

ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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SHERIFF-CORONER SANDRA HUTCHENS

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

August 13, 2015

Honorable Glenda Sanders Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: Response to Orange County Grand Jury 2014-2015 report, "Annual Inquiry on Jails and Juvenile Detention Facilities."

Dear Judge Sanders:

In accordance with Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, enclosed please find the response to the FY 2014-2015 Orange County Grand Jury report, "Annual Inquiry on Jails and Juvenile Detention Facilities."

If you have any questions, please contact Assistant Sheriff Steve Kea at (714) 647-4655.

Sincerely,

Sandra Hutchens Sheriff-Coroner

cc: Peter Hersh, Grand Jury Foreperson Members, Board of Supervisors Frank Kim, County Executive Officer

FINDINGS

F.1

The condition and management of the Orange County Adult Jail facilities are acceptable and in overall compliance with state and local standards.

Response: Agrees with the finding.

F.2

The James A. Musick Facility offers a commendable and highly beneficial program called Canines Offering Life Lessons and Rewards (COLLAR).

Response: Agrees with the finding.

F.3

The OCSD is taking advantage of the recent decrease in jail population to perform needed maintenance and upgrades to a countywide aging facilities infrastructure.

Response: Agrees with the finding.

F.4

Although the jails still have outdated and inadequate video equipment, a viable upgrade plan with committed funding and priorities has been approved for implementation over the next five years.

Response: Agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R.1

Consider expanding the Canines Offering Life Lessons and Rewards (COLLAR) program at James A. Musick facility.

Response: This recommendation has not been implemented, buy may be implemented in the future.

The COLLAR program has been a success and expansion of the program remains a goal of the Inmate Services Division. Program expansion will depend on the availability of funding. The Department's current budget is unable to support expanding the COLLAR program. This program will be re-evaluated for implementation during the fiscal year 16/17 budget.

R.2

In the event of any future decrease in jail population, continue to utilize that time to conduct the needed maintenance work on the various facilities.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented.

The current jail population and bed space provides the ability for maintenance to be performed on inmate housing. The Sheriff intends to continue using the opportunity of the lower jail population to do maintenance on empty housing modules.

R.3

OCSD should closely monitor and expedite the five year plan for installing video surveillance system upgrades.

Response: This recommendation has been partially implemented.

The Sheriff's Department will continue to closely monitor the five year plan for installing video surveillance system upgrades. The video installation and upgrade is currently scheduled to take place over the next five years with a County funding commitment of approximately \$2 million per year. Expediting full implementation of the project will depend on the availability of funding and the Department's need to complete other necessary capital improvement projects.