

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE



**BRAD AGUILU
CHAIRPERSON**



JODY CARNEY



MARC COOTER



TOM PASEK

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Health, Education, and Social Services Committee, in accordance with Penal Code §925 and §933.5, is to:

- Review and report on practices and procedures performed by entities falling under the umbrella of this committee
- Observe, investigate, respond to, and report on citizen complaints regarding health, education, and social service issues
- Safeguard the public from misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance
- Recommend reasonable action to address related concerns of the community

The Committee's intent is to inform the citizens of Kern County of its findings, and to make a long-term positive impact, through recommendations.

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

ACTIVITIES 2016-2017

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee wrote and published the following reports:

- **Kern County Animal Services**
- **Kern County Public Health Department**
- **Kelly F Blanton Academy**
- **California Living Museum**
- **Kern County Public Library**
- **Kern County Aging and Adult Services**

In the course of fulfilling the Committee's duties, visits were made to:

- **Kern County Central Receiving**
- **Bakersfield Police Department K9 Unit**
- **Edmondson Pumping Station**
- **Kern County Sheriff Office Air Unit/Bomb Squad**
- **California City State Prison**
- **Camp Irwin Owens**
- **Crossroads – Redwood High School**
- **Board of Supervisors**

CALIFORNIA LIVING MUSEUM

“CALM”

A Partner with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools

PREFACE:

The California Living Museum (CALM) is part of the Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS). CALM was founded in 1980 and opened to the public in 1983 for education, recreation, conservation, and research. Education is provided to more than 16,000 Kern County school children annually through their on-site programs. Another 80 educational programs are presented off-site in classrooms, organizations, and community events.

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inquired into the management and operations of CALM pursuant to California Penal Code §925.

PROCESS:

The Committee performed a site inspection of CALM on November 16, 2016. CALM is a museum/zoo located at 10500 Alfred Harrell Highway, Bakersfield, California 93306. The Committee met and interviewed:

1. CALM Zoo Manager
2. CALM Staff

On March 9, 2017, the Committee had a follow-up meeting at the KCSOS located at 1300 17th Street, Bakersfield, California 93301. The Committee met and interviewed:

1. CALM Zoo Manager
2. KCSOS Chief of Staff
3. KCSOS Staff
4. CALM Foundation Chairperson

The Committee also researched the internet, and the KCSOS and CALM websites.

BACKGROUND:

The CALM Facility is situated on 14 acres south of the Kern River, northeast of metropolitan Bakersfield. CALM is not only the home to over 80 species of animals, but also maintains a botanical garden and aviary, and has many natural history artifacts. CALM's mission is to teach respect for all living things through education, recreation, conservation, and research. In addition, there are some animals that can no longer be released due to injuries. Some of these animals are also considered to be endangered.

This uniqueness provides Kern County residents and visitors a chance to experience and learn about native plants and animals that would otherwise not be possible.

FACTS:

- A. CALM was founded in 1980 and opened to the public in 1983.
- B. CALM's purpose is to provide a place to educate the public about native wildlife, and to help injured and orphaned wild animals. CALM received accreditation from the Zoological Association of America in 2010.
- C. CALM's fiscal year 2016 budget was \$1,322,397. Approximately 77.6% of this amount is budgeted for employee salaries and benefits. The remaining budget is for operations, travel, repair, veterinary fees, equipment, and advertisement.
- D. In 1998, KCSOS assumed the day-to-day operations of CALM, and the zoo and botanical gardens became an official Kern County school site.
- E. CALM recently opened the California Coast Room which is the first major new exhibit since 2012. This feature provides guests with the unique opportunity to interact with species native to California's coastline.
- F. Since 1983, attendance has steadily increased. In 2016, CALM provided education to over 16,000 Kern County school children.
- G. CALM is a permitted rehabilitation facility and rehabilitates approximately 500 to 600 injured and orphaned birds, mammals, and reptiles annually. The primary goal of rehabilitation is to release the wildlife back into their native habitat.
- H. Special fundraising events held at CALM include: the Spring Fling, Boo at the Zoo, Twilight in the Zoo, Feast for the Beasts, CALM's Birthday Bash, Ice Cream Zoofari, Breakfast with the Otters, and Holiday Lights.
- I. CALM generates additional income by hosting birthday parties, weddings, corporate picnics, and other group events. CALM typically hosts two to three birthday parties per weekend.

FINDINGS:

- F1. While there is cause to hire a full-time veterinarian, CALM currently does not have funds budgeted for the position.
- F2. CALM is staffed with well-trained personnel. There are various volunteer training programs that qualify docents and volunteers to serve at CALM. The use of volunteers and community donations has served to significantly offset

operating costs. Individuals interested in volunteering can apply using an application that can be downloaded directly from the CALM website.

- F3. A significant amount of CALM's income is derived from special events. In particular, Holiday Lights in December brings in the majority of income from all scheduled special events.
- F4. The building of larger habitats for animals such as bears, cougars, and big horn sheep, has provided for an improved environment. This also enhances the visitor experience.
- F5. CALM's website has noted issues:
 - non-functioning link to the CALM Foundation
 - there is no mention of the Foundation's non-profit status
 - non-functioning link for donations
- F6. CALM staff is not trained in grant writing, and relies on KCSOS for all grant writing.
- F7. The KABOOM playground was financed through a grant.
- F8. A recruitment effort is being conducted to hire additional staff.
- F9. The animal rehabilitation program is not currently funded in the budget. However, special funding is generally allocated upon receipt of an animal that requires these rehabilitation services.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the CALM Zoo Manager and Staff for their courtesy and professionalism extended during the site inspection. The Committee also thanks the KCSOS Chief of Staff and the CALM Foundation for their assistance.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. The Grand Jury recommends that CALM hire a full-time veterinarian as funds become available. (Finding 1)
- R2. CALM should continue to develop its staff and volunteer training programs to keep operating expenses at a minimum. (Finding 2)

- R3. CALM should update several areas of their website, including several fundamental areas and correcting non-functioning links. (Finding 5)
- R4. CALM should continue to develop its animal enrichment program for all permanently exhibited animals. (Finding 3)
- R5. CALM should develop a grant writing program for staff members, and utilize KCSOS's grant development program to train the CALM staff. (Finding 6)

NOTES:

- The Kern County Superintendent of Schools and the California Living Museum should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.


RESPONSE REQUIRED IN 90 DAYS

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 200
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

DISCLAIMER:

This report was issued by the Grand Jury with the exception of a juror(s) pursuant to PC §916.2(a). The juror(s) was excluded from all parts of the inquiry/investigation, including interviews, deliberations, and the writing and approval of this report.



CALM

Foundation

California's premier native zoo and garden
August 3, 2017

Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

We are pleased to respond to the Grand Jury's report regarding the California Living Museum (CALM). We appreciate the time and attention that the Grand Jury members gave to their visit, and for the positive report regarding CALM's outcomes and future plans.

In response to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations, we offer the following responses:

Findings

- F1: CALM currently works with two local veterinarians who provide discounted services. One goal of our endowment is to be able to one day endow a full-time veterinarian on site.
- F2: The volunteer and docent program has increased significantly over the past few years and is crucial to CALM's ability to carry out our mission.
- F3: HolidayLights is CALM's largest fundraiser. We also brought back the Beastly Ball in an effort to diversify our funding base. We continue to outreach to corporate and foundation funders on a regular basis.
- F4: The Cats of California and Bighorn Sheep exhibits are relatively new exhibits that allow us to feature these majestic animals. The bear exhibit was also recently upgraded. The new CA Coast Room provides a wonderful addition featuring native sea life.
- F5: At the time of the Grand Jury visit the new website was still under construction. The issues mentioned in the Grand Jury's report have been addressed.

Grand Jury Response

August 3, 2017

Page Two

- F6: CALM Zoo Manager Lana Fain is an experienced grant writer as is CALM Administrator Steve Sanders. We also work with KCSOS grant writer to secure funds.
- F7: The Kaboom playground was installed in 2012 with the help of Pacific Gas & Electric Company.
- F8: As CALM continues to grow so does our staffing needs. We added a full-time keeper two years ago and have increased our docent and volunteer pool. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Zoo Curator of Animals due to the retirement of our previous Curator.
- F9: While some people who bring injured animals do donate to CALM, many do not. CALM is actively seeking grants and other support to help fund the very important wildlife rehabilitation services we offer.

Recommendations:

- R1: CALM agrees and hopes to secure funding for an on-site Vet in the future. One stated goal of our newly formed endowment is to ultimately endow a full-time veterinarian.
- R2: The volunteer and docent program has increased significantly over the past few years and is crucial to CALM's ability to carry out our mission. This year we worked with Bakersfield College to secure two interns and we hope to establish similar partnerships with CSUB and other local training institutions. We also opened the new CA Coast room with the use of volunteer interpreters. The train is operated completely with volunteers as well. We will continue to look for volunteer opportunities and in-kind support from the community to minimize expenses.
- R3: The new CALM website is functional and the key areas pointed out by the Grand Jury now are functioning. CALM will soon release a phone app that will help expand our outreach as well.
- R4: We agree and believe enrichment is crucial to animal wellness.
- R6: CALM staff will continue to work closely with the KCSOS to pursue local, state and federal grants.

(More →)

Grand Jury Response
August 3, 2017
Page Three

We appreciate the time and effort of the Grand Jury and we look forward to continued growth at CALM. Please call me at (661) 636-4000 if I may answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Sanders", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Stephen L. Sanders
Chief of Staff

Cc: Foreman, Kern County Grand Jury

KELLY F. BLANTON STUDENT EDUCATION CENTER

BLANTON ACADEMY

SUMMARY:

The Blanton Academy is part of the Kelly F. Blanton Student Education Center, established in 1987, and is one of several Community Schools designed to work closely with the Kern County Juvenile Court, Kern County Probation Department (Probation Department) and other school agencies. The mission is to support the educational, social and emotional needs of its students and community members.

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inspected and toured Blanton Academy on October 27, 2016, pursuant to California Penal Code §925. Blanton Academy is located at 300 East Truxtun Avenue, Suite A, Bakersfield, California 93305.

PROCESS:

The Committee met and interviewed:

1. Director of Alternative Education, Kern County Superintendent of Schools
2. Principal of Blanton Academy
3. Vice Principal of Blanton Academy
4. Kern County Probation Supervisor
5. Kern County Probation Officer

The Committee also reviewed internet and website information.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The Kelly F. Blanton Student Education Center, located in the greater Bakersfield area, is the largest community school campus in Kern County, and is a year-round public school program operated by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office. The Blanton Academy works closely with other school districts, the Probation Department and the Juvenile Court of Kern County.

- A. Blanton Academy is operated and administered by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools per Education Code §48645.
- B. There are students at Blanton Academy that are High-Risk First Time Offenders and High-Risk Transitioning Youth.
- C. Blanton Academy is co-ed and open to all genders.

- D. The curriculum is designated to meet all California High School graduation requirements.
- E. Blanton Academy offers childcare services for students with children up to three years of age, at the Child Development Center located on campus. Admission is based upon availability.
- F. Childcare and parenting skills are offered to eligible pregnant and parenting teens through the Cal Safe Program.

FINDINGS:

- F1. Blanton Academy utilizes State level funding through the Local Control Funding Formula.
- F2. Students in the classroom were observed to be attentive, polite and verbally open to the instructor.
- F3. Student attire appeared to be clean, neat and appropriate.
- F4. Classrooms are managed by a dual team of educational professionals to ensure student success.
- F5. Blanton Academy utilizes security personnel throughout the campus to prevent altercations and resolve conflicts between students.
- F6. Blanton Academy is based on a PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) model, where appropriate behavior is acknowledged and reinforced.
- F7. The Kern County Superintendent of Schools website link for Blanton Academy is difficult to locate, and is not informative.

COMMENTS:

The Committee thanks the Director of Alternative Education, the Principal and Vice Principal of Blanton Academy, the staff and Probation Officers on campus for the informative visit and dedicated services provided to Blanton Academy and its students.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Blanton Academy should create an independent, user-friendly webpage to disseminate comprehensive information. (Finding 7)

NOTES:

- The Kern County Superintendent of Schools, the Kern County Probation Department and the Kelly F. Blanton Student Education Center should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.

RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 212
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

January 4, 2017

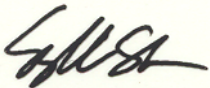
Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

We are pleased to respond to the Grand Jury's report regarding Blanton Academy, one of the campuses in our Alternative Education program. We appreciate the time and attention that the Grand Jury members gave to this outstanding program, and for the positive report regarding the Academy's program outcomes. We also appreciate our tremendous partnership with the Kern County Probation Department.

We agree with all of the findings in the report. Regarding the one recommendation in the report (F7), regarding the availability of information via the website, the recommendation will be implemented within the next year. While it would be too unwieldy to have independent web addresses for every alternative education site, we do agree that information could be organized differently to provide more effective communication about the Blanton Academy and our alternative education services. KCSOS will be refining our entire web site over the next year and will implement the recommendation in that process.

We welcome the Grand Jury's input at any time and would welcome another visit to any of our Alternative Education sites should that appeal to you. Please call me at (661) 636-4262 if I may answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Stephen L. Sanders
Chief of Staff

SLS/jah

Cc: Foreman, Kern County Grand Jury
Kern County Probation Department

Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department Protecting Seniors and Their Resources

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inquired into the management and operations of the Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department (KCAAS), specifically the Public Guardian Program, pursuant to California Penal Code §925.

PROCESS:

The Committee reviewed the KCAAS website and performed a site inspection on March 30, 2017. The Committee met with the Director and other staff, at their administrative office located at 5357 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93309.

BACKGROUND and FACTS:

The KCAAS Mission Statement is “to provide services that protect, preserve the dignity, and support the independence and safety of all older adults and disabled individuals in our community.” This is accomplished by providing various services which include Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed), Adult Protective Services (APS), Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICA), In-Home Supportive Services and Senior Nutrition (IHSS). KCAAS also offers the Public Guardian Program, which provides probate conservatorship services when there is no one willing or qualified to serve as conservator.

- A. The Public Guardian Program provides probate conservatorship services when a conservatorship or guardianship is required for aging adults. This authority is outlined and established in California Probate Code §2920.
- B. A Conservator is a person appointed by the Superior Court, to manage the financial affairs and/or daily life for another due to physical and/or mental limitations.
- C. The Lanterman-Petris-Short Act Conservatorship (LPS) was established for individuals determined by the court to be "gravely disabled" due to mental illness. The conservatorship is established to allow involuntary treatment that will either eliminate or reduce the grave disability to the point of accepting third-party assistance.
- D. Probate is the first step in the legal process of administering the estate of a person to resolve all claims and distribute the deceased person's property as required.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The Public Guardian becomes conservator through various source referrals and petitions to the Kern County Superior Court (Court), only after it is determined there is no other suitable conservator available.
- F2. According to the Director of KCAAS, they act as conservator for approximately 200 clients.
- F3. The Public Guardian Program is managed by one director, one supervisor and six case workers. Two case workers are responsible for conservatorship responsibilities, while the other four are assigned to the LPS Conservatorship program.
- F4. The Public Guardian takes responsibility for a conservatee's assets and presents a financial statement to the Court on a biennial basis unless otherwise directed by the Court.
- F5. The Public Guardian Program acts in the conservatee's best interest regarding medical needs when the conservatee is incapacitated. Medical treatment is provided based on medical staff and caretaker(s) recommendations, and sanctioned by the Court.
- F6. The Public Guardian will provide for the sale of tangible, intangible and real property assets, as ordered by the Court, to pay for the Conservator's expenses.
- F7. The Public Guardian is paid fees for conservatorship services, through a progressive fee structure, based on the estate value.
- F8. The estate is audited upon death of a conservatee and is then assumed by the Kern County Public Administrator, which is the responsibility of the Kern County Sheriff.
- F9. The power and responsibilities of the Kern County Public Administrator are defined in California Probate Code §7600.
- F10. It is the Kern County Public Administrator's duty to collect and manage assets, keep records, pay expenses and debts, ensure taxes are paid, and distribute estate assets according to a will or trust, if located, or acts under the laws of intestacy. The Public Administrator acts on behalf of the decedent, and has a fiduciary duty to protect the estate.
- F11. Probate proceeds are placed in an account at the Kern County Treasurer-Tax Collector. These funds are held for up to five years while attempting to locate beneficiaries and/or claimants.

F12. Once the Kern County Public Administrator has exhausted all likelihood in locating beneficiaries, the estate proceeds are transferred to the California State Controller Office. The proceeds are held in order to satisfy any potential future claims for an indeterminate amount of time.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Director and Staff of the Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department for their cooperation and professionalism. The Committee would also like to thank the Staff of Kern County Public Administrator's Office for their courtesy and information provided.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None

NOTES:

- The Kern County Sheriff and the Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
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RESPONSE REQUIRED IN 60 DAYS (Kern County Sheriff)

RESPONSE REQUIRED IN 90 DAYS (Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department)

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 200
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**



1350 Norris Road
Bakersfield, California 93308-2231

June 16, 2017

The Honorable Charles Brehmer, Presiding Judge
Kern County Grand Jury
1415 Truxtun Ave Suite 600
Bakersfield, CA 93301

On March 30, 2017, the Health, Education, and Social Services Committee of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury inquired into the management and operations of the Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department. During the inquiry the Grand Jury contacted the Kern County Sheriff's Office Public Administrator Section. Based on their findings, the Grand Jury published a report that was made public on June 1, 2017. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2016-2017 Grand Jury Final Report concerning the Kern County Sheriff's Office Public Administrator Section.

GRAND JURY FINDINGS:

The following findings pertained to the Kern County Sheriff's Office Public Administrator Section.

F8 – The estate is audited upon death of a conservatee and is then assumed by the Kern County Public Administrator, which is the responsibility of the Kern County Sheriff.

F9 – The power and responsibilities of the Kern County Public Administrator are defined in California Probate Code 7600.

F10 – It is the Kern County Public Administrator's duty to collect and manage assets, keep records, pay expenses and debts, ensure taxes are paid, and distribute estate assets according to a will or trust, if located, or acts under the laws of intestacy. The Public Administrator acts on behalf of the decedent, and has a fiduciary duty to protect the estate.

F11 – Probate proceeds are placed in an account at the Kern County Treasurer-Tax Collector. These funds are held for up to five years while attempting to locate beneficiaries and/or claimants.

F12 – Once the Kern County Public Administrator has exhausted all likelihood in locating beneficiaries, the estate proceeds are transferred to the California Controller Office. The proceeds are held in order to satisfy any potential future claims for an indeterminate amount of time.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with findings F9, F10, and F12.

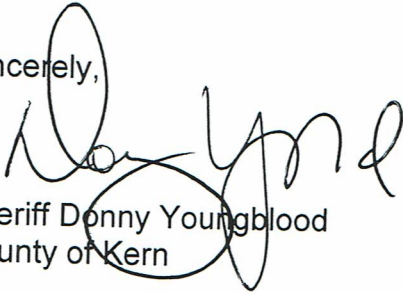
The Sheriff's Office agrees with findings F8 and F11 with some minor changes.

F8 should state the following - The estate is audited upon death of the conservatee. If there is no qualified administrator of the decedent's estate, then the Kern County Public Administrator will assume responsibility of the estate.

F11 should state the following - If the Kern County Public Administrator is unable to locate a beneficiary at the time of final distribution of the estate, then the Public Administrator will obtain a court order authorizing estate proceeds be placed in an account at the Kern County Treasurer-Tax Collector. These funds are held for up to five years.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office sincerely thanks the Grand Jury's Health, Education, and Social Services Committee for taking the time to inquire about the Kern County Sheriff's Office Public Administrator Section. I hope this information will assist the Grand Jury in its service to the citizens of Kern County.

Sincerely,



Sheriff Donny Youngblood
County of Kern

- cc: Undersheriff Brian Wheeler
Chief Deputy Shelly Castaneda
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman
Clerk of the Board
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman
Assistant CAO Teresa Hitchcock

Kern County Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Final Report
Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that all of the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct.

Response to Recommendation:

The Grand Jury provided no recommendations to any of their findings.

KERN COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

SUMMARY:

The Kern County Animal Services (KCAS), formerly known as Kern County Animal Control, was established in 2013. The main facility, located at 3951 Fruitvale Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93308, is one of several KCAS shelters located in Kern County. The KCAS Mission is *“to provide professional and compassionate animal services to the people and pets of Kern County, through the promotion of responsible pet ownership and community resources, the prevention of animal cruelty, and the creation of a safe and healthy environment for lost, stray or homeless animals.”*

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

Pursuant to California Penal Code §925, the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) has the authority to investigate and report on KCAS. Due to the continuing publicity that KCAS has garnered in the media, and after a review of the 2015-2016 Grand Jury Report, the Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) decided to investigate the current status of the previously stated recommendations.

PROCESS:

The Committee reviewed the KCAS October 2016 Report and visited their website. The Committee conducted an extensive site visit of the KCAS facility on Fruitvale Avenue, and met with the Director and Shelter Supervisor. A follow up visit included interviews with staff members and volunteers.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The KCAS facility, located on Fruitvale Avenue, opened September 19, 2013, after the City of Bakersfield notified the County of Kern that the City would not renew the contract for the shelter facility located on Mt. Vernon Avenue. The KCAS service area covers the unincorporated area of the County (7,772 square miles). This includes the communities of Frazier Park, Lamont, Mojave, Oildale, Rosamond, and many other areas throughout the County.

Through a contractual agreement, KCAS provides all or partial services and shelter services to the cities of Arvin and Tehachapi.

On July 19, 2016, the Kern County Board of Supervisors, established license and permit fees related to animal services. New fees took effect on August 19, 2016.

The Foster Coordinator, a KCAS staff member, is actively seeking donations for a trailer to utilize as a nursery to raise kittens up to adoption age.

In the event of a disaster, the displaced public may contact the Red Cross, law enforcement and fire departments to advise the agencies that they were unable to retrieve their animals. The emergency site command center will provide the address and type of animals in need to KCAS. Food and water can be taken to the animals by KCAS. They may also provide crates for small animals to be cared for until they can be reunited with their owners.

Findings:

- F1. *Kennel Outcome All Jurisdictions* from the October monthly report, January 1, 2016 through October 31, 2016:
 - A. Adoption:
 - Dogs: 2,762, up 29.8%
 - Cats: 1,565, up 45.4%
 - Other animals: 175, up 65.1%
 - B. Euthanized:
 - 1,456, down 2.1%
 - C. Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR): from 2013 through October 3, 2016
 - Cats: 4,973, up 7.6%
 - D. Surgical Suite:
 - Opened August 16, 2016, (2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury Report recommendation)
 - Cost: in-house surgery \$80.00 each
 - Average 6,700 surgeries per year
 - Surgeries: 100 per week at a savings of \$8,500 compared to offsite procedures
 - November 2016: monthly savings of \$34,000
 - October 2016: 122 animals entered the Foster Care Program
- F2. The In-house Veterinarian performs spay/neutering, amputations, orthopedic, and other surgeries. This allows the animals to be more adoptable.
- F3. Friends of the Animal Shelter, a volunteer organization, provides a Lacy Fund that assists in the funding of surgeries that require more extensive procedures.
- F4. Adoption promotions occur 11 months of the calendar year.
- F5. In October 2016, volunteers donated approximately 2,248 hours. This is equivalent to 13 paid staff positions, valued at \$52,980. The shelter has 160 volunteers, who act as animal handlers and administrative roles.

- F6. Due to property size restrictions for County residents, if the lot is under 0.25 acre, there is a maximum of 3 dogs allowed to reside on the premises. If the lot is over 0.25 acre, there is no limit on the number of dogs as long as proper care is provided.
- F7. Some staff members began working with KCAS as volunteers.
- F8. KCAS is expected to receive grant funds from the Kern County Fire Department for a self-contained trailer that holds 100 pop-up crates equipped with food and water containers.
- F9. The Board of Supervisors has given KCAS approval to explore fund raising possibilities for the shelter.

COMMENTS:

The KCAS facility was clean, bright, and welcoming upon arrival. The KCAS staff was professional, enthusiastic and engaged in their duties.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None

NOTES:

- The Kern County Board of Supervisors and Kern County Animal Services should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
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RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS

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BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

Kern County Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Final Report
Kern County Animal Services

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct with minor corrections to Findings F1 and clarification to F8.

F1: We concur with the statistics stated, except the percentage decline and total animals euthanized during January 1, 2016 through October 31, 2016. A total of 4,459 animals were euthanized, which is a 24.5% decline in the prior year's euthanasia.

F8: We clarify that the Kern County Fire department, Office of Emergency Services, included in a Federal emergency preparedness grant a self-contained 28 feet emergency animal sheltering trailer that eliminates the need for "pop-up crates". It is anticipated to be available by May 2017.

Response to Recommendation:

The Grand Jury provided no recommendations.

KERN COUNTY LIBRARY

“On a Path to Extinction”

SUMMARY:

An inspection of the Kern County Library (KCL) revealed a frightening truth: The continued ability of KCL to serve the residents of Kern County is in serious jeopardy. Management’s approach of “this is how we’ve always done it,” does not allow for a vision for the future of KCL; past practices have generally led to greater costs and manpower requirements, without commensurate increases in services or utilization. Growth in electronic circulation with decreasing costs has been witnessed in recent years. Thus, the most likely pathway to survival is by capitalizing on ePublications growth.

KCL consists of 24 branches and 2 bookmobiles. Twenty branches are open less than five days per week; none are open on Sunday.

The KCL Mission Statement, “Kern County Library provides access to resources that enrich lives” and Vision Statement, “We nurture creativity, education and imagination to inspire” lack direction. This may have contributed to KCL’s performance ranking in the bottom 10% of all libraries in California, a position that they have held for the last 9 years.

KCL is not following the national trend in the changing role of libraries. According to John Christopher Farley, a frequent writer for *The Wall Street Journal*, “...libraries’ inventive efforts may please patrons but librarians also need to become innovative so libraries do not become casualties of the Internet [A]ge.” He believes librarians should help patrons’ access to digital technology. He also contends that librarians should not completely eliminate books. Libraries around the country are facing a decrease in usage and need to change with the times. This includes changing mission statements to include new technology and better use of the libraries’ space.

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inquired into the operation and management of KCL, pursuant to California Penal Code §925.

PROCESS:

On February 20, 2017, the Committee inspected the KCL main branch and office at 701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93301.

The Committee met and interviewed:

- Interim Library Director
- Library Business Manager
- Kern County Library Staff

The Committee also reviewed past Grand Jury reports, the internet and the KCL website for information.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

On June 2, 1900, the Beale Memorial Library formally opened. This land, located at Chester Avenue and 17th Street, was deeded to the City of Bakersfield by Truxten and Mary E. Beale.

On July 11, 1911, the Kern County Free Library was established at six locations, by the Board of Supervisors.

On August 16, 1923, the Bakersfield City Council drew up a Notice of Intention to join the county library system. Since then, all public libraries in Kern County have belonged to the Kern County Library system.

On August 22, 1952, a major earthquake struck Kern County, resulting in the condemnation of the Kern County Courthouse, which housed the main library. For the subsequent five years, the library was relocated to several temporary locations.

In 1957, a new Beale Memorial Library building was erected on Truxtun Avenue and L Street. In 1988, a new main library building was opened as the Beale Memorial Library, on Truxtun Avenue and Q Street.

The Kern County Library provides a full range of services and resources for over 850,000 people in Kern County, from KCL Headquarters at the Beale Memorial Library.

- A. KCL reaches a large geographic area by maintaining 24 fixed locations.
- B. A grant provided funds to purchase two bookmobiles that are used in various areas in the County. Bookmobile I operates three days a week; Bookmobile III (KRV Bookmobile) two days a week.
- C. KCL library cards can only be obtained at a local branch, and can be used for KCL purchased books, eBooks and eAudiobooks. KCL is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS). KCL accepts library cards for physical books from other southern central valley libraries. Reciprocally, a KCL card can be used for physical books from other member libraries, but not for eBooks or eAudiobooks.

- D. In 2015, the City of Shafter donated \$10,000 to KCL, to maintain the hours at the Shafter branch.
- E. KCL operates two delivery vehicles with a staff person assigned to each truck. These trucks pick up and deliver books, materials, furniture, and equipment to every branch on a fixed delivery schedule.
- F. “Essential Functions” of the Business Manager’s job description include making recommendations of “...revisions of existing organization or procedures to reflect the addition of new functions, changes in emphasis in current functions or weaknesses in existing organization and procedures.”
- G. The Interim Library Director stated that the KCL has not developed any short-term, mid-term or long-term plans for the library’s future.
- H. The Beale Memorial branch has a well-equipped auditorium, and meeting rooms.
- I. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-2016 budget, total staff expenditures were \$5,579,002, of a total operating expense of \$7,590,871, representing 73.5% of total expenditures.
- J. Since FY 2012-2013, KCL has used the same template for their Budget Letter of Justification to the Kern County Board of Supervisors.
- K. The FY 2015-2016 budget for ePublications was \$110,652.
- L. The California State Library Statistics Portal (Portal) compiles statewide data supplied by each library; data is derived from circulation reports. In FY 2006-2007, KCL had a circulation per capita ratio of 2.13511. By FY 2015-2016, KCL’s circulation per capita ratio dropped to 1.08043. (See Appendix A)

FINDINGS:

- F1. There has been a 49% decrease in circulation per capita during the last decade. (See Appendix B)
- F2. Total KCL operating expenditures for FY 2012-2013 were \$7,358,414; FY 2015-2016 was \$7,590,817. This represents an increase of \$232,403 or 3.2% over the last three fiscal years.
- F3. In FY 2012-2013, KCL spent \$35,531 for all ePublications, and had a circulation of 27,587, equating to \$1.29 per check-out. In FY 2015-2016, KCL had a circulation of 101,122 ePublications, at a cost of \$110,652, equating to

\$1.09 per check-out. There was a 267% increase in electronic circulation, however, the cost per check-out **decreased** by 16% during this period.

- F4. The Portal compiles “circulation per capita” data for approximately 180 California public library systems. The graph in Appendix D shows KCL’s ranking over the past ten years. KCL has consistently ranked in the bottom 10% with the exception of FY 2006-2007, when KCL ranked in the bottom 12%. (See Appendix D)
- F5. KCL’s Mission Statement, “Kern County Library provides access to resources that enrich lives,” does not reflect a viable mission. KCL’s Vision Statement, “We nurture creativity, education and imagination to inspire,” does not reflect a viable vision. The Interim Library Director concurred that the Mission and Vision Statements do not give Management or Staff adequate direction, and do not outline future goals.
- F6. KCL operates two bookmobiles:
- Bookmobile I serves the rural area around greater Bakersfield
 - In the Kern River Valley, the KRV Bookmobile is open two days per week, totaling 6.5 hours
 - On Fridays, the KRV Bookmobile’s first stop is less than two miles and the second stop is less than eight miles from the KRV branch
 - The KRV Bookmobile is open within the same hours as the KRV branch on Fridays
- F7. KCL currently has several closed-off sections in the Beale Library that are either not used or under-used. The Auditorium at the Beale Library is not being fully utilized.
- F8. Most KCL branches have limited hours, with 45% of the branches closed on Saturdays; none are open on Sundays. All branches are underutilized.
- F9. KCL does not have a comprehensive marketing plan.
- F10. One employee is tasked with updating the website, as well as 24 social media outlets, one for each branch. The media marketing information is not kept current.
- F11. KCL’s participation in the SJVLS allows for inter-library check-out privileges of physical books for any card holder of any member library system. The same reciprocity is not extended to ePublications.
- F12. In FY 2015-2016 KCL had total operating expenditures of \$7,590,871, and had a total circulation of 957,813. This equates to a cost of \$7.93 per

circulation county-wide. A survey of all library locations was conducted. The Holloway-Gonzales Branch Library had an operating expenditure of \$109,163, and a total circulation of 3,195. This equates to a cost of \$34.17 per circulation, or 4.31 times the average cost county-wide.

- F13. The Holloway-Gonzales Branch is located 2.2 miles from the Beale Library. It is only open 2 days per week from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., thus eliminating an additional value beyond library services.
- F14. In FY 2015-2016, the KCL budget was \$7,590,871, of that \$5,579,002 (73.4%), is staff salaries and benefits. This does not include the \$1,899,226 of Kern County General Services funds used to cover the cost of maintaining county-owned KCL branches.
- F15. The actual cost of KCL operating expenditures increases by 22% when the Kern County General Services maintenance expenditures for all library buildings are included.
- F16. The KCL delivery vehicle operational costs were \$195,438 in FY 2015-2016, which includes \$148,029 in payroll expenses.
- F17. All KCL's Budget Letters of Justification, since 2012-2013, indicate in the first two sentences that 100% of the requested budget is **only** for eBooks and the self-check stations at Beale Memorial Library. This does not accurately reflect the total KCL budget. (See Appendix D)

COMMENTS:

The Grand Jury would like to thank the Interim Director and Staff of the Kern County Library, General Services Staff, County Administrative Office, and Kern County Supervisor - District One, for their assistance.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. The Kern County Board of Supervisors should seriously consider options for the library's management, such as modifying and updating the job description of the Director of Libraries, and the minimum qualifications required to manage a modern library system. (Findings 1, 2, 4, and 10)
- R2. KCL should develop a comprehensive marketing plan for all branches. (Findings 1, 9, and 10)

- R3. The KCL should explore additional ways to utilize libraries. Some options to promote library visits and circulation may include:
- Professional certification testing centers
 - Résumé writing training centers
 - General Educational Degree (GED) testing and preparation courses
- (Finding 9)
- R4. KCL management should develop performance goals for each branch and Bookmobile to focus on underperforming locations. Management should take appropriate steps to improve “Circulation per Capita,” with an emphasis on electronic circulation. This may result in the elimination of locations not meeting performance goals. (Findings 1, 2, and 4)
- R5. KCL Management should direct more resources to meet future demands for increased electronic circulation. (Finding 4)
- R6. KCL should create a new Mission Statement to better inform the public about library services. (Finding 5)
- R7. KCL should create a Vision Statement for Management and Staff to provide guidance and direction for the future. (Finding 5)
- R8. Friday bookmobile service in the KRV should be eliminated, rescheduled, or moved to a different location. (Finding 6)
- R9. KCL should consider closing the Holloway-Gonzales branch, because it is not cost effective. It may be argued that this branch could serve as a facility for learning, and provide a “community center” atmosphere for an economically depressed area. (Findings 12 and 13)

NOTES:

- The Kern County Board of Supervisors, and the Kern County Library should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.

RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS:

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 212
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

REFERENCES:

Hofschire, Linda, MLIS, PhD. "Definition of Terms." Library Research Service. Library Research Service, 2016. Web. 02 Mar. 2017.

Coles, Janet. "California State Library Statistics Portal." California State Library Statistics Portal. State Data Coordinator, California State Library, Library Development Services, 2017. Web. 06 Mar. 2017.

Polatis, Kandra. "How libraries are adapting to stay relevant." DeseretNews.com. Deseret News, 11 March 2014. Web. 24 Apr. 2017. <<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865598447/Libraries-change-in-order-to-stay-relevant.html>>.

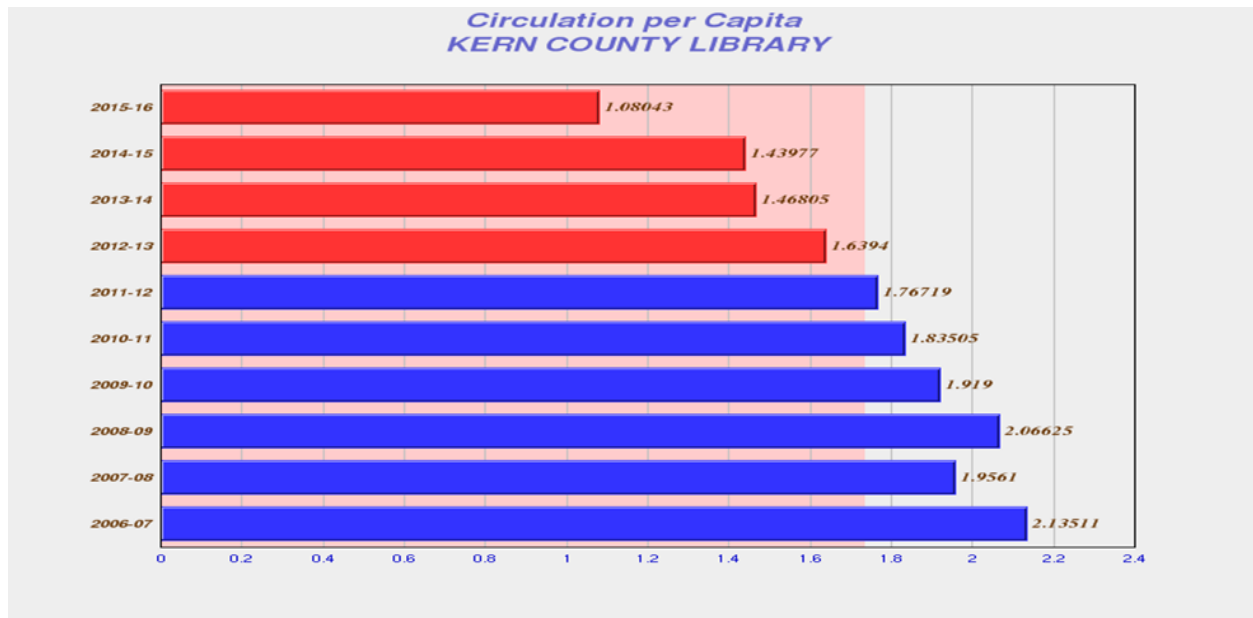
APPENDICES:

Appendix A: Circulation Definitions

- Circulation per Capita is to the number of library materials lent or electronically accessed by the library patrons.
- The Circulation per Capita is calculated as follows: Annual Circulation ÷ Legal Service Area Population = Circulation per Capita.
- Library Circulation or library lending, includes the activities of the lending of books, CDs, DVDs plus electronic access to data bases and eBooks.
- The legal Service Area of a library is the population within the boundaries of the area the library was established to serve.
- Legal Service Area Population is defined as the number of people that reside within the legal service area of the library.

Source: Library Research Service

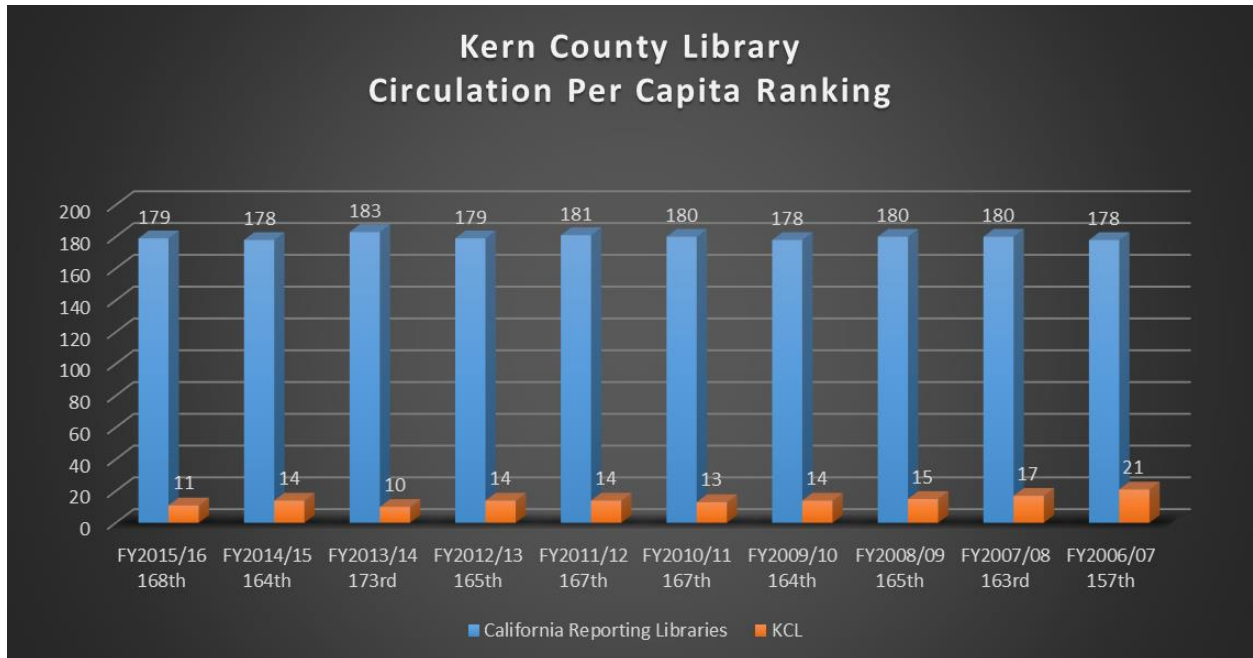
Appendix B: Circulation per Capita for Kern County Library



- Pink shaded area indicates average circulation per capita between 2006-2007 and 2015-2016
- Red bars represent years with below average performance
- Blue bars represent years with above average performance

Source: California State Library Statistics Portal

Appendix C: Circulation per Capita Ranking



Data compiled by 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury from the California State Library Statistics Portal

Appendix D:

April 13, 2012

Mr. John Nilon
County Administrative Officer
County of Kern
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Fiscal Year (FY) 2012/13 Kern County Library Budget Unit 6210 Letter of Justification

Dear Mr. Nilon:

Kern County Library is submitting its 2012/13 budget request for \$7,101,748 which requires a net county cost baseline budget of \$6,545,991. The amount requested only includes revenue from Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211 to cover the OverDrive contract for E-books and funds for self-check stations for Beale Memorial Library. This does not include additional revenues in Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211, most of which are from donors and from the Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. and the Kern County Library Foundation, that are used for purchases of library materials and service enhancements throughout the year. Major public service impacts along with information about the annual State appropriation from the Public Library Fund and significant changes from last fiscal year are delineated as follows.

Major Public Service Impacts:

Staffing – Kern County Library operates 28 stationary and mobile facilities. This includes a main library, 24 branches and two bookmobiles and a backup vehicle. Funded staff levels to provide 26,920 hours of opening, supporting services and administration is currently at a low of 87.5 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. For the next fiscal year, Kern County Library's proposed FY2012/13 budget holds open and unfunded one (1) vacant Library Associate position and one (1) vacant Fiscal Support Technician position and deletes four vacant positions to include one (1) Librarian II, two (2) Librarian I and one (1) Office Services Assistant pt to comply with budget guidelines. Absorption of these staff deletions will be partially offset by reallocating staff resources. The Library continues to use volunteer help, when available, and has been working with the Department of Human Services to provide job training and work experience opportunities at library locations.

Book Budget - The FY2012/13 Library's requested budget includes \$133,000 for book/materials acquisitions, which retains your Board's additional allocation of \$100,000 made during last year's Budget Hearings. Although donated funds will be available for additional purchases of materials during the year, the library will continue to have difficulty keeping collections current countywide. This budget includes donations specifically for eBooks, which will help mitigate the low book budget, but will not completely solve the problem as the book publishing industry has placed a number of obstacles for libraries' access to the complete inventory of available eBooks.

Sherry K. Gomez, Interim Director of Libraries

701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301 • (661) 868-0700 • FAX (661) 868-0799

Public Library Fund (PLF) – California’s proposed State budget has eliminated funding for the California State Library. Although state library associations continue to lobby for restored funding, there is currently no expectation of receipt of Public Library Funds in FY2012/13. The elimination of these funds, estimated at about \$66,000, reduces a revenue source that, in the past, has helped purchase print and non print materials and funded additional hours of opening.

San Joaquin Valley Library System Fee Increases – The elimination of funding from the California State Library to the San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS), to which Kern is a member, has resulted in an increase in SJVLS general fees of \$120,455. Kern has requested, and received, one year payment exemption from SJVLS of \$75,000 that would have gone toward required upgrades of computer and other technology for Kern County libraries. This exemption is not without consequences, since aging computers and supporting equipment that is not replaced in a timely manner increases the risk of equipment failure, and may have serious ramifications to the Library’s automated circulation and operations system.

Unmet Needs – Performance Measure 7, Total Items Held, is impacted by the amount of funding appropriated for the purchase of books, databases, periodicals, and audiovisual materials. Overall, the impact of a reduction in funding reduces the Library’s ability to meet many of the Goals and Performance Measures set for the library.

Significant Changes from FY2012/13:

Overall Salaries & Employee Benefits have been reduced by \$306,013 or 5.06% while absorbing increases in retirement and health benefits.

Key 7500, Professional & Special Services expense is increased by \$71,455 or 18.48%. The administrative fee to the San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS) was increased by \$120,455 due to loss of Public Library Fund by the State. This increase was offset by eliminating the one year payment of \$75,000 for replacement of outdated computers, printers and other technology purchases.

Key 7732, SDE/Databases is decreased by \$53,246 or 43.82% due partly to a reduction of SJVLS database costs (\$17,698) and a reduction in the cost for self-check stations for Beale Memorial Library because a portion of the project has been removed to investigate alternative methods to reduce costs.

Key 3980 State-Aid for County Libraries has been reduced to zero as the State did not budget any funds for Public Library Funds (PLF).

Key 4097 Federal Aid USDA is reduced from \$239,815 to zero as the USDA bookmobile grants the Library received in prior years have been all been received and completed.

Summary:

The library is submitting a status quo budget as the result of the deletion and the holding open of positions, reduction in the extra help budget, postponing of payment to the San Joaquin Valley Library System for purchase of computers and supporting equipment and strict management practices to contain costs. Early in FY2012/13, a thorough analysis of current resource levels is planned with the intent to explore and recommend to the Board of Supervisors changes in hours of opening at various locations in order to reallocate available resources and maximize benefits to residents. Should additional funds

become available, consideration for purchase of print and non-print materials and technology that allows the public to check out their materials, allowing staff time to be deployed for other public service functions, are priorities. Augmentations in these areas will enhance the Library's ability to provide for a literate and informed citizenry.

The Library sincerely appreciates the support and guidance of your office during this process and the support of the Kern County Board of Supervisors and public as we strive for service excellence and optimal customer service during these challenging fiscal times.

Sincerely,



Sherry K. Gomez, Interim Director of Libraries

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors – Letter Only
Eric Nisbett, Deputy County Administrative Officer

Attachments: Library Organization Chart
Summary of Leased/Owned County Vehicles
Summary of Requested Fixed Assets
Budget Summary
Summary of Step-down Plan
Performance Measures
Special Funds
Public Library Fund (PLF) Calculation

KERN COUNTY LIBRARY
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K E R N C O U N T Y L I B R A R Y



April 15, 2013

Mr. John Nilon
County Administrative Officer
County of Kern
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Fiscal Year (FY) 2013/14 Kern County Library Budget Unit 6210 Letter of Justification

Dear Mr. Nilon:

Kern County Library is submitting its FY2013/14 budget request for \$7,554,961 which requires a net county cost baseline budget of \$6,975,021. The amount requested only includes revenue from Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211 to cover the OverDrive contract for E-books. This does not include additional revenues in Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211, most of which are from donors and from the Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. and the Kern County Library Foundation, that are used for purchases of library materials and service enhancements throughout the year. Major public service impacts along with information about the annual State appropriation from the Public Library Fund and significant changes from last fiscal year are delineated as follows.

Major Public Service Impacts:

Staffing – Kern County Library operates 28 stationary and mobile facilities. This includes a main library, 24 branches and two bookmobiles and a backup vehicle. Funded staff levels to provide 26,988 hours of opening, supporting services and administration is currently at a low of 87.5 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. For the next fiscal year, Kern County Library's proposed FY2013/14 budget holds open and unfunded one (1) vacant Fiscal Support Technician position. The department is adding two (2) Librarian III positions to supervise the western and eastern library branches, provide programming, outreach, collection development and handle personnel matters. This addition is offset by the deletion of one (1) Deputy Director of Libraries and one (1) Librarian II position. Absorption of these staff deletions will be partially offset by reallocating staff resources. The Library continues to use volunteer help, when available, and has been working with the Department of Human Services to provide job training and work experience opportunities at library locations.

Book Budget - The FY2013/14 Library's requested budget includes \$233,000 for book/materials acquisitions, which retains your Board's additional allocation of \$100,000 made during last year's Budget Hearings. Although donated funds will be available for additional purchases of materials during the year, the library will continue to have difficulty keeping collections current countywide. This budget includes donations specifically for eBooks, which will help mitigate the low book budget, but will not

Sherry K. Gomez, Director of Libraries

701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301 • (661) 868-0700 • FAX (661) 868-0799

completely solve the problem as the book publishing industry has placed a number of obstacles to libraries' access to the complete inventory of available eBooks.

Public Library Fund (PLF) – California's proposed State budget has eliminated PLF funding for the California State Library. Although state library associations continue to lobby for restored funding, there is currently no expectation of receipt of Public Library Funds in FY2013/14.

San Joaquin Valley Library System Fee Increases – The elimination of Transaction Based Reimbursement (TBR) funding from the California State Library to the San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS), to which Kern is a member, has resulted in an increase in SJVLS general fees of \$23,589.

Unmet Needs – Performance Measure 7, Total Items Held, is impacted by the amount of funding appropriated for the purchase of books, databases, periodicals, and audiovisual materials. Overall, the impact of a reduction in funding reduces the Library's ability to meet many of the Goals and Performance Measures set for the library.

Significant Changes from FY2012/13:

Key 6200, Salaries & wages – extra help is increased by \$67,618 or 42.96% to reflect estimated expenditures.

Key 6570, Unemployment compensation insurance is reduced by \$13,982 or 82.93%.

Key 6600, Workers compensation insurance is reduced by \$33,976 or 35.79% to reflect the Library's commitment to reduce accidents and reduce costs.

Key 6902, I/f insurance, increased by \$31,868 or 434.17%.

Key 7732, SDE/Databases is decreased by \$48,219 or 28.65% due partly to completion of self-check machines from FY 12-13 (\$100,000). This reduction is offset by including \$75,000 to replace aging computers and printers.

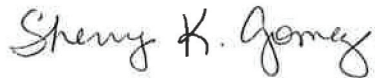
Summary:

The library is submitting a status quo budget as the result of holding open a position and strict management practices to contain costs. By holding open the Deputy Director position, savings realized will be used for anticipated retirement costs. With the implementation of self-check service at facilities in FY2013/14, a thorough analysis of resource levels is planned with the intent to explore and recommend to the Board of Supervisors changes in hours of opening at various locations in order to reallocate available resources and maximize benefits to residents. Should additional funds become available, the purchase of print and non-print materials should be considered. Augmentations in these areas will enhance the Library's ability to provide for a literate and informed citizenry.

Kern County Administrative Officer
Kern County Library Proposed FY 2013/14 Budget
April 15, 2013
Page 3 of 3

The Library sincerely appreciates the support and guidance of your office during this process and the support of the Kern County Board of Supervisors and the public as we strive to provide optimal customer service.

Sincerely,



Sherry K. Gomez
Director of Libraries

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors – Letter Only
Thomas Brown, Deputy County Administrative Officer

Attachments: Library Organization Charts
Summary of Leased/Owned County Vehicles
Summary of Requested Fixed Assets
Budget Summary
Summary of Step-down Plan
Performance Measures
Special Funds



April 14, 2014

Mr. John Nilon
County Administrative Officer
County of Kern
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Fiscal Year (FY) 2014/15 Kern County Library Budget Unit 6210 Letter of Justification

Dear Mr. Nilon:

Kern County Library is submitting its FY2014/15 budget request for \$7,471,141 which requires a net county cost baseline budget of \$6,950,141. The amount requested only includes revenue from Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211 to cover the OverDrive contract for E-books. This does not include additional revenues in Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211, most of which are from donors and from the Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. and the Kern County Library Foundation, that are used for purchases of library materials and service enhancements throughout the year. Major public service impacts along with information about the annual State appropriation from the Public Library Fund and significant changes from last fiscal year are delineated as follows.

Major Public Service Impacts:

Hours – Increased funding by the Board of Supervisors in FY13/14 added an additional day of opening in each library facility. With the 5% reduction in the Net General Fund that additional day cannot be sustained in all locations going forward. However, by careful reallocation of resources we are able to maintain the additional day of opening in all locations for the first two months of FY2014/15. This will allow branches to complete the Summer Reading program for children and teens to promote reading skills during the summer when school is not in session. The reduction in hours of opening from FY13/14 to FY14/15 is 8,815, or 23.3%.

Staffing – Kern County Library operates 28 stationary and mobile facilities. This includes a main library, 24 branches and two bookmobiles and a backup vehicle. Funded staff levels to provide 29,041 hours of opening, supporting services and administration is currently at a low of 90.2 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. For the next fiscal year, Kern County Library's proposed FY2014/15 budget holds one (1) Librarian 3 position and one (1) Fiscal Support Technician position open and unfunded. By holding the Librarian 3 position open, the direct connections to libraries in the north, south and eastern areas of the County to provide programming, outreach, collection develop and handle some personnel matters in a timely manner will be affected. The Library continues to use volunteer help, when available, and has been working with the Department of Human Services to provide job training and work experience opportunities at library locations.

Sherry K. Gomez, Director of Libraries

701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301 • (661) 868-0700 • FAX (661) 868-0799

Book Budget - The FY2014/15 Library's requested budget includes \$258,000 for book/materials acquisitions. Although donated funds will be available for additional purchases of materials during the year, the library will continue to have difficulty keeping collections current countywide. This budget includes donations specifically for eBooks, which will help mitigate the low book budget, but will not completely solve the problem as the book publishing industry has placed a number of obstacles to libraries' access to the complete inventory of available eBooks.

Public Library Fund (PLF) – California's proposed State budget has eliminated PLF funding for the California State Library. Although state library associations continue to lobby for restored funding, there is currently no expectation of receipt of Public Library Funds in FY2014/15.

Unmet Needs – Goal 1, Objective 2: "Expand recreational, cultural and educational resources available to the public;" Measurement "Total operating hours of library facilities" will decrease because the baseline budget cannot support an extra day of opening in all 27 locations for the entirety of FY14/15. To do so would require the addition of \$250,000 to the budget. Objective 2: Measurement "Total number of materials available to the public" is also impacted by the funding appropriated for the purchase of new books, periodicals and audiovisual materials and the replacement of materials out-of-date, damaged, lost or stolen.

Significant Changes from FY2013/14:

Key 6200, Salaries & wages – extra help is decreased by \$249,693 or 35.48% to reflect estimated expenditures.

Key 6600, Workers compensation insurance is increased by \$56,724 or 93.08% to reflect the Library's increased cost due to claims filed.

Key 5150, Library book fines and damages decreased by \$50,000, or 12.5%, to reflect the Library's estimated revenue. This decrease is due to an increase of patrons using e-books which are not assessed late fees as the book is automatically deleted from the patrons' device once the checkout time is completed.

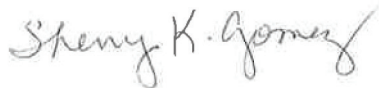
Summary:

The library is submitting a budget that meets the CAO's net County cost recommended budget guidelines. As we progress with the implementation of self-check service at our facilities, we continue to analyze staff resource levels and hours of opening at various locations in order to maximize the benefits to residents. Should additional funds become available, the purchase of print and non-print materials should be considered. Augmentations in these areas will enhance the Library's ability to provide for a literate and informed citizenry.

Kern County Administrative Officer
Kern County Library Proposed FY 2014/15 Budget
April 14, 2014
Page 3 of 3

The Library sincerely appreciates the support and guidance of your office during this process and the support of the Kern County Board of Supervisors and the public as we strive to provide optimal customer service.

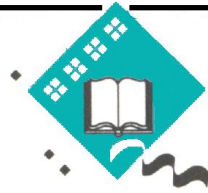
Sincerely,



Sherry K. Gomez
Director of Libraries

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors
Alex Alva, Deputy County Administrative Officer – Electronic Copies
Brent Currie, Deputy County Administrative Officer – Electronic Copies

K E R N C O U N T Y L I B R A R Y



April 10, 2015

Mr. John Nilon
County Administrative Officer
County of Kern
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Fiscal Year (FY) 2015/16 Kern County Library Budget Unit 6210 Letter of Justification

Dear Mr. Nilon:

Kern County Library is submitting its FY2015/16 budget request for \$7,442,993 which requires a net county cost baseline budget of \$6,982,493. The amount requested only includes revenue from Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211 to cover the OverDrive contract for E-books. This does not include additional revenues in Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211, most of which are from donors and from the Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. and the Kern County Library Foundation, that are used for purchases of library materials and service enhancements throughout the year. Major public service impacts along with information about the annual State appropriation from the Public Library Fund and significant changes from last fiscal year are delineated as follows.

Major Public Service Impacts:

Hours – Increased funding by the Board of Supervisors in FY14/15 added an additional day of opening in each library facility. With the \$167,647 reduction in the Net General Fund that additional day cannot be sustained in all locations going forward. However, by careful reallocation of resources we are able to maintain the additional day of opening in all locations for the first month of FY2015/16. This will allow branches to complete the Summer Reading program for children and teens to promote reading skills during the summer when school is not in session. The reduction in hours of opening from FY14/15 to FY15/16 is 6,960, or 18.5%.

Staffing – Kern County Library operates 28 stationary and mobile facilities. This includes a main library, 24 branches and two bookmobiles and a backup vehicle. Funded staff levels to provide 30,584 hours of opening, supporting services and administration is currently at a low of 85.2 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. For the next fiscal year, Kern County Library's proposed FY2015/16 budget holds two (2) Librarian 3 positions, two (2) Librarian 2 positions and one (1) Fiscal Support Technician position open and unfunded. Holding the Librarian 3 positions open affects the ability of the library to provide programming, outreach, collection development and the handling of personnel matters in the rural areas in a timely fashion. The Library continues to use volunteer help, when available, and has been working with

the Department of Human Services to provide job training and work experience opportunities at library locations.

Book Budget - The FY2015/16 Library's requested budget includes \$258,000 for book/materials acquisitions. Although donated funds will be available for additional purchases of materials during the year, the library will continue to have difficulty keeping collections current countywide. This budget includes donations specifically for eBooks, which will help mitigate the low book budget, but will not completely solve the problem as the book publishing industry has placed a number of obstacles to libraries' access to the complete inventory of available eBooks.

Public Library Fund (PLF) – California's proposed State budget does not contain PLF funding for the California State Library. Although state library associations continue to lobby for restored funding, there is currently no expectation of receipt of Public Library Funds in FY2015/16.

Unmet Needs – Goal 1, Objective 2: "Expand recreational, cultural and educational resources available to the public;" Measurement "Total operating hours of library facilities" will decrease because the baseline budget cannot support an extra day of opening in all 27 locations for the entirety of FY15/16. To do so would require the addition of \$120,000 to the budget. Objective 2: Measurement "Total number of materials available to the public" is impacted by inadequate funding appropriated for the purchase of new books, periodicals and audiovisual materials and the replacement of materials out-of-date, damaged, lost or stolen. To begin to improve the situation would require a minimum of an additional \$250,000 - \$500,000.

Significant Changes from FY2014/15:

Key 6200, Salaries & wages – extra help is decreased by \$329,952 or 48.67% to reflect estimated expenditures.

Key 6570, Unemployment insurance is increased by \$53,165 or 326.21% to reflect the Library's increased cost due to claims filed.

Summary:

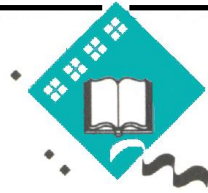
The library is submitting a budget that meets the CAO's net County cost recommended budget guidelines. We continue to analyze staff resource levels and hours of opening at various locations in order to maximize the benefits to residents. Should additional funds become available, the purchase of print and non-print materials should be considered. Augmentations in these areas will enhance the Library's ability to provide for a literate and informed citizenry.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kerr
Director of Libraries

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors
Alex Alva, Deputy County Administrative Officer – Electronic Copies

K E R N C O U N T Y L I B R A R Y



April 11, 2016

Mr. John Nilon
County Administrative Officer
County of Kern
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301

Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/17 Kern County Library Budget Unit 6210 Letter of Justification

Dear Mr. Nilon:

Kern County Library is submitting its FY2016/17 budget request for \$7,820,759 which requires a net county cost baseline budget of \$7,198,401. The amount requested only includes revenue from Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211 to cover the OverDrive contract for E-books. This does not include additional revenues in Special Revenue Budget Unit 6211, most of which are from donors and from the Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. and the Kern County Library Foundation, that are used for purchases of library materials and service enhancements throughout the year. Major public service impacts along with information about the annual State appropriation from the Public Library Fund and significant changes from last fiscal year are delineated as follows.

Major Public Service Impacts:

Hours –By careful reallocation of resources we are able to maintain current hours in all locations for the FY 2016/2017. We will have to revisit this plan if further cuts are made to departmental budgets.

Staffing – Kern County Library operates 27 stationary and mobile facilities. This includes a main library, 23 branches, two bookmobiles and a backup vehicle. Funded staff levels to provide 32,931 hours of opening, supporting services and administration is currently at a low of 85.2 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. For the next fiscal year, Kern County Library’s proposed FY2016/17 budget holds one (1) Assistant Director, four (4) Librarian II positions and one (1) part-time Fiscal Support Assistant open and unfunded. It also includes a reduction of \$90,258 in funding available to hire extra-help staff, which may seriously affect the branch’s abilities to function when staff are ill, on vacation, or have left the Library. The Library continues to use volunteer help, when available, and has been working with the Department of Human Services to provide job training and work experience opportunities at library locations.

Book Budget - The FY2016/17 Library’s requested budget includes \$389,205 for book/materials acquisitions. Although donated funds will be available for additional purchases of materials during the year, the library will continue to have difficulty keeping collections current countywide. This budget includes donations specifically for eBooks, which will help mitigate the low book budget, but will not

completely solve the problem as the book publishing industry has placed a number of obstacles to libraries' access to the complete inventory of available eBooks.

Public Library Fund (PLF) – California's proposed State budget does not contain PLF funding for the California State Library. Although state library associations continue to lobby for restored funding, there is currently no expectation of receipt of Public Library Funds in FY2016/17.

Significant Changes from FY 2015/2016:

Key 6200, Salaries & wages – extra help is decreased by \$90,258

Key 7500, Professional & Special Services is increased by \$75,867 or 14.99% to reflect the Library's increased San Joaquin Valley Library System costs and providing Wifi to all library branches.

Summary:

The library is submitting a budget that meets the CAO's net County cost recommended budget guidelines. We continue to analyze staff resource levels and hours of opening at various locations in order to maximize the benefits to residents. Should additional funds become available, the purchase of print and non-print materials should be considered. Augmentations in these areas will enhance the Library's ability to provide for a literate and informed citizenry. Additional electronic resources such as computers, electronic sorters, or laptop dispensers would add efficiency and convenience.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kerr
Director of Libraries

cc: Kern County Board of Supervisors
Alex Alva, Deputy County Administrative Officer – Electronic Copies

Kern County Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Final Report
Kern County Library

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct with minor corrections and/or clarification to Finding F1, F2, F7, F9, F10, F11, F13 and F17.

F1: *There has been a 49% decrease in circulation per capita during the last decade.*

The decrease in circulation per capita is reasonable considering factors that affected the Kern County Libraries (KCL) over the last several years. During this time frame KCL saw a 33% reduction in the circulation of printed materials, which is fairly consistent with the national declining trend due to the changing nature of public libraries. KCL has enthusiastically evolved by shifting their focus on implementing more programming and other community events to meet the demand of our diverse communities. The increased participation attendance at community events and programs has more than offset the drop in circulation. Additionally, nearly a 20% reduction of hours opened has also led to the reductions of printed materials circulation.

F2: *Total KCL operating expenditures for FY 2012-2013 were \$7,358,414; FY 2015-2016 was \$7,590,817. This represents an increase of \$232,403 or 3.2% over the last three fiscal years.*

The increase in operating expenditures for KCL was a one-time additional funding from the Board of Supervisors to maintain an extra open day at every library and to install self-checkout units. This helped to offset the increase in uncontrollable operating costs that included County pension contributions, San Joaquin Valley Library System membership, insurance and telecommunications.

F7: *KCL currently has several closed-off sections in the Beale Library that are either not used or under-used. The Auditorium at the Beale Library is not being fully utilized.*

See response to Recommendation R3 for a detailed explanation.

F9: *KCL does not have a comprehensive marketing plan.*

See response to Recommendation R2 for a detailed explanation.

F10: *One employee is tasked with updating the website, as well as 24 social media outlets, one for each branch. The media marketing information is not kept current.*

See response to Recommendation R2 for a detailed explanation.

F11: *KCL's participation in the SJVLS allows for inter-library check-out privileges of physical books for any card holder of any member library system. The same reciprocity is not extended to ePublications.*

Inter-library check-out privileges of ePublications is not allowed by SJVLS due to licensing restrictions. See response to Recommendation R5 for additional information on meeting increased demands of electronic circulation.

F13: *The Holloway-Gonzales Branch is located 2.2 miles from the Beale Library. It is only open 2 days per week from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M, thus eliminating an additional value beyond library services.*

See response to Recommendation R9 for a detailed explanation.

F17: *All KCL's Budget Letters of Justification, since 2012-2013, indicate in the first two sentences that 100% of the requested budget is only for eBooks and the self-check stations at Beale Memorial Library. This does not accurately reflect the total KCL budget.*

The budget letter of justification referenced is for the Library's 6211 Donation Account, not the Library's 6210 Operating Account. Funds are pulled from the Donation Account directly into the Operating Account to expend. This routine budget transfer usually occurs annually during County budget hearings.

Response to Recommendation:

R1: *The Kern County Board of Supervisors should seriously consider options for the library's management, such as modifying and updating the job description of the Director of Libraries, and the minimum qualifications required to manage a modern library system.*

The Director of Libraries job description was updated December 2013 and is in accordance with California State Laws and Codes & Regulations governing County library systems which prescribes the minimum qualifications. In addition to the State requirements, the County requires six (6) years of responsible experience of which three (3) years must be in a supervisory or administrative capacity and characterizes the position as "providing progressive vision, leadership, planning and policy recommendations..." which are attributes consistent with the Grand Jury's recommendations for KCL to re-focus its vision for KCL.

R2: *KCL should develop a comprehensive marketing plan for all branches.*

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendations to develop a comprehensive marketing plan. KCL currently operates under a two prong marketing approach that includes library headquarters marketing division and individual branch staff. This approach is relatively new and still evolving to a greater comprehensive marketing plan for all branches.

KCL's current marketing strategy encompasses goals, objectives, timelines, audience, and strategies with budget considerations. KCL has used publicity and promotional campaigns by flyers, billboards, bus wraps, media releases, radio, television, website, social media, and local community outreach at neighborhood events, schools, businesses, and meetings. KCL stays up-to-date with social media trends for the purpose of seeking new avenues to highlight the Library's resources and services to the community. The past two years, KCL has requested marketing funds from the Library Foundation to featuring core and newly added services. KCL staff has applied for grant funds for marketing promotions of grant funded new technology and programs.

R3: *The KCL should explore additional ways to utilize libraries. Some options to promote library visits and circulation may include:*

- *Professional certification testing centers*
- *Resume writing training centers*
- *General Educational Degree (GED) testing and preparation courses*

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to continue exploring additional ways to utilize libraries. KCL has successfully partnered with local community experts to dramatically increase the quantity and diversity of programs, whereas last year alone over 500 programs were offered.

KCL collaborated with Employer's Training Resources for a Test Prep Lab project. Once the final state accreditation is received, the Beale Library will be able to offer the community GED prep classes and testing services that would generate additional funding. KCL also partnered with the Kern Youth Partnership for a Youth Re-engagement Center project at the Beale Memorial Library. The program is designed to bring disconnected youth into a relaxed informal space for them to develop educational and career paths, using workshops that focus on learning activities such as resume, interview, trades, and experience rare technologies.

R4: KCL management should develop performance goals for each branch and bookmobile to focus on underperforming locations. Management should take appropriate steps to improve "circulation per capita," with an emphasis on electronic circulation. This may result in the elimination of locations not meeting performance goals.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation of developing performance goals but do not concur that unimproved circulation should result in eliminating locations. Circulation is only one metric and is a nationally declining trend. Other metrics used to understand how a library fits into their local community is by the resident's use of programs, computers, meeting rooms, materials, staff interactions, social media, and funding for specific branches. As library services shift, KCL will continue to respond and evolve.

R5: KCL Management should direct more resources to meet future demands for increased electronic circulation.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to direct more resources to meet future demands. Thousands of dollars over the years have been brought in to purchase more electronic publication and technology devices through grants, hand-me downs, donations and other avenues. When allowed by the funder, KCL has dedicated a portion of funds to purchase eMaterials and other electronic technologies. A public library's option to purchase digital content is also limited to the general availability of digital formats and the cost per digital format which is typically 200-500% higher than a print version. Consideration is also given to how other public libraries are being used today, recent trends report sales of print format increased, while eBook decreased.

R6: KCL Management should create a new Mission Statement to better inform the public about library services.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to create a new Mission Statement.

R7: KCL should create a Vision Statement for management and staff to provide guidance and direction for the future.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to create a new Vision Statement.

R8: Friday bookmobile service in the Kern River Valley should be eliminated, rescheduled, or moved to a different location.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to reevaluate the Kern River Valley Bookmobile service area schedule.

R9: KCL should consider closing the Holloway-Gonzales branch, because it is not cost effective. It may be argued that this branch could serve as a facility for learning, and provide a "community center" atmosphere for an economically depressed area.

We do not concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation to close the Holloway-Gonzales Branch. In the past two years alone, the Branch has seen a steady 54% rise in circulation, a dramatic 185% and 194% increase in the amount of programs offered and the community's attendance, respectively. The Branch is primarily used by neighborhood families that mostly walk, bike, or use public transportation so not having library access, even at two days a week, would critically reduce access to information, technology, educational, and learning opportunities to an already underserved community. These are perfect elements to transition toward a "community center" atmosphere and some preliminary discussions with the Bakersfield City School District to expand hours and programs are being discussed.

COMPL_GJ Library B

KERN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PREFACE:

The Kern County Health Department was established in 1931, separating it from Kern General Hospital. The Department was located on the campus of the County Hospital. In 1952, its unique services and functions were recognized as distinct from general medical and surgical services. The Department was reorganized and relocated to a facility at 1700 Flower Street, Bakersfield, California. In 1999, the Kern County Board of Supervisors (Board of Supervisors) approved plans to build a new Public Health Facility located at 1800 Mount Vernon Avenue, Bakersfield, California.

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inspected the Kern County Public Health Services Department (Health Department) as it is known today. The purpose of the inspection was to inquire into the operation and management of the Department pursuant to California Penal Code §925.

PROCESS:

On October 20, 2016, the Committee performed a site inspection of the Health Department. The Committee met and interviewed:

1. Director of Public Health Services
2. Assistant Director of Public Health Services
3. Other Department Staff

On January 26, 2017, a follow-up inspection was made. The Committee met and interviewed:

1. Director of Public Health Services
2. Assistant Director of Public Health Services
3. Inspected the lab and interviewed lab personnel
4. Inspected the Call Center and interviewed Call Center Staff
5. Inspected the on-site clinic and interviewed staff
6. Inspected both Hazardous Materials (Haz-Mat) vehicles and interviewed Haz-Mat response personnel

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

- A. The Board of Supervisors approved the consolidation of Public Health Department, Environmental Health Department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and California Children Services (CCS) Department in October 2009.

Shortly thereafter, the Kern County Public Health Services Department was created and became the umbrella Department.

- B. The Public Health Clinic Locations:
- Bakersfield, 1800 Mount Vernon Avenue (main Clinic and office)
 - Arvin, 204 South Hill Street
 - Delano, 455 Lexington Street
 - Mojave, 1775 Highway 58
 - Ridgecrest, 250 West Ridgecrest Boulevard
 - Shafter, 329 Central Valley Highway
 - Taft, 915 North 10th Street
- C. Public Health Clinic Services:
- Immunizations
 - Testing
 - Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)
 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
 - Rabies
 - Valley Fever
 - Pre-natal care
 - Well child physicals
 - Smoking prevention/cessation
 - Head lice/scabies elimination
 - Family planning
- D. The Environmental Health Department is located at 1800 M Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301.
- E. On September 1, 2015, The Board of Supervisors adopted Chapter 9.44, Title 9, of the County Ordinance Code prohibits the sale of Psychoactive Bath Salts, Psychoactive Herbal Incense (Spice) and other synthetic drugs. The Health Department is the enforcing agency of this code. Its purpose is to allow the Health Department to suspend or revoke any Health Department licenses issued to retailers who sell those prohibited products. It also provides for an agreement between the Health Department and any incorporated city within the County of Kern. This allows the Health Department to provide enforcement and remedies regarding the sale and/or manufacture of those products at no cost to the cities.
- F. The Health Department bills responsible parties, for services rendered, to the greatest extent allowed by law. In the vast majority of these cases, the “responsible party” is an insurance company. In 2016, insurance billings resulted in payments to the County of Kern in excess of one million dollars.
- G. The Health Department operates a Call Center 24/7 which is always staffed with two operators. The Center can field any type of call that may be received

ranging from a simple appointment, to a referral for testing, to STD prevention. In rare instances, when the Call Center operator is unable to answer the inquiry, the call is relayed or referred to the appropriate entity.

- H. In 2013, in response to excessive calls into EMS, ***Kern Get Connected*** was formed. They obtain and utilize ambulance data from EMS regarding individuals who call 911 frequently (some patients call more than 80 times per year). This information is then relayed to a Public Health Nurse to provide in-home medical assistance to the patient. The pilot program resulted in a 74% reduction in ambulance calls.
- I. All public outreach information from the Health Department is provided in both English and Spanish.
- J. The Health Department utilizes an under-age employee as a decoy to check for illegal cigarette sales. A recent series of undercover operations revealed a 21.3% county-wide violation rate by retailers.
- K. A new app for smart-phones has been released by the Environmental Health Division, enabling the public to easily access licensed food establishment ratings, review detailed reports and submit complaints.

FINDINGS:

- F1. Kern County Public Health Services has experienced a decrease of 9% in operating costs between 2011 and 2016.
- F2. Kern County Public Health Services has experienced a decrease of 18% in funded positions between 2011 and 2016.
- F3. A summary of the 2016-2017 Budget provided insight into the current revenues and expenditures of the Kern County Public Health Services. (Appendix A)
- F4. The ***Kern Get Connected*** program is improving health outcomes and reducing expenditures by connecting citizens with home healthcare nurses.
- F5. The Health Department has been aggressive in their response to, and enforcement of, Kern County Ordinance Chapter 9.44, Title 9, the synthetic drug ordinance. As of this date, Bakersfield, California City, and Ridgecrest have not implemented this ordinance. The City of Bakersfield is currently developing procedures to work with the Health Department to implement the ordinance. The cities of California City and Ridgecrest are reluctant to do so.
- F6. The Haz-Mat team is highly professional and an extremely well trained team. In 2016, they responded to over 200 calls for service. The majority of

highway clean-ups are a result of diesel spills. The cost of the majority of Haz-Mat clean-ups is reimbursed by insurance companies or property owners. To decrease response time, the Haz-Mat team members take the emergency vehicles home as they are on call 24/7. The team has the tools and expertise to determine the exact type of hazard that may be present at an incident, subsequently the Haz-Mat team works jointly with the Kern County Fire Department.

- F7. The Health Department is in the process of purchasing a mobile clinic vehicle for \$300,000 to service rural areas. It will be staffed by a licensed healthcare professional.
- F8. All calls received by the Call Center are answered promptly, achieving a zero wait time target. The Call Center is able to answer virtually all questions ranging from personal health questions to making appointments for medical visits.
- F9. The Committee reviewed the Health Department website for information. The Call Center number is 661-321-3000, and is not listed prominently throughout the website. The Director's goal is for the public to become more aware and use this phone number.
- F10. A review of the Health Department website found the site contained pertinent information, such as services offered and Public Service Announcements. The site is difficult for the public to navigate; some links are non-functional, including the West Nile Virus page.

COMMENTS:

The Grand Jury would like to thank the Director of Public Health Services and staff for their courtesy, professionalism, and cooperation extended during the site inspection.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Kern County Ordinance Chapter 9.44, Title 9, the synthetic drug ordinance, should be implemented in Bakersfield, California City and Ridgecrest. It is recommended that communications between County Counsel and respective City Attorneys should be opened to explore options for the implementation of the Ordinance. (Finding 5)
- R2. Consideration should be given to publicizing the Call Center number exclusively, with the only exception being phone numbers for specific individuals. (Finding 9)
- R3. It is recommended that the Health Department have a tab on the home page for an overview written in a manner that is easily understood. (Finding 10)

- R4. To preclude innocent property owners from being financially penalized, the Health Department should seek grants to pay for Haz-Mat clean-ups of property owners' land. (Finding 6)

NOTES:

- The Kern County Board of Supervisor, Kern County Counsel, Kern County Public Health Services Department, City of Bakersfield, City of Ridgecrest and the City of California City should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.

RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS:

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 212
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

DISCLAIMER:

This report was issued by the Grand Jury with the exception of a juror(s) pursuant to PC §916.2(a). The juror(s) was excluded from all parts of the inquiry/investigation, including interviews, deliberations, and the writing and approval of this report.

APPENDIX: A

Kern County Public Health Services Department 2016-2017 Budget

SALARIES & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			PUBLIC HEALTH		
PUBLIC HEALTH	\$ 23,061,780.00	62%	NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 30,532,490.00	
Environmental Health Services	\$ 6,374,267.00	17%	TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE	\$ 23,786,349.00	78%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	\$ 804,232.00	2%	NET GENERAL FUND COST	\$ 6,746,141.00	22%
CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES	\$ 7,153,573.00	19%			
	\$ 37,393,852.00	100%			
SERVICES & SUPPLIES			ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES		
PUBLIC HEALTH	\$ 5,609,311.00	58%	NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 8,213,802.00	
Environmental Health Services	\$ 1,430,938.00	15%	TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE	\$ 8,468,112.00	103%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	\$ 734,543.00	8%	NET GENERAL FUND COST	\$ (254,310.00)	-3%
CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES	\$ 1,893,841.00	20%			
	\$ 9,668,633.00	100%			
TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE			EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES		
PUBLIC HEALTH	\$ 23,786,349.00	56%	NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,507,595.00	
Environmental Health Services	\$ 8,468,112.00	20%	TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE	\$ 1,338,229.00	89%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	\$ 1,338,229.00	3%	NET GENERAL FUND COST	\$ 169,366.00	11%
CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES	\$ 8,564,746.00	20%			
	\$ 42,157,436.00	100%			
NET GENERAL FUND COST			CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES		
PUBLIC HEALTH	\$ 6,746,141.00	95%	NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,005,289.00	
Environmental Health Services	\$ (254,310.00)	-4%	TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUE	\$ 8,564,746.00	95%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	\$ 169,366.00	2%	NET GENERAL FUND COST	\$ 440,543.00	5%
CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES	\$ 440,543.00	6%			
	\$ 7,101,740.00	100%			

Kern County Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Final Report
Kern County Public Health Services Department

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct.

Response to Recommendation:

R1: Kern County Ordinance Chapter 9.44, Title 9, the synthetic drug ordinance, should be implemented in Bakersfield, California City and Ridgecrest. It is recommended that communication between County Counsel and respective City Attorneys should be opened to explore options for the implementation of the Ordinance.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation. The department has presented and had meetings with the City Councils in California City and Ridgecrest. The department will continue to work with the city leaders to implement the synthetic drug ordinance.

R2: Consideration should be given to publicizing the Call Center number exclusively, with the only exception being phone numbers for specific individuals.

When the Call Center was created, the department created a media campaign that ran several weeks that included radio, television and print media. The department's business cards have the (661)321-3000 number as the department's main number. The department updated their website and prominently placed the phone number on the top of their website.

R3: It is recommended that the Health Department have a tab on the home page for an overview written in a manner that is easily understood.

We concur with the Grand Jury's recommendation. The department created an "About Us" page on their website and included an overview of the department's programs and contacts.

R4: To preclude innocent property owners from being financially penalized, the Health Department should seek grants to pay for Haz-Mat clean-ups of property owners' land.

The department will explore opportunities to assist property owners that are impacted by unpermitted dumping of hazardous materials.

Kern Valley High School

“A Path to Success”

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Health, Education, and Social Services Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inquired into the management, operations, and safety of Kern Valley High School (KVHS), pursuant to California Penal Code §925.

PROCESS:

The Committee reviewed the KVHS website and performed a site inspection on May 16, 2017. The Committee met with the Principal and other staff at the Administrative Office located at 3340 Erskine Creek Road, Lake Isabella, California 93240.

BACKGROUND:

Kern Valley High School is located in the rural, Southern Sierra mountain community of Lake Isabella, California, 45 miles east of Bakersfield. It is the smallest and most remote of Kern High School District's 18 comprehensive high schools. The school serves an attendance area of over 660 square miles, and has approximately 460 students. Over 64% of the student body is on the federal free or reduced price lunch program. Kern Valley High School has an active booster club, and enjoys tremendous support from the community.

FACTS:

- A. KVHS has students enrolled in grades 9-12, and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.
- B. KVHS has been named a California Distinguished School three times.
- C. KVHS has available 20 sports teams, 2 cheer squads and over 20 academic or interest-based clubs.
- D. The School Safety Committee, led by the Assistant Principal, meets quarterly to discuss and address site level safety issues. Safety procedures and staff training are held in the fall. Lockdown and evacuation drills are held to ascertain readiness for emergency situations.
- E. During the 2015-2016 school year, KVHS began the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Program to provide student support and advance the college-bound culture of the school.

FINDINGS:

- F1 The KVHS campus was clean, well maintained, and absent of trash and graffiti.
- F2 A grant was obtained from the State of California, which provided a parking lot solar power installation, significantly reducing electricity costs.
- F3 KVHS administration stated that a wide range of education paths are required to prepare students for post high school life.
- F4 The KVHS Library is in the process of digitizing its book inventory, and updating online access to enhance peer review resources. This provides in-house student collaboration on research assignments.
- F5 Advanced Placement math classes utilize Texas Instrument graphic calculators equipped with Bluetooth. This provides a live connection for classroom collaboration and instruction.
- F6 The school emphasizes agricultural sciences by providing courses in horticulture, animal husbandry, and farm mechanics.
- F7 Agricultural instructors are currently obtaining certification to provide students with a "Certificate in Welding."
- F8 A full-time officer is assigned to KVHS by the Kern High School District Police Department.
- F9 Emergency evacuation plans are in place for the campus. Students and staff are instructed to meet at a widely-known rally point, "Tank Park," located on Lake Isabella Boulevard.
- F10 The possible presence of asbestos was a safety concern. The Principal made inquiries with Kern High School District staff; emails were received by the Grand Jury (See Appendix A) with information and copies of the latest inspection results (See Appendix B).

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Principal and Staff of the Kern Valley High School for their cooperation and professionalism.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None:

NOTES:

- The Kern County High School District and Kern Valley High School should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury.

RESPONSE REQUIRED IN 90 DAYS

**PRESIDING JUDGE
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 200
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

**CC: FOREPERSON
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301**

Recusal: CALM

APPENDICES:

Appendix A: Excerpts from Kern High School District Emails Regarding Asbestos

From: [Principal]
To: GJHESS GJHESS <GJhess@co.kern.ca.us>
Date: 5/31/2017 1:43 PM
Subject: FW: Grand Jury Inspection
Attachments: Kern Valley HS - 6mth FSNs - Nov 2015.pdf; [Asbestos Consultant Certification] 2-23-17.pdf

“...[W]e keep a binder of potential hazards on campus for our trade workers and others who might encounter them. The Kern High School District has a contract with [an outside vendor]. They come out on a regularly scheduled basis and check all of our buildings for various things. All known asbestos has been contained and/or removed.

“[The following message] is from our district Safety Coordinator. It includes a report from [the outside vendor].”

/s
Principal

-----Original Message-----

From: [Kern High School District]
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 1:21 PM
To: [Principal]; [Kern High School District]; [Kern High School District]; [Kern High School District]
Cc: [Kern High School District]
Subject: RE: Grand Jury Inspection

“We have remained in compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) since it became in effect in 1989. We conduct a visual surveillance every six-months and an accredited inspection every three years. We go out for an RFP every three years for asbestos consulting services and currently use [outside vendor] for our inspections, consulting, and project design and oversight. We have records of all abatement projects, inspections, etc. I am a State of California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Certified Asbestos Consultant and oversee our District's asbestos program. If they have any further questions feel free to have them contact me.”

/s
District Safety Coordinator

Appendix B: Excerpts from Asbestos Inspection

Functional Space Notes **HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.** **Six Month Surveillance**

Client: Kern High School District

Site: Kern Valley High School

HMS Project Number: F11190

Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matri #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: 001 Administration		Room: <u>A-1 Reception</u>				
Floor:	Carpet grey w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	6	608 sq	
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" dark blue	MISC	None Detected	26	102 ln	
Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 admin/ E wing)	SURF	None Detected	158	1224 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan sample 167829 and 167830. No asbestos detected</i>					
Ceiling:	ACT 12" pinholes w/ glue	MISC	2 % Ch	28	608 sq	No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>					
Building: 001 Administration		Room: <u>A-10 Vice Principal</u>				
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	33	154 sq	
	<i>Comment: This multi-colored carpet was installed during remodeling</i>					
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" black w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	2	50 ln	
Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 admin/ E wing)	SURF	None Detected	158	400 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan sample 167829 and 167830. No asbestos detected</i>					
Ceiling:	ACT 12" pinholes w/ glue	MISC	2 % Ch	28	154 sq	No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>					
Building: 001 Administration		Room: <u>A-2 Vault</u>				
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	33	96 sq	
	<i>Comment: On concrete Material Comment: This multi-colored carpet was installed during remodeling</i>					
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" black w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	2	40 ln	
Walls:	Concrete	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ceiling:	Concrete	NON	Non-Suspect			
Building: 001 Administration		Room: <u>A-3 Break room</u>				
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	33	168 sq	
	<i>Comment: This multi-colored carpet was installed during remodeling</i>					
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" black w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	2	52 ln	
Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 admin/ E wing)	SURF	None Detected	158	520 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan sample 167829 and 167830. No asbestos detected</i>					
Walls:	Wood panels	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ceiling:	ACT 12" pinholes w/ glue	MISC	2 % Ch	28	168 sq	No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>					

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
 HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
 Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Sampled Here?	Footage Friable? Sq/Ln/Jnts Yes/No	
Building: 001 Classroom Wing East (1968)		Room: 17 Classroom			
Floor:	VFT 12" tan popcorn w/ mastic	MISC	2 %	16	884 sq No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: This floor tile does not contain asbestos. However, asbestos containing mastic has been discovered below and is assumed to be located under all.</i>				
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" tan w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	17	118 ln
Walls:	Drywall w/ joint comp	MISC	2 %	22	1082 sq No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. North and east walls under wood panels. Material Comment: This material has wood paneling applied over it in many locations.</i>				
Walls:	Wood panels	NON	Non-Suspect		
	<i>Comment: North south and east walls</i>				
Ceiling:	FCP 2'x4' small fissure	MISC	None Detected	21	884 sq
Attic Walls:	Drywall w/ joint comp	MISC	2 %	22	560 sq No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Assumed under wood panel on north and west walls. Material Comment: This material has wood paneling applied over it in many locations.</i>				
Attic Floor:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect		
	<i>Comment: On 2'x4' FCP w/ fissures</i>				
Attic Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect		
	<i>Comment: On wood</i>				
Pipes:	Fiberglass pipe straights	NON	Non-Suspect		
Wall:	Glue dab on fiberglass hangers	MISC	None Detected	23	
	<i>Comment: Approx count, located on fg at drywall in attic</i>				
Counter top:	Lab counter top (001 E)	MISC	10 % Ch	166	220 sq No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>				
Pipe Joints:	Pipe joints 8" and 4"	TSI	None Detected	165	22 jt
	<i>Comment: Estimated amount. Material Comment: SISC sample #s 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, and 49. No asbestos detected.</i>				

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
 HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
 Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

<u>Building:</u> 001 Classroom Wing West							
<u>Building Comment:</u> Construction/Remodel/Addition dates are 1953, 1959, and 1968							
Materials		Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgn. Sampled Here?		Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
<u>Building:</u> 001 Classroom Wing West				<u>Room:</u> 4 Classroom			
Floor:	VFT 12" tan popcorn w/ mastic	MISC	2 %	16		700 sq	No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: This floor tile does not contain asbestos. However, asbestos containing mastic has been discovered below and is assumed to be located under all.</i>						
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" tan w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	17		106 ln	
Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 W wing)	SURF	None Detected	164		964 sq	
	<i>Comment: Six mgmt plan sample 167831. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Walls:	Wood panels	NON	Non-Suspect				
	<i>Comment: North wall and lower east wall</i>						
Ceiling:	FCP 2x4' small fissure	MISC	None Detected	21		700 sq	
Attic Walls:	Drywall unfinished	MISC	None Detected	41		265 sq	
Ducts:	Duct wrap mudded	TSI	None Detected	42		50 ln	
Attic Floor:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect				
Attic Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect				
Attic Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 W wing)	SURF	None Detected	164		265 sq	
	<i>Comment: Six mgmt plan sample 167831. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Attic Ceiling:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect				
<u>Building:</u> 001 Classroom Wing West				<u>Room:</u> 5 Classroom			
Floor:	VFT 12" tan popcorn w/ mastic	MISC	2 %	16		812 sq	No
	<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: This floor tile does not contain asbestos. However, asbestos containing mastic has been discovered below and is assumed to be located under all.</i>						
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" tan w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	17		114 ln	
Walls:	Drywall unfinished	MISC	None Detected	41		1026 sq	
	<i>Comment: Over wood paneling</i>						
Ceiling:	FCP 2x4' small fissure	MISC	None Detected	21		812 sq	
Attic Walls:	Drywall unfinished	MISC	None Detected	41		522 sq	
Ducts:	Duct wrap mudded	TSI	None Detected	42		50 ln	
Attic Floor:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect				
Attic Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect				
Attic Walls:	Plaster sanded (001 W wing)	SURF	None Detected	164		522 sq	
	<i>Comment: Six mgmt plan sample 167831. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Attic Ceiling:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect				

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District

Site: Kern Valley High School

HMS Project Number: F11190

Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Building: 001 Library

Building Comment: Construction/Remodel dates are 1964, and 1968.

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matri #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: 001 Library		Room: 07 - Office				
Floor: Carpet blue and beige w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	33		165 sq	
<i>Comment: On concrete. Material Comment: This multi-colored carpet was installed during remodeling</i>						
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" dark green w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	38		52 in	
Walls: Drywall w/ joint comp	MISC	2 %	22		468 sq	No
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: This material has wood paneling applied over it in many locations.</i>						
Ceiling: FCP 2x4' Lg fissures	MISC	2 % Ch	27		165 sq	Yes
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>						
Building: 001 Library		Room: 08 - Office				
Floor: Carpet blue and beige w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	33		165 sq	
<i>Comment: This multi-colored carpet was installed during remodeling</i>						
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" dark green w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	38		52 in	
Walls: Drywall w/ joint comp	MISC	2 %	22		468 sq	No
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Under wood panels. Material Comment: This material has wood paneling applied over it in many locations.</i>						
Ceiling: FCP 2x4' Lg fissures	MISC	2 % Ch	27		165 sq	Yes
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>						
Building: 001 Library		Room: 09/010 - Library Book Storage				
Floor: VFT 9' tan w/ brown specs	MISC	Known	902		260 sq	No
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: SISC sample #1 result is Tile 1%, mastic 15-20%</i>						
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" dark green w/ glue	MISC	None Detected	38 38A		66 in	
Walls: Drywall w/ joint comp	MISC	2 %	22		726 sq	No
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition. Material Comment: This material has wood paneling applied over it in many locations.</i>						
Ceiling: FCP 2x4' Lg fissures	MISC	2 % Ch	27 27C		260 sq	Yes
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>						
Sink: Undercoat black	MISC	2 % Ch	24		1 ea	No
<i>Comment: Material in GOOD condition. No change in material condition.</i>						

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
 HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
 Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Building:	002 Gymnasium						
Building Comment:	Construction/Remodel dates are 1953, 1964, 1968, and 1986						
Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgn. Matrl #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No	
Building: 002 Gymnasium		Room: 45 Toilet (Girls Coaches)					
Floor:	Ceramic tile green	NON		Non-Suspect			
Baseboard:	Ceramic tile 6" green w/ grout	MISC	None Detected	14		24 ln	
Walls:	Ceramic tile 6" green w/ grout	MISC	None Detected	14		70 sq	
	<i>Comment: At shower</i>						
Walls:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		216 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Ceiling:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		32 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Room Comments:	Includes shower						
Building: 002 Gymnasium		Room: 46 Locker Room (Girls)					
Floor:	Concrete	NON		Non-Suspect			
Baseboard:	Concrete	NON		Non-Suspect			
Walls:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		960 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Ceiling:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		572 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Building: 002 Gymnasium		Room: 47 Toilet (Girls)					
Floor:	Ceramic tile green	NON		Non-Suspect			
Walls:	Ceramic tile 6" green w/ grout	MISC	None Detected	14		198 sq	
Walls:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		396 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Ceiling:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		117 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Building: 002 Gymnasium		Room: 48 Corridor					
Floor:	Concrete	NON		Non-Suspect			
Baseboard:	Concrete	NON		Non-Suspect			
Walls:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		270 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						
Ceiling:	Plaster smooth (002 gym)	SURF	None Detected	162		50 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sisk mgmnt plan samples 167843, and 167844. No asbestos detected.</i>						

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
 HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
 Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matrl #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: 004 Ag Science		Room: 01 Classroom 14				
Removed Materials:						
Floor: VFT 9" green marble w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. Abated July 2013 by MEC On wood substrate.</i>	MISC	10 % Ch	1	1A	1152 sq	No
Removed Materials:						
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" black w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED.</i>	MISC	None Detected	2		72 in	
Baseboard: Wood <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED.</i>	NON	Non-Suspect				
Walls: Whiteboard w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. Abated July 2013 Material Comment: Must be sampled prior to disturbance.</i>	MISC	Assumed	4			No
Walls: Wood <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED.</i>	NON	Non-Suspect				
Ceiling: ACT 12" Rndm w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. On wood</i>	MISC	None Detected	3	3B	1152 sq	
Windows: Sealant <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. Abated July 2013 by MEC</i>	MISC	2 %	8	8B	140 in	No
Building: 004 Ag Science		Room: 02 Storage Room				
Floor: Carpet brown w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. Over floor tile</i>	MISC	None Detected	5		84 sq	
Removed Materials:						
Floor: VFT 9" green marble w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. Abated July 2013 by MEC Under carpet on wood substrate.</i>	MISC	10 % Ch	1		84 sq	No
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" black w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED.</i>	MISC	None Detected	2	2B	38 in	
Walls: Wood <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED.</i>	NON	Non-Suspect				
Ceiling: ACT 12" Rndm w/ glue <i>Comment: Material has been REMOVED. On wood</i>	MISC	None Detected	3		84 sq	

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District

Site: Kern Valley High School

HMS Project Number: F11190

Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matri #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: 005 Music						
Room: 5 Closet						
Floor:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Baseboard:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Walls:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Ceiling:	ACT 12" Random Holes	MISC	None Detected	67	45 sq	
<i>Comment: Nailed on</i>						
Building: 005 Music						
Room: 6 Closet						
Floor:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Baseboard:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Walls:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Ceiling:	ACT 12" Random Holes	MISC	None Detected	67	50 sq	
<i>Comment: Nailed on</i>						
Building: 005 Music						
Room: 7 Music Room						
Floor:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Baseboard:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Walls:	Drywall (Music Bldg)	MISC	None Detected	64	380 sq	
Walls:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Ceiling:	ACT 12" Random Holes	MISC	None Detected	67	1080 sq	
<i>Comment: Nailed on</i>						
Building: 005 Music						
Room: Crawlspace						
Floor:	Sand	NON		Non-Suspect		
Walls:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Ceiling:	Wood	NON		Non-Suspect		
Pipes:	Metal	NON		Non-Suspect		

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matrl #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: 008 Portable classroom 25 & 26		Room: Classroom 25				
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	174	644 sq	
	<i>Comment: HMS Sampled B15052. Sample #06A. Carpet & glue = no asbestos detected</i>					
Baseboard:	Baseboard 6" black (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	175	102 in	
	<i>Comment: Sample HMS-B15052-07A, no asbestos detected in the baseboard & tan mastic</i>					
Walls:	Drywall without joint compound (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	176	918 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-08A, no asbestos detected, concealed under tackboard</i>					
Walls:	Tackboard w/ glue (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	177	918 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-15052-08A, no asbestos detected in the tackboard and white mastic</i>					
Ceiling:	FCP 2"x4" large fissures (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	178	644 in	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-10A, no asbestos detected</i>					
Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect			
	<i>Comment: Above FCPs</i>					
Building: 008 Portable classroom 25 & 26		Room: Classroom 26				
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	174	560 sq	
	<i>Comment: HMS Sampled B15052. Sample #06A. Carpet & glue = no asbestos detected</i>					
Baseboard:	Baseboard 6" black (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	175	96 in	
	<i>Comment: Sample HMS-B15052-07A, no asbestos detected in the baseboard & tan mastic</i>					
Walls:	Drywall without joint compound (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	176	864 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-08A, no asbestos detected, concealed under tackboard</i>					
Walls:	Tackboard w/ glue (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	177	864 sq	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-15052-08A, no asbestos detected in the tackboard and white mastic</i>					
Ceiling:	FCP 2"x4" large fissures (P-25/26)	MISC	None Detected	178	560 in	
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-10A, no asbestos detected</i>					
Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect			
	<i>Comment: Above FCPs</i>					
Building: 008 Portable classroom 25 & 26		Room: Exterior				
Walls:	Wood siding	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ground:	Concrete	NON	Non-Suspect			
HVAC:	Metal	NON	Non-Suspect			
Roof:	Roofing mastic (008)	MISC	None Detected	156 156A	20 sq	
Roofs:	Roofing rolled composition (008)	MISC	None Detected	155 155A	1120 sq	
Overhangs:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect			

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Building: 013 P30
Building Comment: Classroom 32

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: <u>013 P30</u>		Room: <u>Classroom 32</u>			
Floor:	Carpet blue and beige w/ glue (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	190	500 sq
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-22A, no asbestos detected in the carpet & clear mastic</i>				
Baseboard:	Baseboard 6" black (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	191	90 ln
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-23A, no asbestos detected in baseboard & tan mastic</i>				
Walls:	Drywall without joint compound (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	192	864 sq
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-25A, no asbestos detected, concealed under tackboard</i>				
Walls:	Tackboard w/ glue (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	193	864 sq
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-24A, no asbestos detected in tackboard & tan mastic</i>				
Ceiling:	FCP 2"x4" large fissures (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	194	500 ln
	<i>Comment: Sampled HMS-B15052-26A, no asbestos detected</i>				
Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect		
	<i>Comment: Above FCPs</i>				
Building: <u>013 P30</u>		Room: <u>Exterior</u>			
Walls:	Wood siding	NON	Non-Suspect		
Ground:	Concrete	NON	Non-Suspect		
HVAC:	Metal	NON	Non-Suspect		
Roof:	Roofing mastic (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	142	
Roof:	Roofing rolled comp (P-30)	MISC	None Detected	140	900 sq
Overhangs:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect		

Functional Space Notes

HAZARD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Six Month Surveillance

Client: Kern High School District
HMS Project Number: F11190

Site: Kern Valley High School
Date of Inspection: November 25, 2015

Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matri #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: Ag Farm Office		Room: Exterior				
Floor:	Concrete	NON				
Walls:	Stucco (Ag farm office)	MISC	None Detected	114 114A	960 sq	
Roof:	Roofing asphalt shingles (AG office)	MISC	None Detected	119 119A	306 sq	
Building: Ag Farm Office		Room: Farm Office				
Floor:	VFT 12" grey w/ white (AF)	MISC	None Detected	115 115A	96 sq	
Baseboard:	Baseboard 4" brown w/ glue (AF)	MISC	None Detected	116 116A	40 in	
Walls:	Drywall textured (AG)	SURF	None Detected	117 117A, 117B, 117C	320 sq	
Walls:	Wood panels <i>Comment: North wall</i>	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ceiling:	Drywall textured (AG)	SURF	None Detected	117	96 sq	
Building: Ag Farm Office		Room: Office Restroom				
Floor:	Ceramic tile 6" brown	MISC	None Detected	118	48 sq	
Walls:	Ceramic tile 6" brown <i>Comment: 0-4' AFF</i>	MISC	None Detected	118 118A	224 sq	
Walls:	Drywall textured (AG) <i>Comment: Exposed upper 4 feet</i>	SURF	None Detected	117	224 sq	
Ceiling:	Drywall textured (AG)	SURF	None Detected	117	48 sq	
Building: Ag Farm Office		Room: School Farm Shop				
Floor:	Concrete	NON	Non-Suspect			
Walls:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ceiling:	Fiberglass batts	NON	Non-Suspect			
Ceiling:	Wood	NON	Non-Suspect			

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Materials	Material Class	Percent Asbestos	Hmgns. Matrl #	Sampled Here?	Footage Sq/Ln/Jnts	Friable? Yes/No
Building: Cafetorium						
Room: 07 Custodial						
Floor: Concrete epoxy tan	NON	Non-Suspect				
Baseboard: Concrete epoxy tan	NON	Non-Suspect				
<i>Comment: Coved</i>						
Walls: Drywall green board w/ jt comp (2005)	MISC	None Detected	89		270 sq	
Ceiling: Drywall green board w/ jt comp (2005)	MISC	None Detected	89		56 sq	
Building: Cafetorium						
Room: 08 Food Serving						
Floor: Sheet vinyl blue w/ mastic	MISC	None Detected	92	92A	1015 sq	
Baseboard: Sheet vinyl blue w/ mastic	MISC	None Detected	92		128 ln	
<i>Comment: Coved</i>						
Walls: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		1408 sq	
Ceiling: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		1015 sq	
Building: Cafetorium						
Room: 09 Kitchen						
Floor: Concrete epoxy tan	NON	Non-Suspect				
Baseboard: Concrete epoxy tan	NON	Non-Suspect				
<i>Comment: Coved</i>						
Walls: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		1476 sq	
Ceiling: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		1179 sq	
Building: Cafetorium						
Room: 10 Office						
Floor: VFT 12" off wht w/ mastic (2005)	MISC	None Detected	84		132 sq	
Baseboard: Baseboard 4" tan w/ glue (2005)	MISC	None Detected	85		46 ln	
Walls: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		414 sq	
Ceiling: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		132 sq	
Building: Cafetorium						
Room: 11 Snack Bar						
Floor: Sheet vinyl blue w/ mastic	MISC	None Detected	92		180 sq	
Baseboard: Sheet vinyl blue w/ mastic	MISC	None Detected	92		54 ln	
<i>Comment: Coved</i>						
Walls: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		648 sq	
Ceiling: Drywall with skim & joint comp (2005)	SURF	None Detected	88		180 sq	



KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 17, 2017

Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court – Grand Jury
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 200
Bakersfield, California 93301

Re: Grand Jury Report – Kern Valley High School

To the Honorable Presiding Judge:

Thank you for providing the Kern High School District (KHSD) with the findings of the Kern County Grand Jury regarding Kern Valley High School (KVHS). KHSD is pleased to respond to the Grand Jury's report and appreciates the time the members took to travel to KVHS, tour the campus, and meet with Principal John Meyers and staff members. KHSD is very proud of the students and staff of KVHS and enthusiastically agrees with the findings in the Grand Jury's report.

The KVHS staff and students take great pride in the campus. The KVHS staff and students honor the campus by maintaining it so well and keeping it free from trash and graffiti. The installation of the solar panel system, the digitization of KVHS's library, and the Bluetooth enabled math calculators have enhanced KVHS's commitment to efficiency and innovation. Students continue to receive excellent educational programs and options while attending KVHS, including horticulture, animal husbandry, farm mechanics, welding certificates, as well as additional exciting courses that are designed to inspire and motivate students. (Findings 1 – 7)

Safety and security are very important to the KHSD and we appreciate the KHSD Police Department's officers, as well as the emergency plans and emergency preparedness efforts that our schools, including KVHS, have created. The health and well-being of staff and students is also very important to KHSD. Accordingly, KHSD employs an asbestos consultant, certified by the State of California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health, who helps guide the KHSD through asbestos-related regulations and the implementation of KHSD's asbestos management plans. KHSD's asbestos consultant also works closely with additional asbestos consultants who assist the KHSD with the asbestos abatement associated with the modernization or reconstruction of our facilities and school sites.

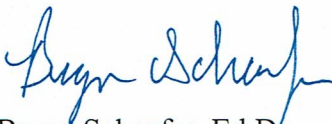
Further, in compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), KHSD has had regular inspections and ongoing surveillance performed at each of its school buildings for asbestos-containing building materials. The last accredited inspection took place in

the summer of 2013 and new accreditation inspections began this summer and are being conducted throughout this school year.

The inspection reports and asbestos management plans are located in administrative offices of each school throughout the KHSD. Records regarding ongoing surveillance, abatement, and re-inspections are also included in the management plan. Annually, KHSD informs parents/guardians of the immediate availability of KHSD's asbestos management plan and that it may be reviewed by the public at the KHSD District Office and at school sites. Additionally, the KHSD's asbestos coordinator is available by appointment to interpret the management plan for any concerned parties. (Findings 8 – 10)

Thank you again for visiting KVHS and for providing your feedback and observations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bryon Schaefer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Bryon Schaefer, Ed.D.
Superintendent

cc: Foreperson, Kern County Grand Jury
John Meyers, Principal, Kern Valley High School