

AUG - 3 2016

Approved: Rama Ballinger
Superior Court Judge

Date: 8.2.16

BY DS
Deputy Clerk

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Detention Facilities Inspection: Long-term prisoners in a Short-term Jail

Report Date: Final Report 2015-2016

Response by: Steve Freitas Title: Sheriff - Coroner

Agency/Department Name: Sonoma County Sheriff's Office

FINDINGS:

I (we) agree with the findings numbered: _____

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: F1

Statement Attached _____

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons.)

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: 7/27/16

Signed: [Signature]

Number of pages attached: 2

SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO THE 2015-2016 GRAND JURY REPORT

Detention Facilities Inspection: Long-term prisoners in a Short-term Jail

Pages 40 - 45

FINDINGS

F1. Programs and opportunities available to men are not available to women who would be eligible for transfer to NCDF.

RESPONSE: The respondent disagrees with this finding.

Female inmates housed at the Main Adult Detention Facility (MADF) have access to programs equal to the programs available to male inmates housed at the North County Detention Facility (NCDF). There are 33 classes/programs offered to female inmates housed at the MADF and 31 classes/programs offered to male inmates at NCDF. In addition to this, female inmates are offered classes that were developed specifically for women. These classes include but are not limited to: Seeking Safety, Medical Aspects, Healthy Relationships, Women's Circle, and the Lotus Project.

The MADF has a module committed to female inmate programming. This module is dedicated to intensive programming throughout the day, 4 days a week. It offers life skills and drug treatment programming to female inmates that are at moderate to high risk of reoffending. The Sheriff's Office has also partnered with the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) to offer college classes to our inmates. A summer program of English is currently being offered to our female inmates and the fall semester will bring math and a college skills class. Additionally, the program helps inmates establish a relationship with the SRJC prior to release with regards to the "Second Chance" program for formerly incarcerated individuals. The Sheriff's Office Programs Sergeant is currently researching a Canine Training Program with Bergin University to offer to the female inmates at the MADF. This is the same program provider of the Canine Program that is currently underway at the NCDF.

In the July 2014 ruling in *Treadway vs. County of Sonoma*, the Court found that female inmates are "similarly situated to male inmates with respect to the policies, privileges and programs that are available (or at least potentially available) to them" and "female minimum security inmates at the MADF and inmates at the NCDF receive like treatment with respect to the programs/classes available to them".

Whether inmates are housed at the MADF or the NCDF, the Sheriff's Office has established, continues to develop, and offers a wide variety of programming to better prepare both male and female inmates for a successful reintegration into the community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Sheriff's Department develop and prioritize a plan to accommodate female residents at the NCDF.

RESPONSE: Recommendation R1 will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

In the 2014 ruling in Treadway vs. Sonoma County, the Court found that female inmates housed at the MADF are "similarly situated" and receive "like treatment" as the inmates at NCDF. While it is not currently reasonable to house female inmates at the NCDF, the Sheriff's Office is continually evaluating housing alternatives for female inmates, including housing at NCDF.