



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SOLANO

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July 11, 2018

The Honorable John B. Ellis
Presiding Judge
Solano County Superior Court
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Re: Response to 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report Entitled:
In-Home Supportive Services Program Oversight and Management

To The Honorable John B. Ellis, Presiding Judge of the Solano County Superior Court:

Under Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, we are responding to the following recommendations contained in the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report regarding In-Home Supportive Services Program Oversight and Management.

Finding 3:

The Solano County Department of Health and Social Services' Welfare Fraud Investigative Unit, the Special Investigations Bureau, has been precluded from participating in In-Home Support Services program fraud investigation and prosecution by H&SS departmental policy and budget decisions.

Recommendation 3a:

The Special Investigation Bureau be transferred to the District Attorney's Office.

Response to Recommendation 3a:

The recommendation requires further analysis by the County. We believe that the District Attorney's Office could accommodate the transfer of the Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) to the DA's Bureau of Investigations. Currently, the District Attorney Bureau of Investigations has specialized investigation units, such as Workers' Compensation Fraud, Auto Insurance Fraud, Consumer Fraud, Real Estate Fraud and Financial Elder Abuse Fraud. Within each of these specialized units, complaints of fraud are initiated with the DA's Office as opposed to other local law enforcement agencies. Follow-up investigation into these complaints is conducted by the DA Bureau of Investigations. In-Home Support Services Fraud and Welfare Fraud complaints would be treated similarly, as we are committed to investigating all reasonable suspicious acts of fraud.

If, after careful review and cost analysis by the DA's Office, County Administrative Office, and Department of Human Resources, and upon County Board of Supervisors' approval, the DA's Office is receptive to transferring the SIB to the DA Bureau of Investigations.

Recommendation 3b:

The current 'Purchase of Service Agreement for Investigation of Welfare Fraud' between the Solano County H&SS Department and the D.A.'s Office be rewritten to specifically include investigation and prosecution of IHSS program fraud.

Response to Recommendation 3b:

The recommendation requires further analysis by the County as our office is one of two parties to the "Purchase of Service Agreement for Investigation of Welfare Fraud."

If, after careful review and cost analysis by the District Attorney's Office, County Administrative Office, and County Counsel, and upon County Board of Supervisors' approval, the District Attorney's Office is receptive to rewriting the Purchase of Service Agreement for Investigation of Welfare Fraud between the District Attorney's Office and the Health and Social Services Department to include the investigation and prosecution of IHSS program fraud.

We appreciate the Grand Jury's recommendations and we would like to thank the Solano County Grand Jury for their time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Krishna A. Abrams
District Attorney

KAA:mpm

cc: Grand Jury