

FILED

AUG 27 2012

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SONOMA
By: [Signature] DEPUTY CLERK

Approved: [Signature]
Superior Court Judge

Date: AUG 27 2012

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: 2011/2012 Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury Final Report

Report Date: June 27, 2012

Response by: Robert M. Ochs **Title:** Chief Probation Officer

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: F1-F6
 - I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: _____
- (Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered _____ have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe 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.)
- Recommendations numbered R1 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 8/22/12 Signed: [Signature]

Number of pages attached 1

SONOMA COUNTY

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Robert M. Ochs
Chief Probation Officer



August 23, 2012

Honorable Rene Chouteau
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
600 Administration Drive, Courtroom 15
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Grand Jury Inspection of the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall

REQUIRED RESPONSE(S)

R1. The Juvenile Hall administrative staff continues to collect and to analyze data to determine the program's effectiveness on the recidivism rate.

RESPONSE

The recommendation will not be implemented. However, very similar and more meaningful data will be calculated during this Fiscal Year.

While a major goal of the juvenile justice system is to rehabilitate youthful offenders, the Juvenile Hall is only a small part of the system, and is designed primarily for short-term detention. Therefore, the Juvenile Hall by itself cannot be expected to have a significant impact on recidivism. The more important measure is the effect that the entire juvenile justice system has on recidivism.

The Chief Probation Officers of California have recently agreed on a definition of recidivism, which is, "A subsequent criminal adjudication while on probation." Sonoma County Probation will be using this and other definitions in its efforts to calculate and describe recidivism in the juvenile justice system. This information will become part of ongoing assessments of the functioning of the juvenile system, and will be helpful in evaluating program effectiveness. The Probation Department has been increasingly incorporating programs that have been shown to reduce recidivism, and it is hoped that data supports these recent local efforts.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Ochs", is written over the typed name.

Robert M. Ochs
Chief Probation Officer

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