



CITY OF VACAVILLE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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August 10, 2023

Honorable Wendy G. Getty, Presiding Judge
California Superior Court, Solano County
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO 2022-2023 GRAND JURY REPORT ENTITLED: SOLANO COUNTY EMERGENCY DISPATCH REPORT

Dear Honorable Judge Getty:

This letter shall serve as the City of Vacaville's response in accordance with Penal Code §933.05 to the Solano County Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled: *Solano County Emergency Dispatch Report*.

FINDING 3 – *There is a general acceptance among emergency service providers in the County to the idea of a consolidated dispatch center.*

RECOMMENDATION 1 – *Solano County Board of Supervisors should approve and begin the implementation of a consolidated dispatch center.*

Response to Finding 3 and Recommendation 1:

The Vacaville Police Department has received and reviewed the Solano County Grand Jury's Emergency Dispatch Report, dated June 23, 2023. The Vacaville Police Department disagrees with Finding 3 of the report and the related Recommendation 1.

Finding 3 of the report states "There is general acceptance among emergency service providers in the County to the idea of a consolidated dispatch center". During the Grand Jury members' visit to the Vacaville Police Department, department members stated they understood the idea of a consolidated dispatch center was being discussed, but at no time expressed support for the idea. The Vacaville Police Department is not in support of a consolidated dispatch center.

The Vacaville Police Department Communications Center has enjoyed the highest staffing levels in the region. All City of Vacaville dispatchers provide Emergency Medical Dispatch service to the citizens of Vacaville. The Vacaville Police Department also provides the citizens of Vacaville with the fastest priority one-call processing in the county. Most of our dispatchers live in our city, creating a connection to the citizens we serve. In a consolidated center, these Vacaville dispatchers would then be pooled with other dispatchers and shared across the entire county, reducing their ability to support our citizens. Additionally, Vacaville dispatchers are currently trained in Vacaville procedures, including specific city ordinances and other policies specific to Vacaville only. Dispatchers working in a consolidated center must learn and maintain knowledge across all jurisdictions for which they dispatch, diluting the knowledge and expertise they currently utilize for Vacaville only. It is also important to recognize that direct influence and control over dispatch procedures would be lost and the ability to quickly initiate policy changes to support Vacaville's citizens would be impacted. All these factors directly reduce the level of customer service the citizens of Vacaville have come to enjoy. This same dilemma would be found by all cities with Solano County.



Because of the above-stated reasons, the Vacaville Police Department disagrees with Finding 3 and the related Recommendation 1 which states, "Solano County Board of Supervisors should approve and begin the implementation of a consolidated dispatch center".

Sincerely,



Ian Schmutzler
Chief of Police