



SOLANO COUNTY GRAND JURY
2016-2017

STANTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

STANTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury

I. SUMMARY

The 2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury toured the Solano County Stanton Correctional Facility, interviewed Sheriff's Office personnel and reviewed documents related to the development of the facility. The Solano County Grand Jury conducted a tour/inspection of the facility with the objective of reviewing prison policy and procedures, as well as services provided to inmates.

The Solano County Stanton Correctional Facility is a model for modern correctional facilities. The Sheriff's Office has met its goals of enhanced safety for Sheriff's personnel, inmates, and visitors.

The Sheriff's Office is presently in the process of completing the addition of inmate vocational training and educational facilities which will complete the vision and planning started over eleven years ago.

II. INTRODUCTION

California Penal Code § 919 subsection (b) provides *the Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition of management of the public prisons within the county*. Pursuant to the statute the 2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury inspected the Solano County Stanton Correctional Facility.

The facility is named for a family which had three former Sheriff's officers. The three Stanton family members honored by the facility are the late Lieutenant William Stanton, who served from 1949 to 1979, the late Captain Robert Stanton, who served the Sheriff's office from 1951 to 1984, and Sheriff Gary Stanton, who served the county for 30 years until his retirement in October 2012.

The Stanton Correctional Facility (SCF) operates under the direction of the Solano County Sheriff's Office and is located at 2450 Clay Bank Road in the city of Fairfield, California.

III. METHODOLOGY

- Interviewed Sheriff's Office personnel
- Toured and inspected Stanton Correctional Facility
- Reviewed management elements:
 - California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Division Three, Rules and Regulations of Adult Institutions, Programs and Parole
 - Prior Grand Jury Reports
 - State of California Public Safety Realignment (AB 109)
 - Electronic security system operations
 - Current monitoring devices for inmates on alternative sentencing programs
 - Final Environmental Impact Report of the Claybank Adult Detention Facilities expansion project (State Clearinghouse Number 200 – 605 – 2071)
 - Solano County Sheriff's Office presentation to the 2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury
 - Senate Bill 1022-Correctional Facilities 2011-2012
 - Senate Bill 1022 Program Facilities Construction Project Addendum, County of Solano, Fairfield, California, September 4, 2013
 - Professional Services Agreements of May 24, 2016 between Solano County and Sonoma County
 - Professional Services Agreement between the County of Solano and the County of Napa
 - Claybank Adult Detention Facilities AB 900 Local Jail Financing Expansion Project-County of Solano, Fairfield, California

IV. STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Sheriff's Office manages four facilities within Solano County for the purpose of housing persons arrested and/or sentenced for crimes committed within Solano County. The four facilities are:

1. The Vallejo Court Holding --- day use only and no overnight holding
2. Justice Center Detention Facility (JCDF) which is a type II facility for the detention of persons pending arraignment, during trial, and upon sentencing --- rated (authorized) capacity at 709 beds
3. Claybank Detention Facility (CDF) which is a type III-IV facility--- rated at 367 beds
 - a. Type III is used for detention of convicted and/or sentenced inmates
 - b. Type IV is a section of the facility which houses inmates eligible for work furlough, work education and other programs involving inmate access to the community
4. Stanton Correctional Facility (SCF) is a type II facility ----rated at 365 beds

Crime Clock

The necessity for these four facilities is explained by the following statistics provided by the Sheriff's Office:

16,192 bookings in 2015

- Every 32.4 minutes an inmate is booked into the Solano County Jail
- Every 57.6 minutes an inmate is booked for a misdemeanor offense (8,642)
- Every 74.3 minutes an inmate is booked for a felony offense (7,067)
- 483 other booking types (i.e. parole violation)

Bookings of inmates come from the seven police departments within Solano County, the Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol, Department of Fish and Game, Drug Enforcement Agency, District Attorneys' Office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Justice, California Department of Parole and Travis Air Force Base.

Initial Planning

To address the future needs of Solano County, an expansion of the Claybank Adult Detention Facility was proposed and is fully described in section 3 of the April 2007 Draft Environmental Impact Report. The proposed project called for adding 512 Beds in Phase I and 546 Beds in Phase II. The proposed project includes new structures, new parking, roadways, and renovation for additional support spaces.

The original expansion project had the goals/objectives of:

- Protecting public safety in Solano County
- Providing additional bed capacity to accommodate projected inmate population growth
- Relieving overcrowded conditions at the Claybank and downtown Fairfield facilities
- Enhancing safety for Sheriff's personnel, inmates and visitors
- Ensuring the Claybank facility meets all applicable health and safety codes, including the standards of the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA)
- Improving disabled access throughout the Claybank facility

The project described above was approved by the 2007 Solano County Board of Supervisors and was estimated to cost 77 million dollars from County General Funds. Due to the economic uncertainties and downturns in 2008 the Board of Supervisors canceled the approved expansion facility project funding in April 2008.

Eighteen months later, the State of California released the AB 900 Request For Proposal (RFP) for construction or expansion of county jails. Based upon the earlier research and planning, the Solano County Sheriff's Office submitted a proposal in October 2009 to compete for the state funding of a 365 bed jail. The number of beds requested reflected what the county projected were needed through 2013.

On November 23, 2009, Sheriff Gary Stanton was notified by the State Correction Board of the intent to award conditional approval in the amount of \$61,505,000. The award represented approximately 75% of the total costs with the county contributing the remainder in cash and in-kind contributions. The correctional facility's total costs were \$89.3 million.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held on August 28, 2012. The completed facility was a result of 11 years of planning, revisions, adaptations to changes in economic and political environments and three years of actual construction. The Stanton facility was dedicated on June 5, 2014 and began to house inmates on May 3, 2015.

Current Population:

On January 20, 2017, the Stanton facility population was 281 inmates or 77% of its rated capacity. Because some inmates cannot be housed with another inmate due to violence toward other inmates or staff the facility may never reach fully rated capacity.

Of the 204 AB 109 realignment inmates in the three county facilities, 60 are housed at the Stanton Correctional Facility.

Other County Inmates:

Currently, the Board of Supervisors has authorized the Solano County Sheriff's Office to lease up to 125 beds to other entities as a cost control measure. The Sheriff's Office has contracts with Napa County and Sonoma County. As of January 20, 2017, there were 39 Napa County inmates and 47 Sonoma County inmates occupying leased beds at the Justice Center Detention Facility and at the Claybank Detention Facility. Medical and mental health costs for these inmates are paid for by their respective counties.

State of California rules for financing the construction of the SCF do not allow any of the beds to be leased.

Current Programs:

Inmate programs and services which are available at the SCF are:

- Case Management Services/HealthRight 360
- Five Keys Charter School
- Employment Readiness
- ANKA --Drug and Alcohol Programs
- Veterans Program
- Jail Counseling Program (Wright Institute)
- Library Literacy Program
- Men and Women's Parenting Program
- Inmate Library Services
- Veterans Justice Outreach
- Community Volunteer Services (AA, NA, Religious)
- Chaplain Services
- Medical and Mental Health Services
- Services for Women Inmates
 - Substance Abuse Treatment
 - Education
 - Employment Readiness
 - WRAP Services (Women's Re-entry Achievement Program)

Solano County received a three-year grant of \$950,000 on June 10, 2015, from the Board of State and Community Corrections to help counties develop strategies to reduce recidivism among mentally ill juvenile and adult offenders. The Sheriff's Office currently operates three programs utilizing a Community Based Organization (CBO): (a) Diversion with the Fairfield Police Department, (b) In-Custody Treatment Program at JDFC, and (c) Re-Entry Planning and Community Based Case Management for the mentally ill.

The Stanton Correctional Facility

The 365-bed adult detention facility consists of 12 podular housing units with all the program, recreation, support, and administrative areas required by California Penal Code Titles 15 and 24. All 12 units have secure detention beds with wet rooms (sanitary facilities) and handicapped accessible beds. The units contain dayroom, interview and personal hygiene areas. Program activities and dining are located in each housing unit reducing staff's need to move inmates for most daily activities.

Intake and release areas have individual and group holding cells and allow for segregation of males and females, ample storage spaces and a sally port (secure loading and unloading area) large enough to allow buses to enter and exit efficiently.

Public visiting areas and video visitation capabilities are available. Video visitation:

- Allows the ability to visit an inmate from offsite locations
- Eliminates the necessity of bringing children into a jail environment
- Centralizes service
- Reduces inmate movement
- Reduces visitation staff
- Allows for more efficient jail operations

There are 213 closed-circuit TV cameras. Monitoring and visual supervision of the housing units and recreation areas is centrally located and utilizes the latest in electronic security technology.

General medical and dental services are provided in a separate space. Food services are provided in the housing units by reheating meals prepared offsite. Laundry services are provided by energy efficient equipment. A central plant provides the power necessary for the heating, cooling and water softening systems for the facility. Emergency backup power is available on site.

Staffing

Stanton Correctional Facility (SCF) is operated and managed by a total of 40 correctional officers including administrators. The SCF uses a highly-advanced computer system accessed by Galaxy tables carried by correctional officers throughout their shifts. Correctional officers have full control of the facilities' functions (i.e., controlling cell doors, turning lights off and on, regulating water flow and controlling televisions). The system's initial cost was approximately three million dollars.

Solano County contracts with California Family Medical Group (CFMG) to provide medical and mental health services for all three facilities in the County. There are 48 full-time CFMG employees. All three facilities have nursing staff on site 24/7. Claybank and Stanton facilities share a Physician and either Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant as the providers in the facilities four days a week. Mental Health is also shared between the two facilities with the M.D., Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Mental Health Nurse providing coverage five days a week.

All incarcerated individuals have access to medical and mental health care during their incarceration. The Sheriff's Office indicates that approximately 60% of their total population receives medication on a monthly basis. Combined sick call visits, health inventories, mental health and dental visits for all facilities totaled 3,811 visits in December, 2016.

The Stanton facility operates at a staff-to-rated bed ratio of one correctional officer to 52.1 inmates on the day and swing shifts and one to 73 inmates on the graveyard shift. This represents the least number of required staff per inmate level, on all shifts, in any of the county's facilities.

Incidents of Violence

Incidents of violence are a common occurrence within a jail system. The charts below show the breakdown for the last two years for all facilities.

	2015			
	Justice Center Detention Facility	Claybank Detention Facility	Stanton Correctional Facility	Totals
Assault: Inmate vs Inmate	61	31	2	94
Assault: Inmate vs Staff	56	3	1	60
Total incidents	117	34	3	154

	2016			
	Justice Center Detention Facility	Claybank Detention Facility	Stanton Correctional Facility	Totals
Assault: Inmate vs Inmate	62	35	12	109
Assault: Inmate vs Staff	96	9	11	116
Total incidents	158	44	23	225

Currently, the Stanton Correctional Facility is the safest facility for both inmates and staff in Solano County.

Future

As noted earlier, the Sheriff's Office staff studied the possibility of developing an additional 1,058 beds at Claybank (for a total of 1,570 beds) in accordance with the projected total bed capacity needs identified in the Solano Adult Detention Needs Assessment Master Plan—Final Report-2007.

Economic circumstances (i.e. the downturn in 2008 and the slow recovery) and three significant changes in the law: Assembly Bill 109 in 2011, Proposition 47 in 2014 and Proposition 57 in 2016 have contributed to rendering those plans moot at this point. Current planning is described below.

Two new buildings will be added to the existing site adjacent to the Stanton Correctional Facility. Building One will be a 10,000- square foot single story facility space which will be a classroom training center. Each classroom will accommodate 25 students and an instructor. All classrooms will have audio, visual projection capabilities. The classrooms are expected to be configured as follows:

- A traditional classroom
- A computer learning center
- A biomedical classroom
- An electronics/electrical repair classroom
- Two adjacent classrooms separated by a moveable partition which can be converted to a single classroom.

The building will have all necessary support space and is expected to utilize a solar power system to address power consumption.

Building Two is to be a 30,000-square foot Vocational Training Center. It will consist of multiple bays that will be utilized as training space for vocational education with hydraulic lifts to accommodate a multitude of different sized vehicles. One of the bays will be outfitted to paint vehicles, a separate area outfitted with capability to support training for building trades (carpentry, plumbing, mechanical, welding, etc.), workbenches and walkable tool storage.

Completing the project are improvements to walkways, landscaping, fencing, paved areas for vehicle circulation, paved asphalt area to be used for driver training of buses and truck rigs, and parking for additional vehicles.

Funding for the project has come from Senate Bill 1022 through the Board of State and Community Corrections in an award of \$23,037,000 to Solano County on March 13, 2014. Solano County was one of only 15 counties to receive these funds which will pay for 90% of the project.

In June 2016, all construction documents were completed. Ground breaking is scheduled for June 2017 with October 2018 as the expected completion date.

The Sheriff's Office is working on developing relationships with Solano Community College, Private Industry Council, trade unions, and businesses within the county to develop placement opportunities for those inmates who will benefit from the vocational training programs to be developed and funded.

V. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Finding 1 – The 2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury was informed that the Stanton Correctional Facility is not operating at fully rated capacity.

Recommendation 1 – The Sheriff's Office target all possible means to increase the utilization of Stanton Correctional Facility.

Finding 2- The 2016-2017 Solano County Grand Jury found that the Sheriff's Office has not fully developed the relationships and funding sources necessary to support the future Vocational Training Center.

Recommendation 2a- The Sheriff's Office create a community taskforce composed of business leaders, union representatives, trade councils, local colleges and community leaders to develop a comprehensive plan for the programs to be operated within the Vocational Training Center.

Recommendation 2b- The Sheriff's Office procure long-term sustainable funding sources to operate the future Vocational Training Center.

Recommendation 2c- The Sheriff's Office identify staffing needs and requirements and begin the recruitment process prior to the projected opening of the Vocational Training Center.

COMMENTS

The Solano County Sheriff's Office appears to have responded to the ever-changing requirements, needs, and political realities of the criminal justice system. It has developed a facility that is well managed and has accomplished its original goals of providing for the safety of inmates, staff, and the community.

The proposed Vocational Training Center will have the capability to address major roadblocks that lead to inmates returning to jail in the future. Reductions in the recidivism rate will be a benefit to all parties.

REQUIRED RESPONSES

Solano County Sheriff's Office

COURTESY COPIES

Clerk, Solano County Board of Supervisors