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September 13, 2011

To: The Honorable D. Scott Daniels
Presiding Judge

From: Supervisor Michael J. Reagan
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Re: *Response to Grand Jury Report of June 23, 2011 - Solano County Juvenile Detention Facility Complex*

The Honorable Judge Daniels:

The following, under Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, the Solano County Board of Supervisors responds to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2010/11 Grand Jury Report of June 23, 2011 concerning the Solano County Juvenile Detention Facility Complex.

Finding 1

Wards must be transported from 740 Beck Avenue, Fairfield, to other locations for court hearings and other court proceedings.

Response to Finding 1

Probation - Probation agrees with this finding.

Board of Supervisors – The Board of Supervisors agrees with Probation's response to Finding 1.

Recommendation 1

Solano County should discuss with the Court the potential solutions to the transportation issues. Possible solutions could be to develop a hearing room at 740 Beck Avenue and/or develop a video monitoring/communication site.

Response to Recommendation 1

Probation – This matter is not under the control of the Probation Department.

Board of Supervisors – This recommendation requires further analysis before the Board could discuss it within six months. The County's strategic vision includes developing efficiencies and employing new technologies whenever and wherever possible to improve the effectiveness of County services.

On June 24, 2011, the Department of General Services, Central Services Division issued a Request for Information (RFI) to solicit informational responses from vendors that can provide an operationally proven web-based internet solution for a video visitation within an adult detention facility and judicial appearance and arrangement system. Using information gathered from responses to the RFI, the County may issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to bidders interested in providing such services.

The RFI is in preparation for the construction of a 362-bed jail facility to be located in Fairfield. The RFI stipulates that vendors must be able to provide a system that is operational prior to the completion of the facility, anticipated in April of 2014. It is anticipated that this system may be used in the future to provide services to the County's existing Fairfield Justice Center with 702 beds and the existing Claybank Detention Facility with 379 beds. It is also assumed that such a system could be used for additional hearings and events, including simple continuances, parole hearings, and pre-trial conferences, and eventually expanded to serve juveniles within the Juvenile Detention Facility Complex.

Finding 2

The complex's population is below allowable levels, but there is a waiting list for placement of wards in New Foundations.

Response to Finding 2

Probation – Probation disagrees partially with this finding. The complex's population is below allowable levels; however, the population at New Foundations fluctuates throughout the year depending on Court actions. At times, the NF population is below capacity and on rare occasions there is a waiting list.

Board of Supervisors – The Board of Supervisors agrees with Probation's response to Finding 2.

Recommendation 2

Develop a plan that allows the optimum utilization of space and personnel to avoid delays of placing wards into programs.

Response to Recommendation 2

Probation - This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted at this time.

Board of Supervisors – The Board of Supervisors agrees with Probation's response to Recommendation 2.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Reagan
Chair, Solano County Board of Supervisors