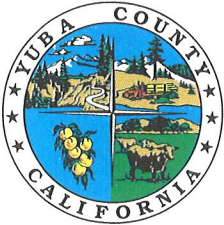
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations. We appreciate the interest taken by the Grand Jury members in Yuba County's Adult Services programs. Additionally, we agree with the commendation for the Board of Supervisors for approving the construction of a new Health and Human Services building.

Please contact me at (530) 749-6271 if you have any questions or desire any additional information.

Sincerely,


Suzanne Nobles, Director

CC: Hal Stocker, Chairman, County of Yuba Board of Supervisors
Robert Bendorf, County Administrator
Dan Montgomery, County Counsel



**YUBA - SUTTER JUVENILE HALL
CAMP SINGER YOUTH GUIDANCE CENTER**

FRANK D. SORGEA
Superintendent of Institutions



AUG 6 2007

FILED

YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK

BY

COURT CLERK

TO: Honorable Debra Givens
Judge Presiding
Yuba County Grand Jury

FROM: Frank D. Sorgea, Superintendent of Institutions

DATE: July 18, 2007

RE: **RESPONSE TO 2006-07 GRAND JURY**

The following is offered in response to the findings and recommendations of the Yuba County Grand Jury's Final Report concerning the Yuba – Sutter Juvenile Hall.

Finding and Recommendation 1: Renaming of the Security Housing Unit

Agree with Finding

Recommendation may be implemented in the future at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors

Construction of the Security Housing Unit was completed as a portion of the Juvenile Hall and Camp construction projects in 2002. The name we have utilized in identifying the unit was established by colloquial practice prior to construction. All other units within our complex are identified alphabetically (A thru E). I appreciate the issue identified by the Grand Jury, as we have in many ways attempted to generate a positive and supportive impression to the minors in our care. This unit is distinct from the balance of our structures and was intended specifically to generate an impression of enhanced security. We are certainly open to suggestions related to renaming this unit in honor of a community member whom the Board feels is deserving of distinction. As a practical matter however, our staff will continue to identify the unit in a manner which facilitates effective radio and tactical identification.

Finding and Recommendation 2 Upgrading interior structures, cell doors, carpet, and lighting in Juvenile Hall

Agree with Finding

Recommendation has not been implemented but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated.

I agree with the findings and recommendations. The interior walls of the facility were repainted in 2005. This was done to cover prior graphic designs which had become difficult to maintain. We recently completed a detailed survey of facility needs, anticipating the availability of grant funds becoming available to modernize juvenile

facilities. The elements identified by the Grand Jury were amongst the items we have targeted for replacement.

Finding and Recommendation 3 Video monitoring systems in the recreation areas

Agree with Finding

Recommendation has not been implemented but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated.

While we do not have video monitoring systems in place in our outside recreation areas, staff are always present and directly supervise minors during recreation periods. Recreation which occurs within the boy's and girls day rooms is monitored by video equipment at the Central Control Room. We anticipate that with facility upgrades, enhanced video and audio systems capable of recording will be requested.

Finding and Recommendation 4 Utilization of the Security Housing Unit during upgrades and repairs to Main Facility

Agree with Finding

Recommendation will be implemented as facility upgrades are undertaken

Due to declining population of minors in custody, the Security Housing Unit has not been occupied in the past two years. We fully anticipate utilization of this unit during periods of remodel and repair of the Main Facility.

Finding and Recommendation 5 Covered outdoor recreation area

Agree with Finding

Recommendation has not been implemented but efforts to secure funding for facility upgrades have been initiated.

This Finding is relevant to the Juvenile Hall and is not an issue with the Camp. Presently minors participate in recreation in the Boys, Girls, and Central Dayrooms during periods of inclement weather. The recreation area adjoining the Security Housing unit is often used for recreation as it affords greater security from potential issues created by our proximity to the levee. This area has an enclosed wire mesh roof structure capable of supporting a weather proof membrane. We will include this suggestion in final developments of remodel plans.

Finding and Recommendation 6 Custody Staff assisting as Teacher Aids in the classrooms

Agree with Finding

The recommendation will not be implemented as it is not warranted.

In most facilities throughout the state, custody staff does not supervise minors in the classrooms. It has been our practice to have staff in contact with the minors throughout their shift. Staffs assigned to classroom duty are encouraged to remain actively involved with the youth. Some teachers prefer not to have staff assist, some welcome the assistance. Staff assisting minors is not a reflection of inadequate staffing by the County

Office of Education; it is a reflection of our staff's commitment to assist youth in any manner possible. All of our custody staff have college degrees and are often able to offer insight and assistance to a particular minor. The teaching staff is sufficient to meet the needs of the minors, with or without the assistance offered by custody staff.

Finding and Recommendation 7 Location of woodshop

Agree with Finding

The recommendation has not yet been implemented; dialogue will be initiated with Superintendent of School to explore possible expansion.

The woodshop located at the SW corner of the camp gymnasium/classrooms is a small project which is an adjunct to the construction technology program offered by the County Office of Education. Camp minors participate in two hours of construction class per day during the regular academic year. There is no plan to expand this shop at this time. Some potential for expansion of industrial arts programming does exist and will be explored in the future.

Finding and Recommendation 8 Carpet in the gymnasium

Agree with Finding

Recommendation has been implemented

The carpet referred to is indoor/outdoor carpet which was loaned to the program by Friday Night Live. This carpeting is used in the indoor soccer arena and is held to the floor with Velcro. The carpet was removed this year during basketball season and a basketball court was painted on the floor. The basketball standards which were damaged have been either removed or replaced with portable backboards. Some consideration has been given to a significant upgrade to the gymnasium facility. At some point Friday Night Live will want to have their arena structure returned to them. We plan to address the gymnasium upgrade at that time.

Finding and Recommendation 9 Minors who have graduated being locked down

Disagree partially with Finding

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable

This issue would pertain to the Juvenile Hall only, as minors in the Camp are never locked down. Minors always have the option to attend or not attend school. The vast majority of minors attend regularly. It is the rare exception that a minor would be in the Juvenile Hall and a high school graduate. Such a minor would always be afforded the opportunity to attend school regardless of his status. Any minor out of their cell requires direct supervision by staff which is impractical.

Finding and Recommendation 10 Background checks on volunteer and contract personnel

Disagree with Finding

The Recommendation has been implemented as existing policy and practice.

The Juvenile Hall and Camp programs do not utilize volunteers to individually counsel with minors. We have no specific volunteer program beyond occasional educational

internships for which we require a background check. The only community volunteers who come into contact with minors are individuals who provide church services, and AA/NA programs. These individuals are supervised by custody staff at all times. All custody staff either full time or extra helps undergoes a thorough peace officer background evaluation prior to being allowed direct unsupervised contact with minors.



Yuba County Sheriff's Department

Steven L. Durfor, Sheriff-Coroner



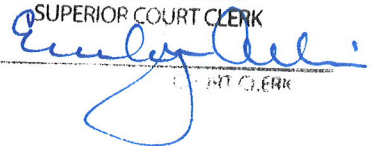
215 5th Street, Suite 150, Marysville, CA 95901

Phone: 530-749-7777 • Fax: 530-741-6445

August 7, 2007

The Honorable Debra L. Givens
Judge of the Superior Court
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

AUG 8 2007

FILED
YUBA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
H. STEPHEN KONISHI
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
BY  CLERK

Dear Judge Givens,

Though the 2006-2007 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report does not require a formal response to any matters concerning the Sheriff's Department, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the jury for their service to Yuba County. During the inspection of the Yuba County Jail, we found the jurors thorough and professional in fulfilling their duties.

The staff at the Sheriff's Department is committed to establishing and maintaining a safe community. We work hard each day to ensure we provide the safe, efficient, humane and secure custody of all persons incarcerated in our jail facility.

On behalf of the members of the Yuba County Sheriff's Department, we are very grateful for the commendation from the Grand Jury. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Steven L. Durfor
Sheriff-Coroner

SMARTVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PO BOX 354
SMARTVILLE, CA. 95977
530-639-0405

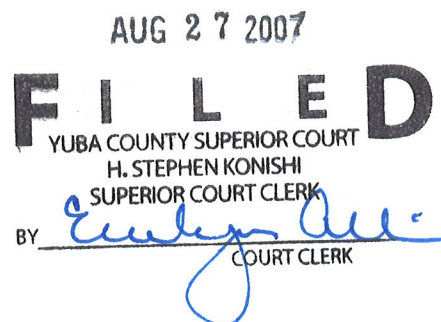
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

John Waskiewicz: Chairman
Marc Zamora: Vice-Chairman
Jack Underwood: Secretary-Treasurer

Curtis Mills: Fire Chief
Shirley Huff: Clerk to the Board

August 7, 20007

The Honorable Debra L. Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 Fifth Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901



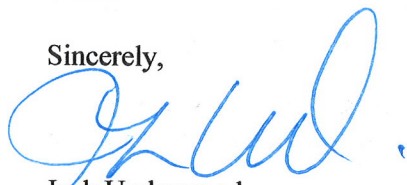
Dear Judge Givens and members of the Grand Jury:

We are in receipt of the 2006-2007 Yuba County Grand Jury Final Report received on June 11, 2007 dated March 6, 2007. The Board of Directors appreciates the time and effort put forth in your investigation. In response to your recommendations we offer the following.

1. We have budgeted funds to establish a new community bulletin board and fire district outreach program.
5. At our February 2007 board meeting we listed ways to ensure strict separations as to revenue and expenses of the Red School House with new line items in the budget and financial sheets.
6. While the minutes were unclear, the tape reflected the need to pay the insurance premium. At that time, the Board of Directors had only one of the three positions filled.
7. Our monthly financial report has been expanded to reflect the cost accounting methods now being utilized. This will reflect all expenses and uses; it will be included with the minutes and accounts payables.
8. There are meetings pending.
9. The new fire chief has established said relationship.
10. There is an agreement still in place with CDF Dispatch; in which the Board Chair of the Smartville Fire Protection District and Chief Mills will be the only contact with all dispatch centers.

If you have any questions or should require further assistance please contact John Waskiewicz, Board Chair.

Sincerely,



Jack Underwood,
Secretary/Treasurer