

NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF SECOND AMENDED CONSENT DECREE

Hedrick v. Grant, E.D. Cal. No. 2:76-cv-00162-JAM-EFB, is a federal class action lawsuit about the conditions in the Yuba County Jail (“the Jail”).

All current people incarcerated in the Jail are members of a class that was certified by the Court in 1976.

In 1979, the district court entered an order called a consent decree to improve certain aspects of the Jail’s operations (“Consent Decree”). In August 2018, the class – represented by the lawyers listed below – and the County of Yuba reached an agreement on a proposed Amended Consent Decree. The Amended Consent Decree kept many, and modified some of the provisions of the Consent Decree and added a number of new provisions.

After extensive meet and confer efforts, the parties agreed to a Second Amended Consent Decree (“SACD”). The primary purpose of the SACD was to extend the term of certain provisions of the ACD related to suicide prevention and the treatment of incarcerated people with mental illness and those experiencing drug and alcohol withdrawal. On September 13, 2023, United States Magistrate Judge Edmund F. Brennan granted final approval of the SACD that would terminate on January 31, 2025 unless the Court extended it.

The provisions of the SACD require the County to, among other things: maintain an increased number of licensed mental health staff 7 days per week; have registered nurses at intake health screenings; provide timely access to inpatient medical and mental health care; continue policies for the use of telepsychiatry; triage all sick call slips relating to mental health within 24 hours; limit placement in safety cells to 24 consecutive hours and 36 hours in any 120-hour period; require that persons held in step-down cells or a combination of safety and step-down cells for 120 consecutive hours be transferred either to a less-restrictive setting in the Jail or to an inpatient mental health facility or hospital emergency room for assessment and care; conduct suicide risk assessment on certain people placed in Segregated Housing; conduct daily health care rounds on all people in Segregated Housing; and increase the amount of out-of-cell time for people in Segregated Housing. The Second Amended Consent Decree also requires the appointment of a third party Monitor to assess Defendants’ compliance with the Second Amended Consent Decree.

Ms. Jackie Clark is the Monitor overseeing compliance with the SACD. She issued three monitoring reports on September 5 and December 30, 2023, and August 1, 2024. The Monitor found Defendants in substantial compliance with several provisions of the SACD.

On January 2, 2025, the Parties filed a Stipulation and Proposed Order Regarding Extension of the SACD and Monitoring Compliance with the SACD and attaching Exhibits (Revised Exhibit A, Exhibit B and Attachment 1). In general, the Parties agreed to narrow the scope of monitoring compliance to those SACD provisions the Monitor found Defendants were not in substantial compliance as reflected in the monitoring reports. On January 13, 2025, United States Magistrate Judge Edmund F. Brennan issued an Order approving the Parties Stipulation and extended the SACD to July 31, 2026.

Copies of the Second Amended Consent Decree and the Stipulation and Order Regarding Extension of Second Amended Consent Decree and Monitoring of Defendants' Compliance with SACD and Exhibits (Revised Exhibit A and Exhibit B) are available in the Jail Law Library, and will be made available to you upon request. These documents are also available in the booking area, housing units, and medical area.

If you have any questions regarding the SACD, you may contact class counsel below:

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