



County of Santa Cruz

Civil Grand Jury
701 Ocean Street, Room 318-I
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060
(831) 454-2099

Wed, January 11, 2021 at 11:30 AM

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors senior receptionist left a voicemail message on the above date confirming that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors approved its response to the Fire Inspection Report on 10/6/2020.

The Correspondence Committee on behalf of

Richard H. Goldberg

Richard H. Goldberg, Foreperson
2020–2021 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury



Santa Cruz County
Civil Grand Jury

Grand Jury <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

19-20 Grand Jury Report Responses

1 message

David Brown <David.Brown@santacruzcounty.us>
To: "grandjury@scgrandjury.org" <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 9:42 AM

Greetings Grand Jury,

Please find the County responses to the 19-20 Grand Jury Reports attached for your records.

Thank you,

Dave

David Brown

Senior Administrative Analyst

County Administrative Office

County of Santa Cruz

O: (831) 454-3490

C: (831) 227-1661

My pronouns are: he/him/his

13 attachments

Fail in the Jail _BoS_Packet.pdf
181K

Fail_in_the_Jail_CAO_Packet.pdf
184K

BOS FireInspection BOS Response Packet.pdf
181K

GSD FireInspection Response Packet.pdf
174K

BOS Response - Homelessness - Big Problem Little Progress - It's Time to Think Outside The Box.pdf
289K

CAO Response - Homelessness - Big Problem Little Progress - It's Time to Think Outside The Box.pdf
207K

 **CAO Response - Ready Aim Fire!.pdf**
258K


 **SCCFD Response - Ready Aim Fire!.pdf**
239K

 **BOS Response - Ready Aim Fire!.pdf**
256K

 **2020.08.26 TangledWeb_BoS_Packet.pdf**
222K

 **2020.08.26 TangledWeb_CAO_Packet.pdf**
222K

 **Voter Data Clerk Response.pdf**
179K

 **VoterData_BoS_Packet.pdf**
180K



**The 2019–2020 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury
Requires that the
Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
Respond to the Findings and Recommendations
Specified in the Report Titled
Fire and Safety Inspections in Santa Cruz County
by September 23, 2020**

When the response is complete, please

1. Email the completed Response Packet as a file attachment to grandjury@scgrandjury.org, and
2. Print and send a hard copy of the completed Response Packet to

The Honorable Judge John Gallagher
Santa Cruz Courthouse
701 Ocean St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Instructions for Respondents

California law PC §933.05 (included [below](#)) requires the respondent to a Grand Jury report to comment on each finding and recommendation within a report. Explanations for disagreements and timeframes for further implementation or analysis must be provided. Please follow the format below when preparing the responses.

Response Format

1. For the Findings included in this Response Packet, select one of the following responses and provide the required additional information:
 - a. **AGREE** with the Finding, or
 - b. **PARTIALLY DISAGREE** with the Finding and specify the portion of the Finding that is disputed and include an explanation of the reasons therefor, or
 - c. **DISAGREE** with the Finding and provide an explanation of the reasons therefor.
2. For the Recommendations included in this Response Packet, select one of the following actions and provide the required additional information:
 - a. **HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED**, with a summary regarding the implemented action, or
 - b. **HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE**, with a timeframe or expected date for implementation, or
 - c. **REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS**, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for that analysis or study; this timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report, or
 - d. **WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

Validation

Date of governing body's response approval: _____

If you have questions about this response form, please contact the Grand Jury by calling 831-454-2099 or by sending an email to grandjury@scgrandjury.org.

Findings

F4. Santa Cruz County Fire has not adequately inspected all schools, hotels, and apartments for fire and safety per California Health and Safety Code sections 13146.3, 13146.4, and 171921(b).

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The graph data as presented in the Grand Jury report contained inaccuracies that do not reflect the requirements for inspections of schools, hotels, and apartments within the Santa Cruz County area.

F5. Fire Agencies serving the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County have not adequately reported inspection performance and the inherent risk associated with a performance gap to residents and leadership external to the governing body.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

F6. Fire agencies serving the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County would benefit by sharing technology and processes and at times personnel, in fulfilling fire inspection requirements.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

F7. Reporting gaps in fire inspection performance to a governing body annually at a time when that governing body is completing its budgeting process makes making budget adjustments prior to budget adoption unnecessarily challenging and may result in delay.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The alignment of annual reporting during period of time does create a workload challenge, but also informs budget development decisions.

Recommendations

R1. Fire agencies serving the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County should comply, as soon as possible, with state health codes for fire and safety inspections and reporting. Specifically, California Health and Safety Code sections 13146.2, 13146.3, 13146.4, and 171921(b). (F1, F2, F3, F4, F8)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

In reference to F4, Santa Cruz County Fire (County Fire) will be complying with California Health and Safety Code sections 13146.2, 13146.3, 13146.4. as soon as possible. County Fire will be providing annual reporting as required by SB1205.

R2. Fire agencies serving the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County should, as soon as possible, ensure inspection plans reflect all facilities that fall under California Health and Safety Code sections 13146.2, 13156.3, and 171921(b). (F1, F2, F3, F4, F5,F8)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

County Fire is in the process of working with other County departments (Planning & the Geographic Information Systems team) to update their list of occupancies that fall into the required inspection classification. A new inspection database is being developed for tracking of inspections.

R3. Fire agencies serving the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County should, by January 2021, publish a summary of annual inspection findings on their websites. (F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F7, F8)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

In reference to F4, Santa Cruz County Fire will be providing a summary of annual inspections on its website for 2020.

R4. The County of Santa Cruz and the City Fire Departments in the County should notify appropriate County or City leadership of the resources necessary to be compliant with inspection requirements early enough to be addressed during the agency's annual budgeting process. (F7)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

In reference to Santa Cruz County Fire, it was determined that additional Fire Prevention staff was needed to be meet compliance. During budget development for FY 20/21 additional funding for Fire Prevention staff was requested and approved.

R5. The County and City fire agencies should amend their mutual aid agreements to provide for sharing of technology and inspection resources by June 30, 2021. (F6)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

Sharing of technology and inspection resources occurs through the Fire Chiefs Association. Mutual Aid agreements are reviewed periodically and updated as needed and funding potential through grants and other sources are shared across jurisdictions for technology sharing opportunities.

Penal Code §933.05

1. For Purposes of subdivision (b) of §933, as to each Grand Jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
 - a. the respondent agrees with the finding,
 - b. the respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.
2. For purpose of subdivision (b) of §933, as to each Grand Jury recommendation, the responding person shall report one of the following actions:
 - a. the recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action,
 - b. the recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation,
 - c. the recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of the publication of the Grand Jury report, or
 - d. the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.
3. However, if a finding or recommendation of the Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a County department headed by an elected officer, both the department head and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Grand Jury, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision-making authority. The response of the elected department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her department.
4. A Grand Jury may request a subject person or entity to come before the Grand Jury for the purpose of reading and discussing the findings of the Grand Jury report that relates to that person or entity in order to verify the accuracy of the findings prior to their release.
5. During an investigation, the Grand Jury shall meet with the subject of that investigation regarding that investigation unless the court, either on its own determination or upon request of the foreperson of the Grand Jury, determines that such a meeting would be detrimental.
6. A Grand Jury shall provide to the affected agency a copy of the portion of the Grand Jury report relating to that person or entity two working days prior to its public release and after the approval of the presiding judge. **No officer, agency, department, or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to the public release of the final report.**