

**Grand Jury Report
RESPONSE FORM**

RE: Report Titled: *Success Is a Plea Bargain, A Win Is a Lesser Charge*

Report Dated: June 7, 2011

Response Form Submitted By:

Patricia Littlefield
Alternate Defender, Mendocino County
327 North State Street, Suite 208
Ukiah, CA 95482

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: September 23, 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:
3-11; 16-30
- 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.
2, 15

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:
7
 - 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:
-

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)

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:

6

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 c/o Sally Nevarez: sally.nevarez@mendocino.courts.ca.gov
- The County's Executive Office: angeloc@co.mendocino.ca.us

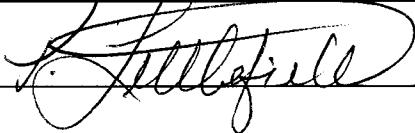
Second Step: Mail all originals to:

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

Printed Name: Patricia Littlefield

Title: Mendocino County Alternate Defender

Signed: _____



Date: September 23, 2011

FINDINGS:

Explanation re: Finding #2: The Public Defender does not at present assist the Alternate Defender in its budget preparation or determination of budget needs and does not maintain control over the preparation or maintenance of the budget. See explanation in response to Recommendation #7, below. The ministerial presentation to the Board of Supervisors by the Public Defender of the Alternate Defender's budget does not reflect or amount to control over the budget.

Explanation re: Finding #15: The Alternate Defender position was filled as of mid-July, 2011; the make-up of the office is thus now three full-time attorneys, one half-time attorney, one investigator and one legal secretary/office administrator.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation #6. The following procedure is at present in place and being practiced by the courts at this time, making implementation of the recommended procedure unnecessary. A form (**copy attached**) developed for this purpose, reflecting set but differing fees applicable to cases and proportionate generally to the seriousness of the cases, is reviewed by the court at the conclusion of the case. The judges have been determining the amount of attorneys' fees thought to be applicable based in part on the fee schedule on the form, and in part by asking the attorney to estimate the amount of time devoted to the case. The judge then typically asks the client if the client is able to pay the amount ordered, over time; the client responds and if agreeing with the amount and his or her ability to pay the assigned amount, signs the form which is then returned to the court clerk.

Recommendation #7. This recommendation, as this current Alternate Defender understands it, having not been the Alternate Defender until after the preparation of the budget this year and having not therefore been involved in the preparation of a budget as yet, has been implemented. The Alternate Defender does prepare and manage, independently from the Public Defender's Office, its annual budget. If there are any questions or the Board of Supervisors wants to deviate from our budget request the Alternate Defender and Office Administrator are present to address any of those questions and or concerns directly with the Board of Supervisors.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

Ukiah Branch
100 North State Street
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 463-4660

Ten Branch
700 South Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
(707) 964-3192

ORDER FOR PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES

Defendant/Guardian's _____ Case Number: _____

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT OR GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD:

You are ordered to report to the Mendocino County Collections Department within 20 working days from the date of this order, or, if in custody, within 20 working days after release from jail. For information call: (707) 463-7240

Mendocino County Collections Department
Courthouse
100 N. State St. Rm G2
Ukiah, Ca. 95482

You will be interviewed, by the Mendocino County Collections Department, to find out if you are able to pay all or part of court appointed counsel costs. If determined to pay the below ordered fee, and you do not agree, you have the right to a hearing in this Court to determine your ability to pay.

If you do not contact Mendocino County Collections Department as ordered, **you waive your right to a hearing** and the Court will enter a judgment against you in the amount of the following:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Misdemeanor | \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Felony | \$175 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Juvenile (maximum) | \$160 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Juvenile (limited) | \$80 |
| Or | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other | \$ _____ |

This order has the same force and effect as a judgment in a civil action and shall be subject to enforcement in the same manner as any other money judgment (PC 987.8 or WI 903.1).

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Judicial Officer)

I acknowledge receipt of the above order and understand if I do not report as ordered, the Court will enter a judgment against me for the above fee to reimburse costs of appointed counsel.

Executed at _____ on _____
(City and State) (date)

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Signature _____
(Defendant/Guardian)

ORDER FOR PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES