

Grand Jury Report

RESPONSE FORM

Grand Jury Report Title : PREVENTING CRIME IS A PRIORITY

Report Dated : June 9, 2010

Response Form Submitted By:

BOS
c/o Executive Office
Attn: Steve Dunicliff
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482

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

September 1, 2010

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.
1-19 (See Attached)

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)

- 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:

1,2,3,4,5,6, (See Attached)

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: grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov
- The County's Executive Office: ceo@co.mendocino.ca.us

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

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

Printed Name: CARRE BROWN

Title: Chair, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Signed: 

Date: AUG 3 1 2010

ATTEST:

Carmel J. Angelo, Clerk of the Board
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors



DEPUTY

ATTACHMENT:

REPORT: PREVENTING CRIME IS A PRIORITY

FINDINGS:

FINDINGS 1 – 19: The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has no specific information regarding Findings 1-19 and therefore incorporates by reference herein, the responses to findings prepared by the Fort Bragg Chief of Police and the Mendocino County District Attorney.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

RECOMMENDATIONS 1 – 6: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has no ability to implement Recommendations 1-6.

Findings

1. The FBPD staff consists of: one Chief of Police, one Administrative Assistant, one Captain, three Sergeants, one School Resource Officer, two Police Services Technicians, nine Police Officers, two Community Service Officers, and one Detective, who is presently assigned to the Task Force.
2. In February 2010, there was a 10% reduction in staff, decreasing the number to the 1990 levels.
3. There are two bilingual officers who receive additional pay.
4. One of the three community service officer positions has been frozen.
5. The School Resource Officer funding will end July 2010.
6. The FBPD dispatch services are provided by the Ukiah Police Department.
7. The FBPD reinstated their K-9 unit with a trained dog, donated by an out-of-county law enforcement agency.
8. The booking area is available to other law enforcement agencies for a \$50 fee per occurrence.
9. The average bookings are between 150 and 200 annually.
10. Persons who are arrested and booked are transported to the Mendocino County Jail, usually within two hours; if not booked, they are cited and released.
11. The MCDAO subpoenas multiple officers to testify. Officers must travel to Ukiah and are required to allot a minimum of four hours, leaving the FBPD short staffed.
12. It was reported that habitual offenders are often **not** charged by the MCDAO.
13. The FBPD has an evidence room that may also serve as storage for the defendant's personal property or lost and found property.
14. The evidence room lacks a blood drying cabinet.
15. Evidence should be released by the MCDAO, when a case is dismissed or

adjudicated. A court order is required to release weapons, drugs, or any evidence obtained with a search warrant.

16. The Information Technology Department created a software program to list dismissed and adjudicated cases using data from the MCDAO records.
17. Since the software report has become available, the evidence room is able to purge unneeded evidence and clear the backlog.
18. The District Attorney has **not** adopted the *Mendocino County District Attorney's Office Disposition-Evidence Release Memo*.
19. Officers are encouraged to be involved in community service activities. Some recent events include the Scout-O-Rama, Safe Communities Day, Lion's Carnival, Safety Day, and the Police Activity League Bicycle Rodeo.

Recommendations

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. the Fort Bragg City Council request asset forfeiture funds from the District Attorney to temporarily fund three community service officers. (Finding 4)
2. the Fort Bragg Unified School District request asset forfeiture funds from the District Attorney to temporarily fund the position of school resource officer. (Finding 5)
3. the District Attorney fund anti-drug and gang prevention programs in all Mendocino County School Districts using asset forfeiture funds for the 2010-2011 School Year. (Finding 5)
4. the Fort Bragg Police Department use asset forfeiture funds to purchase a blood drying cabinet. (Finding 14)
5. **the Mendocino County District Attorney notify all evidence rooms of case disposition immediately upon resolution.** (Finding 15)
6. the Mendocino County District Attorney adopt and use the *Mendocino County District Attorney Disposition-Evidence Release Memo*. (Finding 18)