

**Grand Jury Report
RESPONSE FORM**

RE: Report Titled: *Ricochet Bullets – No Problem!*

Report Dated: February 19, 2011

Response Form Submitted By:

Chris Dewey, Chief of Police
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: June 8, 2011

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the FINDINGS portion of the report as follows:

I (we) agree with the Findings numbered:

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered below, and have **attached, as required**, a statement specifying any portion of the Finding that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons therefore.
3, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 22

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the RECOMMENDATIONS portion of the report as follows:

The following Recommendation(s) have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:
Response not required

The following Recommendation(s) have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, **attached, as required** is a time frame for implementation:
Response not required

- The following Recommendation(s) require further analysis, and attached as required, is an explanation and the scope and parameters of the planned analysis, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared, discussed and approved by the officer and/or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed: (This time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury Report)
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- The following Recommendations will NOT be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not deemed reasonable, attached, as required is an explanation therefore:
-

I have completed the above responses, and have attached, as required the following number of pages to this response form:

Number of Pages attached: 2

I understand that responses to Grand Jury Reports are public records. They will be posted on the Grand Jury website: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/grandjury. The clerk of the responding agency is required to maintain a copy of the response.

I understand that I must submit this signed response form and any attachments as follows:

First Step: E-mail (word documents or scanned pdf file format) to:

- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us
- The Presiding Judge: sally.nevarez@mendocino.courts.ca.gov
- The County's Executive Office: angeloc@co.mendocino.ca.us

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

Mendocino County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 939
Ukiah, CA 95482

Printed Name: CLAS DEWET

Title: CHIEF OF POLICE

Signed: 

Date: 5/17/2011

Mendocino County Grand Jury Report

Ricochet Bullets – No Problem

Ukiah Police Department Response

Narrative Summary of Required Responses to Grand Jury Findings:

#3 – “The Ukiah Police Department (UPD) does not have an Agreement with UGC.”

The Ukiah Police Department and the Ukiah Gun Club have met and agreed upon a system where Ukiah Police Firearms Trainers have become Gun Club members. UPD Firearms Trainers are allowed to bring other UPD members to the gun club as visitors for various firearms training purposes.

These include infrequent firearms qualification requirements for UPD officers who miss other scheduled training at other facilities, Firearms Trainers checking weapon functionality after repairing weapons, or other training requirements requiring the use of a firearms range.

The Ukiah PD and the Ukiah Gun Club agreed upon this procedure to allow access to a regional firearms facility for training or other purposes, as a way to reduce costs associated with sending officers to other facilities, further away from Ukiah.

#12 – “Training for UPD officers is conducted at a Windsor police training facility and Chamberlain Creek Conservation Camp.”

Along with these facilities, the Ukiah Police Department does use the Ukiah Gun Club as noted above.

#13 – “UPD Range Masters train new recruits at the Ukiah Gun Club. The Range Masters’ membership is paid by the City.”

As noted in comment #3, the Ukiah Police Department does train new officers who have not yet had the opportunity to attend a scheduled training at another facility, along with other officers who may have missed a required training because of vacation, court, or injury. Ukiah Police Firearms Trainers memberships are paid by the City of Ukiah to reduce the department’s training costs associated with leasing facilities.

#19 – “Metal targets and metal-framed targets are used at the ranges.”

Metal targets and metal-framed targets are common in firearms training. The department appreciates the use of these materials as a way to reduce costs, while providing a safe training environment for our personnel.

Firearms Trainers from both the Ukiah Gun Club and Ukiah Police Department are constantly on the safeguard for unsafe conditions, and every possible safeguard is used to conduct firearms training in a safe environment.

#20 – “ The ammunition rounds impact a rock-ridden hillside.”

Department Firearms Trainers are required to check for safe conditions in target areas, and impact areas, prior to conducting each training event. The impact areas that Ukiah Police Firearms Trainers have observed are regularly maintained, and in very good condition.

#21- “Ricochets have been reported and a gunshot wound from a ricochet bullet has been documented in the press.”

Firearms Trainers from both the Ukiah Gun Club and Ukiah Police Department are constantly on the safeguard for unsafe conditions, and every possible safeguard is used to conduct firearms training in a safe environment. The Ukiah Police Department has no knowledge of any reported ricochets or gunshot wounds at this facility.

#22-“ A UGC internal newsletter verified that a ricochet problem exists.”

The Ukiah Police Department has no knowledge nor has received any notification that a ricochet problem exists at the Ukiah Gun Club.

The Ukiah Police Department Firearms Trainers receive extensive training in the use of firearms and the ability to present safe training for Police Officers. The Department’s Firearms Trainers meet and work regularly with the Ukiah Gun Club Range Masters to ensure a safe training environment exists, and UPD Trainers and UGC Range Masters are required to constantly check and inspect facilities to ensure that training is presented in a safe manner.

Narrative Summary of Required Responses to Grand Jury Recommendations:

None Required