



**The 2015-2016 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury  
Requires that the  
Santa Cruz County Sheriff-Coroner  
Respond to the Findings and Recommendations  
Specified in the Report Titled  
Jails in Transition  
2015-2016 Jail Inspection Report  
by August 15, 2016**

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When the response is complete, please

1. Email the completed Response Packet as a file attachment to [grandjury@scgrandjury.org](mailto: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.

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](mailto:grandjury@scgrandjury.org).

## Findings

**F1.** The Facility Risk Report, which is generated from the Crisis Intervention Team meeting, lacks specific recommendations.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

**F2.** The Crisis Intervention Team only meets on weekdays, creating potential communication problems by not meeting on weekends and holidays.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

Beginning June 26, 2016, the Sheriff's Office changed our CIT meeting schedule to seven days per week.

**F3.** The Observation Unit does not meet the standard definition of an infirmary.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

**F4.** There are two holding cells in the Medical Unit which can be put to better use for inmate medical needs.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

The two holding cells in the Medical Unit are designed and appropriately used to temporarily secure inmates awaiting treatment by medical staff.

**F5.** The Medical Unit (which houses the nurse's station) is several doors away from the Observation Unit contributing to less-than-optimal medical care.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

The Observation Unit is not an infirmary. Medical staff treats inmates both in the medical unit and respond directly to the patients location throughout the facility. Inmates requiring higher-level medical care and monitoring are transferred to the local hospital.

**F6.** Current policy allows 72 hours before an at-risk inmate is seen by a doctor, which we feel is too long for at-risk inmates.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

At-risk inmates are seen immediately upon intake by Jail Medical staff. Inmates requiring urgent assessment by a doctor are transferred to the local hospital. The 72 hour allowance for a Jail Doctor appointment is appropriate for at-risk inmates under the care of onsite medical staff.

**F7.** The window for cell 13 in the Observation Unit is too small for adequate observation.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

California Code of Regulations Title 24 regulates the size and shape of jail Safety Cell windows for adequate observation. Cell 13 is a Safety Cell and is compliant with the regulation.

**F8.** The Main Jail's unsecured kitchen back door is a security risk.

**AGREE**

**PARTIALLY DISAGREE** – explain the disputed portion

**DISAGREE** – explain why

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

Fire Code regulations require the Main Jail Kitchen back door remain unlocked. Only screened low-risk inmates are allowed to work in the kitchen and do not pose a significant security risk.

## Recommendations

**R1.** The Grand Jury recommends the Crisis Intervention Team's Facility Risk Report include written concerns and recommendations for inmates identified as at-risk.  
(F1)

**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:**

The Sheriff's Office and Medical and Mental Health managers are reviewing the Facility Risk Report for possible enhancements.

R2. The Grand Jury recommends the Crisis Intervention Team meet seven days a week. (F2)

- 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:**

Beginning June 26, 2016, the Sheriff's Office changed our Crisis Intervention Team meeting schedule to seven days per week.

**R3.** The Grand Jury recommends that the Observation Unit be upgraded to an infirmary or that the Sheriff's Office stop referring to the area as an infirmary. (F3)

**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:**

The Sheriff's Office internal review process identified confusion caused by the use of "infirmary" to describe the Observation Unit earlier in the year. In May of 2016 the Sheriff's Office removed all references to "infirmary" and directed all staff to refer to the unit only as an Observation Unit consistent with its use.

**R4.** This Grand Jury has concerns about the usage of space in the Observation Unit and the Medical Unit and recommends working with a space planner to redesign the physical access between these two units. (F3–F5)

**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:**

The Observation Unit is not an infirmary. Any redesign and associated construction cost would not significantly enhance our ability to provide appropriate medical care to our inmates.

**R5.** The Grand Jury recommends that at-risk inmates be seen within four hours by medical personnel. (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:**

At-risk inmates are seen immediately by Jail Medical at Intake.

**R6.** The Grand Jury recommends that the window for cell 13 in the Observation Unit be enlarged to at least the same size as the other cells. (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:**

California Code of Regulations Title 24 regulates the size and shape of jail Safety Cell windows. Cell 13 is a Safety Cell and is compliant with the regulation.

**R7.** The Grand Jury recommends a fence be built within this year to enclose the unrestricted area outside the kitchen back door. Until it is completed, a temporary solution should be installed immediately and inmates should be personally escorted. (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:**

The Sheriff Office intends to contract the fence build this fiscal year to fully enclose the exterior Main Jail kitchen. In June of this year, the Sheriff's Office added infrastructure and procedures to prevent inmate workers from unauthorized movement. Added infrastructure and procedures now active include additional cameras, alarmed back door, and new staff monitoring procedures. Additionally, all inmate kitchen workers are now outfitted with tracking ankle monitors.

## 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.**