

# Grand Jury Report

## RESPONSE FORM

**Grand Jury Report Title :** *Mendocino County Emergency Services*

**Report Dated :** *March 28, 2012*

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**Response Form Submitted By:**

Stacey Cryer  
Director HHS  
1120 S. Dora St.  
Ukiah, Calif. 95482

**Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than:**  
July 9, 2012

**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:

#19 & #20

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.

#8, #9, #10

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_

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)
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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:
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*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](http://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:

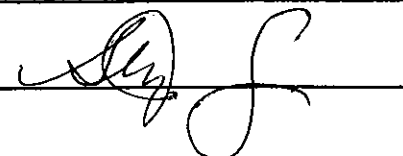
- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: [grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us)
- The Presiding Judge: [grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov](mailto:grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov)

**Second Step:** Mail all originals to:

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

Printed Name: Stacey Cryer

Title: HSA Director

Signed: 

Date: 7/3/12

**Required Response from Mendocino County  
Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) to the  
Grand Jury Report  
“Mendocino County Emergency Services”  
Dated March 28, 2012  
Received May 10, 2012**

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**GRAND JURY FINDINGS**

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**Grand Jury Finding:**

- #8.** The “Gang of Five” authorized individual agency funding for a year to purchase the HAZMAT vehicle. The HAZMAT team is comprised of personnel from County fire agencies and various State agencies (CalFire/Cal Trans/CHP). REHIT operates on an annual grant funding of \$278,000.

**HHSA Response to Finding #8:**

- #8.** Disagree Partially

In the 2005 – 2006 Homeland Security (OHS) Grant Cycle the Gang of Five authorized funding for the purchase of the HAZMAT vehicle a.k.a REHIT Rig. The HAZMAT team a.k.a REHIT is comprised of personnel from County Environmental Health, fire agencies, and various state agencies (CalFire/CalTrans/CHP). Annual funding for REHIT includes \$12,000 from city contracts, money recovered from hazmat incident responses, and OHS funding (\$20,000 - \$50,000) for responder training and supplies.

**Grand Jury Finding:**

- #9.** REHIT responded to 22 incidents in 2011 and 6 incidents during the first quarter of 2012.

**HHSA Response to Finding #9:**

- #9.** Disagree Partially

One correction to finding #9, REHIT has responded to 7 incidents in the first quarter of 2012.

**Grand Jury Finding:**

- #10.** Meth lab clean up transportation costs will no longer be financed by the State.

**HHSA Response to Finding #10:**

**#10. Disagree**

The State Department of Justice discontinued the clandestine lab evidence collecting and clean up team. Local law enforcement now utilizes REHIT to mitigate chemical hazards found at meth labs. Cal EPA Department of Toxic Substance Control provides and pays for contractor to pick up and dispose of hazardous chemicals found at meth labs.

**Grand Jury Finding:**

**#19.** An after-action report of the March 2011 tsunami reported there were several minor glitches involving inter-agency communication regarding road closures along Highway 1.

**HHSA Response to #19:**

**#19. Agree**

**Grand Jury Finding:**

**#20.** The local EMS Agency is mandated by the State to implement and enforce the provisions of the safety code in order to promote effective and efficient pre-hospital care. This is accomplished by providing certification and accreditation in monitoring training programs and investigating complaints. Funding has been a long-standing problem.

**HHSA Response to #20:**

**#20. Agree**

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**GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**Recommendation:**

**#4.** The BOS provide sufficient funding to the Emergency Medical Service to perform mandated training, certification, public education, and preparedness of emergency personnel. (finding #20.)

**HHSA Response:**

**#4.** The recommendation will not be implemented; it is not within the power of HHSA to direct the Board of Supervisors how to distribute funding.