



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
Executive Office

TOM MITCHELL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALISON GLASSEY  
ASST CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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July 22, 2009

The Honorable Cindee Mayfield, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California  
County of Mendocino  
Mendocino County Courthouse  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Re: Response to the 2008/2009 Grand Jury's Final Report:  
Out With The Old And In With The New: A Report on the New Mendocino County  
Microwave System

Dear Judge Mayfield:

Enclosed is the Board of Supervisor's official response to the findings and recommendations, as specified within the above mentioned report. If applicable, the report may also include the responses provided from select County departments and their respective Grand Jury Response forms.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved their response at their Board Meeting of July 21, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hunter Alexander".

Hunter Alexander

Enclosures

cc: Grand Jury

**Grand Jury Report**  
**RESPONSE FORM**

**Grand Jury Report Title : *Out With the Old and In With the New***

**Report Dated : *May 18, 2009***

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**Response Form Submitted By:**

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors  
501 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
[BOS@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:BOS@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: June 30, 2009**

**Required Responses** (see final section of attached report):  
*Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (All Findings; All Recommendations)*

**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:  
1-7, 9, 12, and 13
- 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, 10, and 11

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

- The following Recommendation(s) have have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:  
1 and 2
- 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:  
5

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)

3 and 4

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: 11 (Combined Response Report)

*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) to the County's Executive Office: [alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Second Step:** Mail all originals to Mendocino County Executive Office for delivery to the Mendocino County Courts and Mendocino County Grand Jury

Printed Name: Jeanine B. Nadel

Title: County Counsel

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 7-23-09

# Grand Jury Report

## RESPONSE FORM

**Grand Jury Report Title : *Out With the Old and In With the New***

**Report Dated : *May 18, 2009***

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**Response Form Submitted By:**

Tom Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer  
County of Mendocino  
[Mitchell@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:Mitchell@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: June 30, 2009**

**Required Responses** (see final section of attached report):

Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer  
(Findings 1-5, 7-8, 11-13; All Recommendations)

**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:  
1-7, 9, 12, and 13
- 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, 10, and 11

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

- The following Recommendation(s) have have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:  
1 and 2
- 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:  
5

- 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)

3 and 4

- 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: 11 (Combined Response Report)

*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) to the County's Executive Office:  
[alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Second Step:** Mail all originals to Mendocino County Executive Office for delivery to the Mendocino County Courts and Mendocino County Grand Jury

Printed Name: Tom Mitchell

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Signed: 

Date: 01/23/2009

**Grand Jury Report**  
**RESPONSE FORM**

**Grand Jury Report Title : *Out With the Old and In With the New***

**Report Dated : *May 18, 2009***

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**Response Form Submitted By:**

Director Kristin McMenomey  
Mendocino County General Services Agency  
[mcmenomk@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:mcmenomk@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Response *MUST* be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: *June 30, 2009***

**Required Responses** (see final section of attached report):  
*Mendocino County General Services Agency (All Findings; All Recommendations)*

***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:  
1 - 13; (3, 8, 11 agree in-part)
- 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.  

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

- The following Recommendation(s) have have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:  
1 - 3
- 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:  
5



- 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:
- 

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

Number of Pages attached: 7

*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) to the County's Executive Office:  
[alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:alexandr@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Second Step:** Mail all originals to Mendocino County Executive Office for delivery to the Mendocino County Courts and Mendocino County Grand Jury

Printed Name: Kristin McMenomey

Title: General Services Agency Director

Signed: 

Date: 5/27/09

**THOMAS D. ALLMAN**  
Sheriff-Coroner



**Undersheriff Gary Hudson**

**Captain Kurt O Smallcomb**  
*Field Services*

**Captain Tim Pearce**  
*Corrections*

## **County of Mendocino Office Of The Sheriff-Coroner**

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July 7, 2009

Honorable Cindee Mayfield, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California  
County of Mendocino  
County Courthouse  
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: Response to Report of the May 18, 2009 Grand Jury  
Out with the Old and In With the New  
A Report on the New Mendocino County Microwave System

Dear Judge Mayfield:

Attached and enclosed please find my responses to the Grand Jury's report entitled:

***Out with the Old and In with the New / A Report on the New Mendocino County  
Microwave System***

The Grand Jury requires me to respond to All Findings and Recommendations.

### **Findings**

1. In 2006 the County of Mendocino's existing microwave system was determined to be obsolete with replacement parts difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. In some cases it became necessary to search e-Bay for parts. The existing number of towers did not adequately meet communication needs. (See Exhibit A).

### **Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

2. Recognizing the public safety aspects of a failing communication system, the County Board of Supervisors authorized complete replacement of the microwave system on November 20, 2007.

### **Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**



3. On November 30, 2007, the County issued the initial purchase order authorizing the selected contractor to design, procure and install a new broadband microwave system.

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

4. The microwave project financing plan incorporated an innovative combination of funding sources including a Capital Lease/Purchase Contract through a private financial firm, City of Point Arena's Citizens Office for Public Service (COPS), a State Public Safety Interoperable Communications grant (PSIC), a Federal grant (HR-3093) obtained with the help of Congressman Thompson's office, the Gang of Five and asset forfeiture funds.<sup>1</sup>

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

5. According to the County General Services Agency, total project costs will be in excess of \$4 million budgeted from the following sources:

Capital Lease/Purchase (Koch Financial)	\$2,600,000
Gang of Five Funding	178,327
Gang of Five Supplemental	29,703
DA and Sheriff Asset Forfeiture	410,000
Sheriff State Funding (PSIC Grant)	200,000
City of Point Arena (State COPS Grant)	215,000
House Resolution (HR-3093) Public Safety Communication <sup>2</sup>	491,033

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

6. In order to maximize radio communication coverage in remote areas, the Sheriff has allocated additional asset forfeiture funds in the amount of \$235,000 to update radio equipment.

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

7. The original microwave project completion date was to be October 1, 2008. Due to delays in obtaining required California Coastal Commission and Department of Forestry permits, this date needed to be extended. The system became operational on December 15, 2008.

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with findings.**

<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of the funding agencies are provided in the Glossary.

<sup>2</sup> HR-3093 funding is committed but had not been received as of January 2009.

8. The new microwave system can be upgraded easily to accommodate new or expanded uses.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings.**

9. All microwave towers have backup power supplies.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings.**

10. Exhibit B illustrates tower placement in the new system. Information can be re-routed (looped) along selected pathways in the event of damage to a tower.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings.**

11. Although the Sheriff's Department is the primary user of the new system, there is substantial unused broadband capacity that can be made available to other public entities such as fire and utility districts. Remaining surplus capacity might be available for lease to private communication companies.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings in part. Upgrades will be necessary to increase broadband capacity.**

12. The system has additional communication potential for uses such as video conferencing between coastal and inland public agencies.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings.**

13. The new system will be maintained by the Information Services Division of the General Services Agency. Personnel have received in-depth training by the supplier and installation contractor. The Capital Lease/Purchase Contract provides funding for training and five (5) years of maintenance costs.

**Sheriffs Response:**  
**I agree with findings.**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. the County Executive Office and the Sheriff's Department continue efforts to obtain funds committed through Congressman Thompson's office under HR-3093. (Findings 4, 5)

**Sheriffs Response:**

**These efforts are still in process.**

2. the Board of Supervisors appoint an individual or committee to establish procedures to receive suggestions regarding upgrades to the system, to evaluate any new or expanded uses and to initiate planning and budgeting for such improvements that are found to have merit. (Findings 8, 11, 12)

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with this recommendation.**

3. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to develop a long-range plan for Board review and adoption to ensure maximum emergency communication coverage by expanding the rerouting (looping) concept to all microwave towers and communication links in the system. (Finding 10)

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with this recommendation.**

4. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to pursue income potential from utilization of unused capacity in the system by other public and private entities with the goal of offsetting the costs of ongoing maintenance and upgrades. (Finding 10)

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with this recommendation.**

5. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to begin a concerted effort to inform all public entities in the microwave system service area of the potential uses and benefits of the system. (Findings 8, 11, 12)

**Sheriffs Response:**

**I agree with this recommendation.**

Sincerely,



Thomas D. Allman  
Sheriff-Coroner

## **OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW A Report on the New Mendocino County Microwave System**

May 18, 2009

### ***Summary***

On December 15, 2008, Mendocino County accomplished an ambitious project to replace its 20-year-old, failing and outdated analog microwave communications system. The County's size, mountainous terrain and the wide distribution of its communities posed many challenges.

In November 2007 the Board of Supervisors authorized staff to proceed with installation of a new, state-of-the-art microwave system. The primary user of microwave emergency communications has been the Sheriff's Department. The new system has sufficient capacity to serve all County agencies. One benefit is the opportunity for expanding the use of video conferencing. The system also is a potential source of revenue from contracts with private entities for use of the excess broadband capacity.

The new system cost more than \$4 million. The General Services Agency spearheaded efforts by several County departments to secure the necessary funding from a wide variety of sources.

The microwave project was completed between November 2007 and December 2008 despite delays encountered in obtaining permits from the California Coastal Commission and State Department of Forestry. Still to come, is additional upgrading of Sheriff's Department radio equipment that is slated for completion in January 2009. This will eliminate most communication "dead" spots for the Sheriff's Department. Once operational, radio dispatchers will have the ability to track patrol units using Global Positioning (GPS) technology. This feature is important to the safety of Sheriff's Department personnel in the field especially during emergency situations.

### ***Methods***

The Grand Jury interviewed key personnel from County departments involved in the microwave project and reviewed relevant financial documents and maps. The amount of unfamiliar terminology encountered led to preparation of the Glossary provided at the end of this report.

### ***Background***

The need to upgrade or replace the County microwave communication system was the subject of discussion and recommendation by the 2006-07 Grand Jury. Although the project was authorized in November 2007, inordinate delays occurred while obtaining two important permits. These delays caused the completion date to be projected forward to mid-December 2008. In order to track the progress of the project, the matter was referred to the 2008-09 Grand Jury for oversight. This report is the culmination of that effort.

## Findings

1. In 2006 the County of Mendocino's existing microwave system was determined to be obsolete with replacement parts difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. In some cases it became necessary to search e-Bay for parts. The existing number of towers did not adequately meet communication needs. (See Exhibit A)

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

2. Recognizing the public safety aspects of a failing communication system, the County Board of Supervisors authorized complete replacement of the microwave system on November 20, 2007.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

3. On November 30, 2007, the County issued the initial purchase order authorizing the selected contractor to design, procure and install a new broadband microwave system.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees in part with this finding in part. The system was intended as a Public Safety Microwave System.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding in part. The system was intended as a Public Safety Microwave System.



Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding in part. The system was intended as a Public Safety Microwave System.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

4. The microwave project financing plan incorporated an innovative combination of funding sources including a Capital Lease/Purchase Contract through a private financial firm, City of Point Arena's Citizens Office for Public Service (COPS), a State Public Safety Interoperable Communications grant (PSIC), a Federal grant (HR-3093) obtained with the help of Congressman Thompson's office, the Gang of Five and asset forfeiture funds.<sup>1</sup>

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

5. According to the County General Services Agency, total project costs will be in excess of \$4 million budgeted from the following sources:

Capital Lease/Purchase (Koch Financial)	\$2,600,000
Gang of Five Funding	178,327
Gang of Five Supplemental	29,703
DA and Sheriff Asset Forfeiture	410,000
Sheriff State Funding (PSIC Grant)	200,000
City of Point Arena (State COPS Grant)	215,000
House Resolution (HR-3093) Public Safety Communication <sup>2</sup>	491,033

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

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<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of the funding agencies are provided in the Glossary.

<sup>2</sup> HR-3093 funding is committed but had not been received as of January 2009.



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Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

6. In order to maximize radio communication coverage in remote areas, the Sheriff has allocated additional asset forfeiture funds in the amount of \$235,000 to update radio equipment.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

7. The original microwave project completion date was to be October 1, 2008. Due to delays in obtaining required California Coastal Commission and Department of Forestry permits, this date needed to be extended. The system became operational on December 15, 2008.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

8. The new microwave system can be upgraded easily to accommodate new or expanded uses.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer disagrees partially with this finding. The system can accommodate new expanded uses as long as funding is available for that expansion.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors disagree partially with this finding. The system can accommodate new expanded uses as long as funding is available for that expansion.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding in part. The system can accommodate new expanded uses as long as funding is available for that expansion.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

9. All microwave towers have backup power supplies.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

10. Exhibit B illustrates tower placement in the new system. Information can be re-routed (looped) along selected pathways in the event of damage to a tower.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors disagree partially with this finding. Exhibit B is not correct. Footnote to Exhibit B should say "Data can be re-routed (looped) in either direction along pathways indicated by the dotted lines."

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

11. Although the Sheriff's Department is the primary user of the new system, there is substantial unused broadband capacity that can be made available to other public entities such as fire and utility districts. Remaining surplus capacity might be available for lease to private communication companies.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer disagrees partially with this finding. "Substantial" is a relative keyword. While the new MPLS system has more than adequate bandwidth for County use (maximum of 155 Mbps), it is not comparable to fiber where it can carry 1 Gbps.

Furthermore, only the core ring of the new MPLS system can carry up to 155 Mbps. The connection from County data network to the outside world relies on 3 ADSL lines from AT&T where each line can carry only up to 6 Mbps downstream and 768 Kbps downstream.

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Because of such limitations, the County Microwave system may be able to provide some surplus capacity to other public agencies such as CDF, but not enough for private communication companies.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors disagrees partially with this finding. "Substantial" is a relative keyword. While the new MPLS system has more than adequate bandwidth for County use (maximum of 155 Mbps), it is not comparable to fiber where it can carry 1 Gbps.

Furthermore, only the core ring of the new MPLS system can carry up to 155 Mbps. The connection from County data network to the outside world relies on 3 ADSL lines from AT&T where each line can carry only up to 6 Mbps downstream and 768 Kbps downstream.

Because of such limitations, the County Microwave system may be able to provide some surplus capacity to other public agencies such as CDF, but not enough for private communication companies.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding in part. Any broadband capacity questions will need to be answered by the Executive Office as the General Services Agency Director is not involved in that aspect of this system.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings in part. Upgrades will be necessary to increase broadband capacity.

12. The system has additional communication potential for uses such as video conferencing between coastal and inland public agencies.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

13. The new system will be maintained by the Information Services Division of the General Services Agency. Personnel have received in-depth training by the supplier and installation contractor. The Capital Lease/Purchase Contract provides funding for training and five (5) years of maintenance costs.

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director agrees with this finding.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with findings.

### **Recommendations**

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. the County Executive Office and the Sheriff's Department continue efforts to obtain funds committed through Congressman Thompson's office under HR-3093. (Findings 4, 5)

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The recommendation has been implemented. An additional \$400,000 House appropriation has been granted. We are waiting to receive the funds, which will be used to add two new Microwave sites either at Cold Springs or other location, and the Courthouse Annex in Ukiah.

An FY2010 Appropriations Request in the amount of \$500,000 was submitted in February 2009. If granted, this fund will be used to add two additional Microwave towers in Covelo and Laytonville. Currently a House Bill has an earmark of \$250,000.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The recommendation has been implemented. An additional \$400,000 House appropriation has been granted. We are waiting to receive the funds, which will be used to add two new Microwave sites either at Cold Springs or other location, and the Courthouse Annex in Ukiah.

An FY2010 Appropriations Request in the amount of \$500,000 was submitted in February 2009. If granted, this fund will be used to add two additional Microwave towers in Covelo and Laytonville. Currently a House Bill has an earmark of \$250,000.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The recommendation has been implemented. The funds were received from the State Office of Homeland Security and deposited on May 12, 2009.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

These efforts are still in progress.

2. the Board of Supervisors appoint an individual or committee to establish procedures to receive suggestions regarding upgrades to the system, to evaluate any new or expanded uses and to initiate planning and budgeting for such improvements that are found to have merit. (Findings 8, 11, 12)



*Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer*

This recommendation has been implemented. Currently a Communications Committee, led by Deputy CEO/Technology, meets approximately once a month to discuss communications needs, issues, and current activities. This Committee is not appointed by the Board of Supervisors, but can make reports and recommendation to the CEO and Board.

*Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors*

This recommendation has been implemented. Currently a Communications Committee, led by Deputy CEO/Technology, meets approximately once a month to discuss communications needs, issues, and current activities. This Committee is not appointed by the Board of Supervisors, but can make reports and recommendation to the CEO and Board.

*Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:*

The recommendation has been implemented. The committee established is called the Communications Committee and is led by the County Executive Officer.

*Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office*

I agree with this recommendation.

3. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to develop a long-range plan for Board review and adoption to ensure maximum emergency communication coverage by expanding the rerouting (looping) concept to all microwave towers and communication links in the system. (Finding 10)

*Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer*

The recommendation requires further analysis once the complete system is in place.

Microwave paths require direct line of sight. It might not be possible for ALL microwave towers to be part of the main loop of our central network.

*Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors*

The recommendation requires further analysis once the complete system is in place.

Microwave paths require direct line of sight. It might not be possible for ALL microwave towers to be part of the main loop of our central network.

*Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:*

The recommendation has been implemented. The Chief Executive Officer is now responsible for any future expansion of the microwave system. The General Services Agency will continue to issue purchase orders as directed and maintain the system.

*Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office*

I agree with this recommendation.

4. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to pursue income potential from utilization of unused capacity in the system by other public and private entities with the goal of offsetting the costs of ongoing maintenance and upgrades. (Finding 10)

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The recommendation requires further analysis. The primary goal of the system is for public safety. Additionally, there are security concerns regarding the sharing of the system with private parties.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The recommendation requires further analysis. The primary goal of the system is for public safety. Additionally, there are security concerns regarding the sharing of the system with private parties.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The General Services Agency Director will defer to the Chief Executive Officer for comment as that office is now responsible for future microwave expansion planning.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with this recommendation.

5. the Board of Supervisors direct staff to begin a concerted effort to inform all public entities in the microwave system service area of the potential uses and benefits of the system. (Findings 8, 11, 12)

Required Response: Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Required Response: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Required Response: Mendocino County General Services Agency Director:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The system is still in a testing phase and the General Services Agency Director recommends not adding any new entities until July 2009, which would be the conclusion of 6 months of testing. The General Services Agency Director will defer to the Chief Executive Officer for a response as that office is now handling the microwave system and any future expansion.

Required Response: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

I agree with this recommendation.

### **Discussion**

Great creativity has been shown in identifying and acquiring funds for this project including contributions from the City of Point Arena, state grants, Homeland Security and asset forfeiture funds and an innovative Capital Lease/Purchase Contract negotiated through a private financial service.



The citizens of Mendocino County can be proud of the Board of Supervisors, County Executive Office, Sheriff's Office and the General Services Agency for bringing this project to a successful conclusion. Special recognition is given to the Director of the General Services Agency who spearheaded this project.

Disposal of obsolete, surplus equipment and parts from the old system will be in accordance with the Mendocino County Surplus Property Policy and Procedure.

### ***Glossary***

#### ***Gang of Five***

Local officials authorized to distribute State funds from the Homeland Security Funding Authority, including the following:

- Mendocino County Sheriff's Department
- Chief of Police of the largest city in the county
- County Fire Chief (representative of the County Fire Chief Association)
- Fire Chief of the largest city in the Mendocino County
- County Public Health Representative

#### ***COPS***

Citizens Office for Public Service (State grant funds available to cities from the Supplemental Law Enforcement Service Fund)

#### ***PSIC***

Public Safety Interoperable Communications (State grant funds secured through the Sheriff's Department)

#### ***GPS***

Global Positioning System

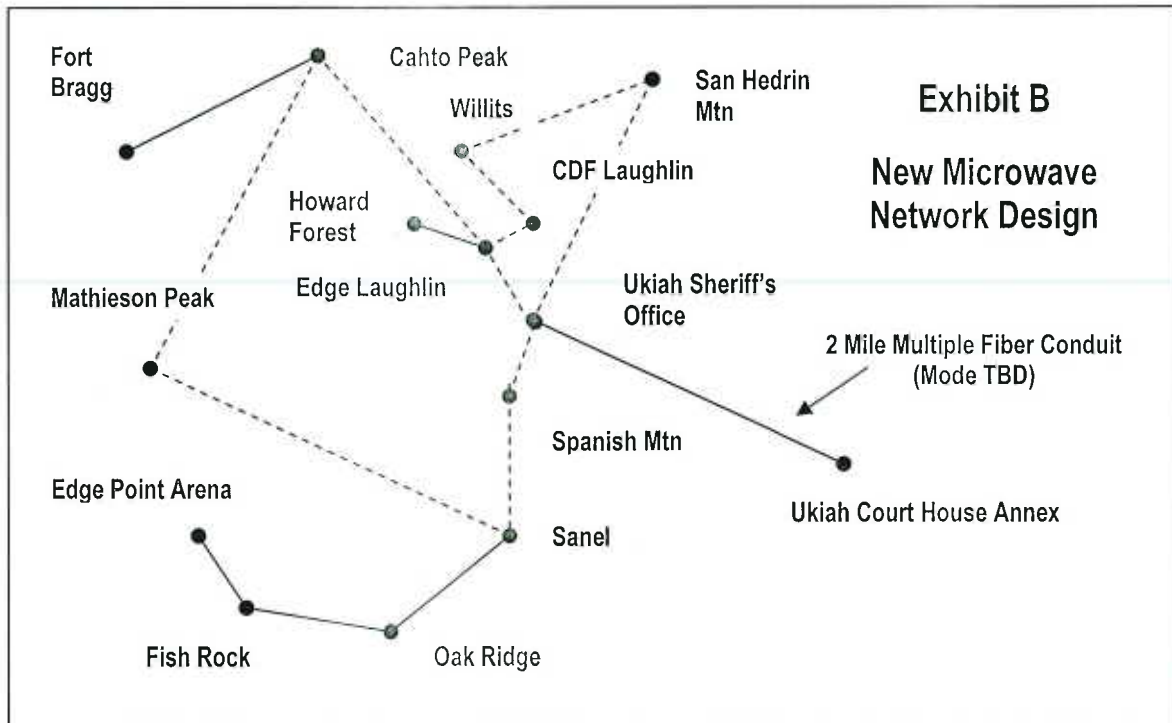
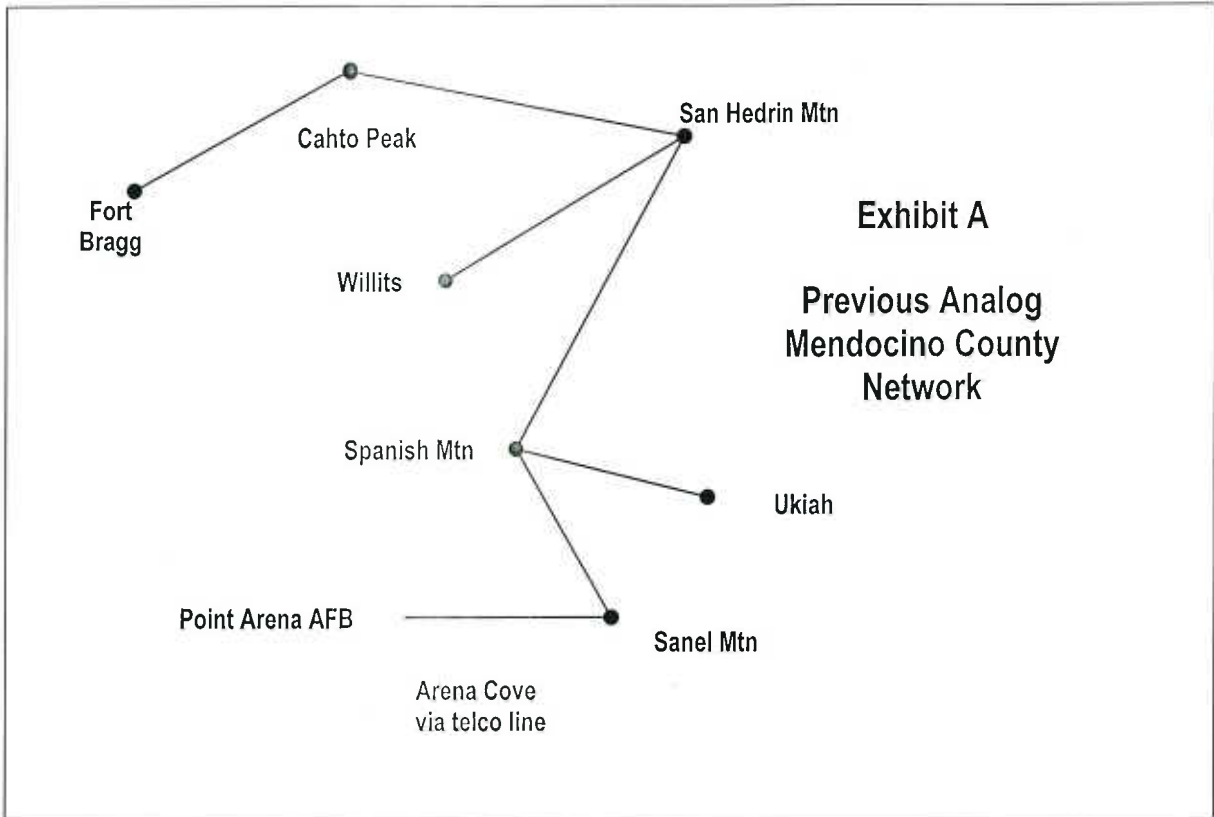
### ***Required Responses***

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (All Findings; All Recommendations)

Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer (Findings 1-5, 7-8, 11-13; All Recommendations)

Mendocino County Sheriff (All Findings; All Recommendations)

Director, Mendocino County General Services Agency (All Findings; All Recommendations)



Data can be re-routed (looped) in either direction along pathways indicated by dotted lines