

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
COUNTY OF SOLANO



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE
675 TEXAS STREET, SUITE 6500
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA 94533-6342
(707) 784-6100
FAX (707) 784-7975
<http://www.co.solano.ca.us>

June 11, 2013

Honorable Paul Beeman
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Solano Superior Court
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

The Honorable Judge Beeman,

Re: Response to Grand Jury Report of April 12, 2013 - Solano County Public Health Laboratory

Pursuant to Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05, the Solano County Administrator responds to Finding 6 and Recommendation 6 contained in the 2012/2013 Grand Jury Report of April 12, 2013 regarding the Solano County Public Health Laboratory.

- **Finding 6** - The Joint Powers Agreement has a "reevaluation clause" amongst Napa, Yolo and Solano Counties, but no binding provision to modify the agreement if actual costs exceed the annual estimate of services provided.
- **Recommendation 6** - Amend the current and future Joint Powers Agreements to include a provision allowing for the collection of all costs that exceed the annual estimate of services provided.

Response to Finding 6 and Recommendation 6

- **Response to Finding 6:** The Solano County Administrator disagrees wholly with the finding. While the Joint Powers Agreement does not contain a binding provision to modify the agreement if actual costs exceed the annual estimate of services provided, it does contain a mandatory provision for an annual fiscal review, which includes a review and update of the third-party testing fee schedules adopted by each party. In our experience, this provision achieves the same result recommended by the Grand Jury.

- **Response to Recommendation 6:** The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Historically and currently, the costs to maintain the Public Health Lab [have not] exceeded the estimate of services provided. With the expansion of the Joint Powers Agreement, economies of scale are being created that allow Solano County to reduce its General Fund contribution. Importantly, the Joint Powers Agreement by its very nature creates a partnership among the Counties to share in the mutual benefit of the arrangement at no party's expense.

Respectfully,



Birgitta E. Corsello
County Administrative Officer
Solano County

cc: Solano County Board of Supervisors
Clerk of the Board, Solano County Board of Supervisors
Patrick Duterte, Director, Health and Social Services, Solano County
Marc Fox, Director, Department of Human Resources, Solano County
Grand Jury Office