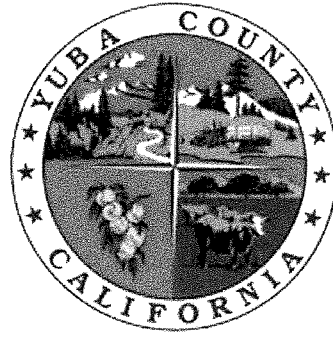


The County of Yuba

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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

August 18, 2018

The Honorable Stephen Berrier
Supervising Judge of the Grand Jury
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Yuba
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

Re: RESPONSE TO 2017-18 GRAND JURY – “Yuba County Evacuations of 2017”

Dear Judge Berrier,

Provided pursuant to Penal Code Section 933(c) are the comments from the Board of Supervisors related to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2017-18 Grand Jury Final Report – “Yuba County Evacuations of 2017.” 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 provisions of Penal Code Section 933.05(c).

FINDINGS

F1. The 2017-2018 Yuba County Grand Jury finds that while there were some problems noted during both the flood evacuations and the fires evacuation, OES plans worked.

The Board of Supervisors agrees with the finding. Every emergency situation is unique and the two experienced in 2017 certainly brought their own set of challenging circumstances. Our County organization works tirelessly to develop plans, train and practice emergency scenarios. The Board and our staff are fortunate to have such a well-trained and responsive team recognized by California’s state and local leaders. We are constantly improving our approach and ensuring Yuba County residents receive the best service possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Keep up the good work.

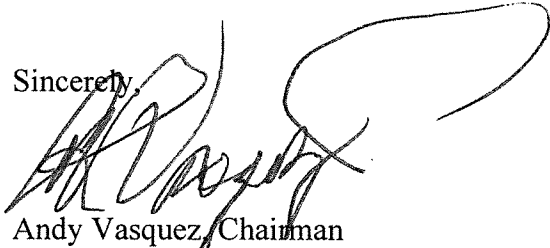
The Board of Supervisors thanks the Grand Jury for the positive reinforcement.

SUPERVISORS

Andy Vasquez – District 1 • Mike Leahy – District 2 • Doug Lofton – District 3 • Gary Bradford – District 4 • Randy Fletcher – District 5

The Board of Supervisors thanks the 2017-18 Grand Jury for their dedication of time and commends each member for their valuable community service.

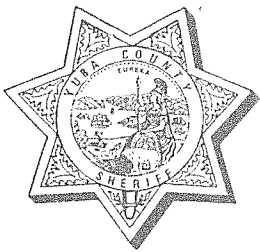
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Vasquez', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

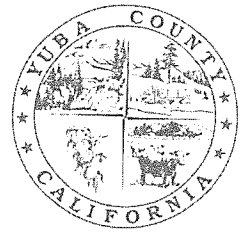
Andy Vasquez, Chairman
Yuba County Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISORS

Andy Vasquez – District 1 • Mike Leahy – District 2 • Doug Lofton – District 3 • Gary Bradford – District 4 • Randy Fletcher – District 5



Yuba County Sheriff's Office
Steven L. Durfor, Sheriff-Coroner



Administration
Operations

Support Services
720 Yuba Street
Marysville, CA 95901
Ph: 530-749-7777
Fax: 530-741-6445

Jail Division

215 5th Street
Marysville, CA 95901
Ph: 530-749-7740
Fax: 530-741-6271

Animal Care Services

5245 Feather River Blvd.
Olivehurst, CA 95961
Ph: 530-741-6478
Fax: 530-741-6301

June 25, 2018

The Honorable Debra L. Givens
Yuba County Superior Court
215 5th Street, Suite 200
Marysville, CA 95901

RE: Response to 2017/2018 Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations

Dear Judge Givens,

This letter, provided pursuant to California Penal Code §933, is the Yuba County Sheriff's Department's response to the 2017/2018 Grand Jury Final Report Findings and Recommendations concerning the investigation into the Yuba County Jail.

First, we would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the 2017/2018 Yuba County Grand Jury for their dedication and professional approach to their duties. Our interaction with Grand Jury members was always a pleasure. They clearly expressed their interest in our operations, asked excellent questions, and made a point to convey their recognition and support for the men and women of the Sheriff's Department.

Please accept the following response to the 2017/2018 Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations:

YUBA COUNTY JAIL

Findings 1: *Not enough cameras in tower areas.*

Recommendation 1: *Installation of more cameras in the tower area would be extremely helpful, should be discussed by Board of Supervisors for addition to the 2018/2019 budget.*

Response: On page #22 of the Grand Jury Report, it was noted that housing areas in the newer portion of the jail are monitored from two different control rooms. It was further noted the control rooms are routinely staffed by one Officer in each control room. Furthermore, the Grand Jury referenced there is only one camera that monitors cell activity in each control room. This is the basis for their findings and recommendations.

The two control rooms referenced in the report monitor a total of six separate housing units, with each control room responsible for three housing units each. The housing units are a combination of open dormitories and two-person cells. One Officer is routinely assigned to each control room on a 24/7 basis and is responsible for monitoring the housing units under their supervision.

Each control room is equipped with large glass windows that allows for direct observation into the housing units, and that is the primary method of monitoring by the Officers. Additionally, there is a single rotating camera focused into each housing unit that can be controlled by the Officers to assist their monitoring. The field of view from each camera is partially limited, but combined with direct observation the Officers have a good field of view into each unit.

Additional cameras would enhance monitoring capability; therefore, we see benefit in the recommendation of the Grand Jury. However, the research to determine costs and installation issues needed to add cameras would likely take us beyond adoption of the 2018/2019 budget cycle. That certainly does not preclude research and consideration of such a project.

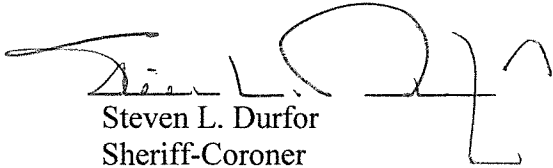
Yuba County Administrative Services, on behalf of the Sheriff's Department, recently released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to replace one or more of the control panels used in the jail, including the ones located in the aforementioned control rooms. We have a total of three such control panels that electronically operate cameras, doors, elevators and intercoms. These panels are over twenty years old and badly in need of replacement. The RFP is designed to determine the cost of replacement of these panels and we should have that information soon.

Although the addition of cameras is not within the scope of work for this RFP, it is essential that new control panels integrate and control all doors, intercoms and cameras. This project will provide the opportunity to identify any potential expansion of cameras and estimate costs. We will use this information to consider the viability of adding cameras in the jail.

Conclusion

I would like to extend my thanks to the 2017/2018 Yuba County Grand Jury for their dedication and service. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to their findings and recommendations. We look forward to working closely with the 2018/2019 Grand Jury. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 749-7779.

Sincerely,



Steven L. Durfor
Sheriff-Coroner