

FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT AND HOLDING CELL

December 7, 2006

Summary

In accordance with duties required, the Grand Jury visited the Fort Bragg Police Department (FBPD), their facilities, and a holding cell on the adjoining property of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Background

California Penal Code §919 (b) states "The Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management of public prisons within the county." The Grand Jury also has a general authority to review city affairs under Penal Code §925 (a). The 2006/2007 Mendocino County Grand Jury undertook their charge with a visit to the FBPD and holding cell.

Methods

The Grand Jury interviewed Police Department personnel, visited the holding cell facility and the evidence room, and reviewed documents including budget, inspection reports, and evidence room tracking records.

Findings

1. The Grand Jury found the FBPD facility to be well managed and maintained.
2. The holding cell is clean and recently modified to prevent injury to prisoners, either self-inflicted, or otherwise. The cell requires painting to complete the modifications.
3. New evidence management policy and procedures have been implemented since the 2005-2006 Grand Jury visit.

Recommendation

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. Modification of the holding cell be completed. (Finding 2)

Response Required

Director, Mendocino County Department of General Services. (Finding 2, Recommendation 1)

Chief, Fort Bragg Police Department (All Findings and Recommendation 1)

Response Requested

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (All Findings and Recommendation 1)

Sheriff, Mendocino County Sheriff's Department (All Findings and Recommendation 1)