



County of Orange
California

Thomas G. Mauk
County Executive Officer

July 27, 2005

Bette Flick, Foreperson
FY 05/06 Grand Jury
Superior Court of California
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92702

Subject: Response to Orange County Grand Jury Report, "The State of Orange County Jails"

Dear Ms. Flick:

Per your request, and in accordance with Penal Code 993, enclosed please find the County of Orange response to the subject report as approved by the Board of Supervisors. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Wayt at (714) 834-4104 in the County Executive Office who will either assist you or direct you to the appropriate individual.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas G. Mauk", is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas G. Mauk
County Executive Officer

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**2004-2005 Grand Jury Report
"The State of Orange County Jails"
Response to Findings and Recommendations**

Response to Findings 6.1 - 6.2:

- 6.1 Orange County's adult jails remain overcrowded by standards used by state Board of Corrections

Response: Agrees with finding

- 6.2 The need remains for a new sheriff's prisoner holding facility in south Orange County

Response: Agrees with finding

Response to Recommendations 7.1 - 7.2:

- 7.1 In order to ease jail overcrowding as set forth by the state Board of Corrections, the county Sheriff's Department should expedite the opening of the new cellblock at Theo Lacy Jail.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented

The Sheriff's Department has opened the first floor of building B to help ease the overcrowding situation. The Board of Supervisors, CEO and the Sheriff's Department will continue to work to address budgetary issues in order to expedite the opening of the remaining floors of the building, which should occur by mid-year 2006.

- 7.2 A new sheriff's prisoner holding facility should be established in south Orange County as soon as possible.

Response: The recommendation requires further analysis

The Sheriff's Department is continuing to explore options for this facility. There have been two alternatives that have been developed, and both have been taken into consideration. Additionally, the Sheriff's Department continues seek temporary solutions to reduce the costs of prisoner transportation to and from South County areas.