



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889
416 N. Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Phone: (707) 961-2823
Fax: (707) 961-2802
ci.fort-bragg.ca.us

July 25, 2006

Honorable Cindee F. Mayfield
Presiding Judge
Mendocino County Superior Court
100 N. State Street, Room 303
Ukiah, California 95482

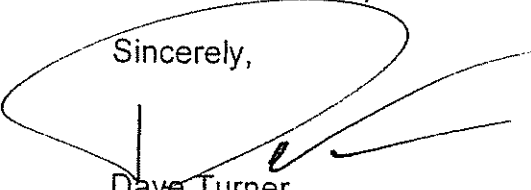
Honorable Judge Mayfield:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and respond to the Findings and Recommendations contained in the May 12, 2006 Grand Jury report titled WHAT METHAMPHETAMINE IS COSTING YOU. This letter contains responses from the City of Fort Bragg as required by California Penal Code Section 933. For the purpose of simplicity, the response from the Fort Bragg Police Lieutenant, from whom a response was required, is incorporated in the attached comments.

The Fort Bragg City Council reviewed the Police Lieutenant's response at their meeting of July 24, 2006, and concurs with his responses to the findings and recommendations. As such, the attached document is the official response from the Fort Bragg City Council.

The City of Fort Bragg appreciates the Grand Jury's service and the opportunity to respond to this report.

Sincerely,



Dave Turner,
Mayor

Cc: Benj Thomas, Grand Jury Foreman (via e-mail)

CITY OF FORT BRAGG POLICE DEPARTMENT

250 Cypress Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-5437

Stephen M. Willis, Interim Chief of Police

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORTS

Report Title: WHAT METHAMPHETAMINE IS COSTING YOU

Report Date: May 12, 2006

Response By: Floyd E. Higdon

Title: Police Lieutenant

FINDINGS

- The Fort Bragg Police Department agrees with the findings numbered: #1; #9; #11; #12; #14; #15; #16; #19

- The Fort Bragg Police Department disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: #2; #3; #4; #5; #6; #7; #8; #10; #13; #17; #18
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefore.)

- Explanations for findings numbered:
 - #2: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #3: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #4: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #5: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #6: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #7: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #8: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #10: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #13: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #17: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.
 - #18: Members of this department are not qualified to comment on this Finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered #4; #5; #7; #8; #9; #10 have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)

- Recommendations numbered #2 have not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. (Attach a time frame for the implementation.)

- Recommendations numbered #1 require further analysis. (Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)

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- Recommendations numbered **#3; #6** will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable. (Attach an explanation.)

- Explanations for recommendations numbered:
 - #1:** The use, care, control and effects of methamphetamine are multi-fold. While the Cities and Counties can move forward on these issues, there are parameters that must be established, such as funding and availability of personnel and needed equipment that will effect such a broad recommendation.
 - #2:** This recommendation can be forwarded with the Department's concurrence to local retailers in an attempt for compliance. This has already taken place in many retail outlets. This can be completed within ninety days of publication of this report.
 - #3:** This Department has not recognized the methamphetamine problem to be at epidemic levels as stated in the grand jury report. This recommendation requires studies by both the County and the City that again require significant personnel hours. At this time, the Department does not have the funding to perform this research.
 - #4:** The Fort Bragg Unified School District, in conjunction with the Fort Bragg Police Department and City of Fort Bragg, applied for a SCHOOL COMMUNITY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM grant that would fund a *School Resource Officer* to work on the high school campuses in Fort Bragg to prevent gang influence, and provide gang awareness education to students, parents and the community, which was not funded. The City has an active community involved Gang Awareness Task Force, involving the City, law enforcement, probation, service groups, public and private agencies, religious entities, and private persons, working on these issues.
 - #5:** The City of Fort Bragg has funded the Fort Bragg Police Department through the General Fund. Part of the duties of the Department is to address and enforce all narcotics violations and activities. Further, the funding to the Department supports the Community Gang Awareness Task Force described above.
 - #6:** This recommendation calls for action by the District Attorney. While the Department can support the recommendation submitted by the Grand Jury, only the District Attorney can implement said action.
 - #7:** This is currently being done through sharing of information procedures established by law, and through lateral investigations by the jurisdictions. The Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force is also used as a referral agency wherein this information is shared.
 - #8:** This is currently being done through the Community Gang Task Force in Fort Bragg. As stated above, this is a community-involved effort to slow both gang activities and narcotic use and activities by those associated with gangs.

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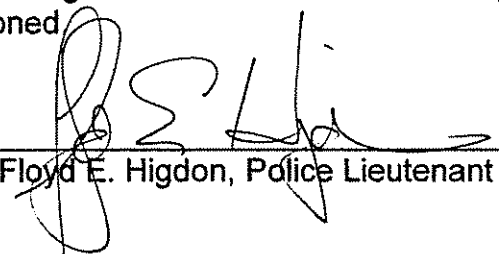
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- #9: While this has not been an issue with our Department, through the efforts of our community support groups, including service clubs, social and religious groups, parents clubs, town meetings, and other groups, we have an active community that notifies this Department of issues of concerns, including narcotics and general criminal activities, through direct and indirect (Tipster Line) means.
- #10: This is currently being done through our efforts in the Community Gang Task Force previously mentioned

Date: July 17, 2006

Signed: _____


Floyd E. Higdon, Police Lieutenant