

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA

RESPONSE TO 2006-2007 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Sacramento County Sheriff's Department

Work Release Division (pp31-35)

Finding #1:

There is inadequate staffing in the Work Project Field Operations. The Work Release Division has requested an Additional Growth Request for a position in this operation five times since 2002, but the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors has denied its request due to budgetary restraints.

Response to Finding #1: Concur

The Work Release Division has submitted Additional Growth Requests during the last four budget cycles for an additional Sheriff Sergeant position. Due to overall Sheriff's Department needs, and the limited resources of the Board to fund only the top priority requests, this request was not forwarded as one of the Department's most urgent requirements.

Recommendation #1:

One additional Work Project Field Operations sergeant must be allocated to address this workload. This sergeant would share in the supervision of up to 36 deputies per week.

Response to Recommendation #1: Concur

The Sheriff's Work Release Division requested a second Work Project Program supervisor (Sheriff Sergeant) be funded this fiscal year. As in past years, due to overall Sheriff's Department needs and the limited resources of the Board, this request was not forwarded as one of the Department's most urgent requirements.

Finding #2:

The Sheriff's Department Toy Project is a valuable asset to the community. With little public promotion or advertisement, the Toy Project provides much needed help to Sacramento's families in need. The Toy Project is a non-profit 501c(3) organization which allows corporations and private persons to make tax deductible donations for equipment and materials in order for them to continue their mission to serve families and children in our community.

Response to Finding #2: Concur

The Sheriff's Department needs to provide better promotion/advertisement of the events sponsored by Toy Project to raise funds to continue their mission.

Recommendation #2:

Both the Sheriff and the County should facilitate increased funding for the advertisement and promotion of this exceptional program.

Response to Recommendation #2: Concur

All of the Toy Project Program's toy collection drives, golf tournament, and other fund raising events should be advertised and promoted through the Sheriff's Media Office on the Sheriff's website, the internal website and at all station houses and community service centers. Opportunities should be explored in having information posted in the county newsletter and the County website. Events should be promoted on radio whenever possible.

Response Requirements

Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05 require that specific responses to both the findings and recommendations contained in this report be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Sacramento Superior Court by October 1, 2007, from:

- Sacramento County Sheriff

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

RESPONSE TO 2006-2007 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Sacramento County Sheriff's Department

Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center/ Correctional Health Services (pp37- 39)

Finding #1

Noncompetitive compensation and the lack of security for medical personnel have generated complaints from medical staff.

Response to Finding #1: Do not concur.

In Fiscal Year 2006-07 the Sheriff's Department provided additional staffing at the Main Jail (four Deputy Sheriffs) for custody escort of medical staff. At the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (six Deputy Sheriffs) were added to provide custody escort to medical staff, and others, at all service locations throughout the RCCC facility.

The Sheriff's Department, Correctional Health Services Division requested additional medical resources as part of the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 budget. The Board approved seven (7.0) new positions for the medical area which have been hired and deployed at the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center.

Recommendation #1

The additional nurses and deputies authorized by the Board of Supervisors should be selected and assigned as soon as possible.

Response to Recommendation #1: Concur

In Fiscal Year 2006-2007 new bargaining agreements were reached for all county staff. With the new agreements in place it may be easier to retain nursing staff. Additional deputy sheriff positions were added to provide escort services for the medical staff at both the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center and the Main Jail.

Finding #2:

The few available vocational programs afforded inmates the opportunity to increase their knowledge, training, self-esteem and the possibility for employment upon release. However, those programs appeared to be understaffed and lacking in resources. A complete evaluation of vocational training is needed to determine inmate needs and opportunities. Significant new resources should be devoted to vocational training, prospective employer contacts and community acceptance.

Response to Finding #2: Concur

Many programs are being examined and discussed. Those include the Hire Hope Program and the Inmate to Workmate Program which is a joint private/public partnership. Meetings have been held with representatives from the Elk Grove Unified School District and a number of private groups who are all interested in expanding and starting both educational and vocational programs at RCCC. Prior to the implementation of any new programs, sworn vacancies should be filled. Sworn staff will be required to properly supervise the inmates who participate within these programs while providing for a safe environment for volunteers, educators and staff.

Recommendation #2:

RCCC has a physical plant large enough to expand the current vocational programs and add other disciplines.

Response to Recommendation #2: Concur

A number of things need to be done prior to enhancements taking place. Primarily, the facility requires major improvements to the infrastructure before enhancing educational, recreational and vocational programs can take place. These needs are being addressed through County General Services and meetings have already taken place.

The current Division Commander will be developing a multi-year Master Plan for the facility in conjunction with a Correctional Strategic Plan that will incorporate programs and disciplines that will meet and exceed the desires of the Grand Jury and assist in meeting the needs of the staff and inmates while addressing community concerns.

Response Requirements

Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05 require that specific responses to both the findings and recommendations contained in this report be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Sacramento Superior Court by October 1, 2007, from:

- Sacramento County Sheriff