

Grand Jury Report

REQUIRED RESPONSE FORM

Grand Jury Report Title : COUNTY PROGRAMS OF LAST RESORT: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, PUBLIC CONSERVATOR AND PUBLIC GUARDIAN

Report Dated : July 14, 2022

Response Form Submitted By:

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482 (use address block as inserted on first page)

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: October 12, 2022

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:
F3, F4, F5, F6
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered below, and have *attached* a statement specifying any portion of the Finding that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons therefore.
-

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:
R3
-

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- 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:
-

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.mendocinocounty.org/government/grand-jury. 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 in pdf file format to:

- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: grandjury@mendocinocounty.org
- The Presiding Judge: grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

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

Printed Name: Ted Williams

Title: Chair, Board of Supervisors

Signed: 

Date: 13 SEPT 2022

**MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY
REPORT TITLED:**

**COUNTY PROGRAMS OF LAST RESORT: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, PUBLIC
CONSERVATOR AND PUBLIC GUARDIAN**

Discussion

The Board of Supervisors welcomes this opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury report titled "County Programs of Last Resort: Public Administrator, Public Conservator and Public Guardian". Current Grand Jury procedures state: "[f]indings are the conclusions or judgements that logically flow from the verified facts." In that regard, the Board of Supervisors encourages the Grand Jury to focus on verified facts and avoid unsubstantiated opinions that tend to inflame instead of inform discussion of this critical issue.

Pursuant to the request of the Grand Jury, the Board is responding to the following:

- F3. When the status and conditions of all individuals are not shared with family members regularly, families become concerned about patients' welfare, especially if the patient is placed out-of-the area.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F4. The County is responsible to cover the costs of settling estates of those citizens that die without wills or relatives. The State assumes the remainder of assets with the County receiving only a small portion of the value of an estate. Most cases have minimal assets and the costs to the County are considerable.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F5. There are County general fund costs in all three programs. These costs appear to be mostly unknown to County taxpayers.

The respondent agrees with the finding. As of July 1, 2022, the Public Administrator and Public Guardian programs no longer receive County General Fund for the costs associated with these programs.

- F6. The high costs of hospitalizations for 5150 clients to the County justifies re-establishing a PHF with Measure B funds.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

Response to Recommendations:

- R3. The information regarding the three programs and their general fund costs be transparent and available to the public by inclusion in quarterly departmental reports to the BOS. (F4-F6)

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