



Santa Cruz County
Civil Grand Jury

Grand Jury <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

Completed Response Packet

2 messages

Daisy Aguirre <Daisy.Aguirre@santacruzcounty.us>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 4:06 PM

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

Cc: Mitchell Medina <Mitchell.Medina@santacruzcounty.us>

Good afternoon,

Attached you will find the Sheriff's Office Response to Homelessness: Big Problem, Little Progress per Undersheriff Medina.

Thank you,

Daisy Aguirre

Division Secretary

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office

5200 Soquel Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

831.454.7611



MicroHomes_Sheriff_Packet.pdf

167K

David Brown <David.Brown@santacruzcounty.us>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 4:08 PM

To: Daisy Aguirre <Daisy.Aguirre@santacruzcounty.us>, "grandjury@scgrandjury.org" <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

Cc: Mitchell Medina <Mitchell.Medina@santacruzcounty.us>

Thank you!

[Quoted text hidden]



**The 2019–2020 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury
Requires that the**

Santa Cruz County Sheriff

**Respond to the Findings and Recommendations
Specified in the Report Titled**

**Homelessness: Big Problem, Little Progress
It's Time To Think Outside The Box**

by August 31, 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.

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

F13. Santa Cruz County law enforcement response to homeless, addiction, and mental health issues has the potential to criminalize social, medical, and psychological conditions. This requires law enforcement to perform the role of social worker; a role for which they lack the resources and mental health training.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

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

The Sheriff's Office has incorporated on-going Mental Health and Crisis Intervention training (CIT) into our yearly training plan for over four years. 65% of our deputies have successfully completed and are certified in CIT. Our comprehensive approach to these issues also includes Integrating Communications, Assessment and Tactics (ICAT) training which stresses de-escalation and communication strategies for resolving incidents involving persons in crisis. Additionally, in 2014 our office partnered with Health Services Agency (HSA) and implemented the Mental Health Liaison (MHL) program where MHL clinicians are imbedded into our Patrol Division and respond with deputies to incidents involving emotionally distressed persons.

F15. The Rountree Detention Center provides inmates with construction skills training. This training could be effectively applied to the building of tiny homes or other structures that could provide much needed housing.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

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

Rountree inmates are provided only basic, entry level craftsman skills.

Recommendations

R11. The Santa Cruz County Sheriff should assess the viability of instituting a program at the Rountree Detention Center to train inmates to build small housing structures such as tiny homes or ADUs, to increase the amount of homeless housing. The results of this should be reported to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors by December 31, 2020. (F15)

- 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:

A project of this magnitude would require specialized training and supervision not currently in practice at the Rountree Facility. This program would require an additional significant, on-going funding source, coordination with industry experts and partnerships from other County Departments and CBO's.

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.**