

LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE



TERESA VASQUEZ
CHAIRPERSON



RENN AMSTEAD



PATTY
GOLEMBEFSKIE



DANNY SCHNOPP

MISSION STATEMENT

The Law and Justice Committee is charged with complying with Penal Code §919, which states, “The Grand Jury may inquire into the case of every person imprisoned in the jail of the county on a criminal charge and not indicted,” and “The Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management at the public prisons within the County.” The Committee also responds objectively to inmate and citizen complaints pertaining to prisons and law enforcement agencies. Penal Code §925(a) authorizes the Grand Jury to examine the books and records of any incorporated city, including law enforcement agencies.

LAW AND JUSTICE

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Reports:

- Kern County Sheriff's Office, Central Receiving Facility
- California Correctional Institution – Tehachapi CA
- McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility
- Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility, McFarland CA
- Kern Valley State Prison, Delano CA
- North Kern State Prison – Reception Center, Delano CA
- California City Correctional Facility
- Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility *
- Shafter Modified Community Correctional Facility*
- Kern County Sheriff's Office – Lerdo Facility *
- Wasco State Prison - Reception Center*
- Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility*
- James G. Bowles Juvenile Hall, Probation Department, Bakersfield, CA*
- Golden State Medium Community Correctional Facility, McFarland CA*

* Inspection completed/report/letter pending

Other Visits:

- Kern County Animal Shelter
- A. Miriam Jamison Children's Center
- Bakersfield Police Department***Inspection completed/no report/letter
- Bakersfield Police Department, K-9 Unit
- Kern County Board of Supervisors
- Kern County Sheriff's Office – Search & Rescue, Helipad & Bomb Squad Division; K-9 Demonstration
- A.D. Edmonston Pumping Plant
- Kern County Auditor-Controller County Clerk-Registrar of Voters
- Bakersfield Ronald McDonald House
- Bakersfield Home and Garden Show
- Camp Erwin Owen**See Ad Hoc Committee report
- Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility***Inspection completed/no report/letter
- Kern County Superintendent of Schools
- Community Outreach Presentations
- Grand jury Indictment

Complaints:

- 19 Complaints Received
- 19 Complaints Investigated and Closed

CALIFORNIA CITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On February 28, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured the California City Correctional Facility (CAC) to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent CAC staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website were reviewed in preparation for the inspection. The Committee met with the Acting Warden, a Captain, and other staff from various areas of the facility.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The CAC is located at 22844 Virginia Boulevard, California City, California 93505. Prior to becoming CAC, the facility housed inmates for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. CAC is owned by CoreCivic (CC), leased, staffed, and operated under contract by CDCR. CAC began receiving CDCR Level II inmates in December of 2013.

- A. Inmate count on the day of inspection was 2,199:
- Facility A – General Population 171
 - Administrative Segregation Unit (Ad-Seg) 34
 - Facility B - General Population 994
 - Facility C - General Population 1000
- B. Staff count on the day of inspection:
- Acting Warden 1
 - Chief Deputy Warden 1
 - Associate Wardens 3
 - Captains 4
 - Lieutenants 19
 - Sergeants 49
 - Correctional Officers 305
- C. The number of civilian employees:
- Medical 117
 - Non-custody 116

- D. Visiting hours are Saturdays and Sundays, 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., including Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.
- E. Only Level II inmates are housed at CAC. Inmates have an intercom button in their cell enabling them to communicate directly with staff.
- F. The CAC has enclosed Inmate Exercise Modules (IEM), in the Ad-Seg Unit. One IEM is wheelchair accessible.
- G. The cost to house an inmate last year was \$34,570 including medical; this year the cost is \$40,163.
- H. Both medical and dental services are available at CAC.
- I. The CAC has 281 recording surveillance cameras throughout the facility.
- J. The American Correctional Association's first accreditation audit of CAC will begin May 30, 2017.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The contract between CDCR and CC was extended to 2020.
- F2. The head of maintenance has a crew of ten and all are CC employees. CDCR and CC work cooperatively to resolve maintenance issues.
- F3. During the Committee's inspection, the following maintenance and safety issues were observed:
 - No warning signs were posted indicating wet floors, staff was advised
 - A faucet had signage, "out of order", in the kitchen
 - Two doors were unsecured and left ajar, staff was advised
 - The temperature in the library was uncomfortably cold, staff was advised
- F4. According to staff, the cost to house an inmate increased over \$5,000 from the previous year. This increase is due to higher lease, utilities, and inmate medical transport costs.
- F5. The CAC houses inmates with a term of thirty years or less on their sentence. Inmates are eligible to transfer to another institution after being housed at CAC for one year.
- F6. The CAC does not have on-site mental health services. Inmates with mental health issues are not housed at this facility.

- F7. Transgender inmates are not housed at CAC.
- F8. The California City Fire Department provides fire protection for CAC.
- F9. Sworn staff and inmates are randomly drug tested.
- F10. The perimeter of CAC is patrolled 24/7 by armed CDCR staff.
- F11. There were no escape attempts in the last year.
- F12. The CAC has no restraint chairs.
- F13. There are no accommodations for conjugal visits at CAC.
- F14. Visitation for the Ad-Seg unit utilizes remote video conferencing booths. This eliminates the need to transport Ad-Seg inmates to the visitation area.
- F15. Inmates pay a \$5.00 co-pay for any new medical issue, but not for follow-up treatments. The co-pay fee for indigent inmates may be waived.
- F16. Coleman Cells at CAC are retrofitted to minimize inmates' ability to commit suicide.
- F17. Over-the-counter medications are available to inmates at no cost, which no longer requires dispensing through medical personnel.
- F18. The CAC has a canine program, called the "Pawsitive Change Prison Training Program." Marley's Mutts Dog Rescue, a non-profit organization, provides inmates with a fourteen week dog obedience training course. Inmates learn how to train dogs that are rescued from kill shelters. The dogs are taught basic commands and crate training, making them more adoptable, thus avoiding euthanization. Inmates can earn a Dog Obedience Training Certificate after completion of the program.
- F19. Inmates may participate in various educational and vocational programs. According to staff, there is a statewide emphasis for a Community Reentry Program. This program provides life skills supporting an inmate's successful transition back into the community, thus reducing recidivism.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Acting Warden, Captain, and Staff from various areas of the facility for their time, knowledge, professionalism, and hospitality.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Findings 2 and 3)
- R2. The CAC should implement a monitoring system for over-the-counter medications, to prevent inmates from hoarding and abusing medications. (Finding 17)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and California City Correctional Facility 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**

DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS

CALIFORNIA CITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
22844 Virginia Boulevard
P.O. Box 2626
California City, CA 93504



August 30, 2017

The Honorable Charles Brehmer, Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, Ca. 93301

Dear Honorable Charles Brehmer:

RESPONSE TO THE GRAND JURY REPORT

California City Correctional Facility (CAC) is a State Prison and operates 24 hours, seven (7) days a week. CAC has three (3), eight (8) hour shifts that Peace Officers (custody staff) work. First Watch is 10:00 pm to 6:00 am. Second Watch is 6:00 am to 2:00 pm. Third Watch is 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Administrators, some custody staff and support staff normally work 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The institution is a leased facility, meaning that the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) leases the entire institution from CoreCivic (CC). CDCR is responsible for the operations of the institution and the incarceration of the CDCR inmates while CC maintains the plant.

CAC was visited by the Kern County Grand Jury on February 28, 2017. The Grand Jury released a Final Report of their visit to CAC on May 11, 2017.

After reviewing the report and in compliance with § 933.05, Response to Findings (Excerpt), CAC agrees with findings F1 through F19.

After reviewing the report and in compliance with § 933.05, Response to Recommendations, CAC's responses are as follows:

- R1. The Grand Jury recommends Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately (Findings F2 and F3).

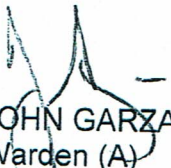
CAC and CC Maintenance work collectively to ensure all repairs are affected immediately. All items needing repairs are reported, documented and a work order is generated documenting the issue. The work order is then tracked until it is completed. CAC and CC Maintenance conduct regular weekly meetings with the Management Team. During this meeting all work orders are discussed and if there is reason why something cannot be repaired (ie. Lack of parts availability), a plan is discussed to get the issues resolved as quickly as possible.

- R2. The Grand Jury recommends CAC should implement a monitoring system for over-the-counter medications, to prevent inmates from hoarding and abusing medications (Finding F17).

CAC implemented Operational Procedure 615 titled "Canteen Distribution for Inmate over the Counter Drugs." This procedure went into effect June 23, 2016. The procedure documents which medication and how much medication inmates may purchase through canteen on a monthly basis. The procedure also documents staff expectations for confiscating over the counter medicine purchased by inmates on a regular basis to prevent them from hoarding and abusing these medications.

If you have any questions, please contact the Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer, Lieutenant Robert Barrett at (760) 246-7600, extension 7015.

Sincerely,



JOHN GARZA
Warden (A)
California City Correctional Facility

Enclosure(s)

cc: R. Renn Amstead, Foreperson

CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inspected the California Correctional Institution at Tehachapi (CCI) pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee's scheduled inspection was held on September 15, 2016. In advance of the inspection, a list of questions was sent to the CCI staff, and a written response was received. Prior Grand Jury reports were also reviewed in preparation for the inspection. The Committee met with the Acting Warden, the Public Information Officer (PIO), the Litigation Coordinator (LC), Executive Personnel, and various institutional staff.

BACKGROUND and FACTS:

The CCI is located at 24900 Highway 202, Tehachapi, California 93561, and is situated on 1,650 acres. In 1933, the original California Institution for Women (Institution) opened on the site of what is now CCI. This was the first women's institution in California. After the Kern County earthquake of July 21, 1952, the Institution was closed. The Institution was rebuilt in 1954 and re-opened as CCI, an all-men's prison. During 1985-1986, the maximum and medium security facilities were added.

The overall mission of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is to enhance public safety through safe and secure incarceration of offenders, effective parole supervision, and rehabilitative strategies to successfully reintegrate offenders into our communities.

On the date of the Committee's visit to CCI, the following information was obtained.

A. Inmate population:

- Facility A
 - Long Term Restricted Housing/Secure Housing Unit (LTRH/SHU) - 53
 - General Population/Sensitive Needs Yard (Level IV) (GP/SNY) – 444
- Facility B
 - Administrative Segregation Unit (Ad-Seg) - 111
 - GP/SNY (Level IV) – 447
- Facility C
 - SNY - (Level III) - 898

- Facility D
 - SNY - (Level II) – 1,076
 - Facility E
 - SNY- (Level I) – 462
 - Firehouse Inmates – 3
 - Outpatient Housing Unit (included in Facility B totals) – 8
 - Community Hospital/Inmate Patients (higher level of care) – 5
 - Total Population – 3,499
 - Authorized Capacity – 4,330
- B. Staffing levels are as follows:
- Correctional Officer positions: current 915; vacant 11
 - Correctional Sergeant positions: current 70; vacant 10; 6 on leave
 - Correctional Lieutenant positions: current 32; vacant 2
 - Non-Sworn (civilians) staff employees: 363
 - Health Care Services Employees: 324
- C. The Central Kitchen prepares all meals on site. There are four satellite kitchens that receive flash frozen meals, which are re-heated and served.
- D. CCI was the first California prison to incorporate a 180 degree view of selected housing units, from a guard station.
- E. Facility A has no fire monitoring equipment/system in all eight (8) housing units. Facility B (housing units 1, 3, 5, and 7) also has no fire monitoring equipment/system.
- F. Between October 22, 2015, and September 15, 2016, there were no escapes, either successful or attempted.
- G. The CCI inmate population has decreased due to the passage of AB109, Propositions 36 and 47, and the Non-Violent Second Striker.
- H. The cost to house an inmate annually is \$47,102. Medical care is an additional \$12,442.
- I. Primary care services offered at CCI are extensive and consist of medical, dental, and mental health services.
- J. Two solar fields were completed on June 14, 2013.
- K. CCI is renovating the health clinics in Facilities A and B. New health clinics are under construction in Facilities C, D, and E.

- L. CCI is preparing for an accreditation review by the American Correctional Association scheduled for March 2017.
- M. Condoms are now available to all inmates due to passage of AB966.
- N. Level IV inmates have access to exercise modules.
- O. CCI inmates are included in the City of Tehachapi's population.

FINDINGS:

- F1. After an inmate's request and/or a staff evaluation, an inmate may be placed in a Sensitive Needs Yard.
- F2. Effective December 2016, CCI will no longer have a Secure Housing Unit, however the Administrative Segregation Unit will remain.
- F3. CCI has recording cameras throughout the facility, except in Facility B, which has no recording cameras in the visitation area. Recording camera loops are kept for 48 hours, however in Facility D recordings are kept for 20 days.
- F4. Due to the lack of a fire suppression system, Facilities A and B (housing units 1, 3, 5, and 7) currently have a full time staff member on "fire watch" 24/7.
- F5. Cell searches are performed in Level IV, a minimum of three times a day.
- F6. A sample tray of every meal is tested for taste and temperature acceptability, by a Lieutenant or his/her designee.
- F7. Inmates in Ad-Seg are able to use the individual exercise modules three hours per day, up to ten hours per week. This is the only form of exercise for these inmates.
- F8. Water conservation, per the Governor, has resulted in a 38% decrease in water usage.
- F9. The main entrance road to CCI has pot holes and deterioration. These conditions have been noted in every yearly Grand Jury report since 2011-2012.
- F10. CCI recently received approval and funding for the purchase of four new ovens. The installation of these ovens is pending.

- F11. On June 7, 2016, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation was removed from under court receivership, for medical services. CDCR was placed on a one year probationary status on June 7, 2016.
- F12. The project for a Centralized Pharmacy/Laboratory is currently under construction.
- F13. Regarding maintenance items, the Committee observed numerous areas requiring immediate attention. In Facility D, Dorm 6, water was leaking and there was standing water in the urinal area. There was also extensive water damage to the ceiling.
- F14. In the Central Kitchen, ongoing repairs are being made on the tile and painting is continuing.

COMMENTS:

The Committee appreciates the reception by CCI Staff and would like to thank the Warden, the Administrative Staff, and all personnel who facilitated the inspection.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Recommend that a fire suppression system be installed in Facilities A and B (housing units 1, 3, 5, and 7) as funding is available. A fire suppression system should be given “priority” as it is critical to the safety of staff and inmates. (Finding 4)
- R2. Recommend the main road in to CCI be resurfaced as funding becomes available. This continues to be an ongoing issue. (Finding 9)
- R3. Recommend that all visitation areas have recording cameras, budget permitting. (Finding 3)
- R4. Due to the age of CCI, it is recommended that the maintenance schedule be reviewed and updated to meet the needs of the facility. (Findings 13 and 14)

NOTES:

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

**DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**

P.O. Box 1031
Tehachapi, CA 93581
(661) 822-44



March 24, 2017

Honorable Charles R. Brehmer,
1415 Truxton Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Honorable Charles R. Brehmer:

GRAND JURY TOUR

On March 3, 2017, the California Correctional Institution (CCI) received the Kern County Grand Jury's, Final Report addressed to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), requesting a formal response to the findings and recommendations contained within the report.

CCI Administration is pleased with the overall findings contained within the report, and with the Grand Jury's recommendations to repair the Fire Alarm Systems at Facility A and B, re-pave the institutional roads, install cameras in all visitation areas and prioritize critical infrastructure repairs to its aging Facilities as a priority in the next fiscal budget.

Based on the Grand Jury's recommendations, CCI Administration has submitted *Special Repair Project Reports* to the Facilities Asset Management Branch, Capitol Renovation and Maintenance Services Division requesting the aforementioned recommendations be prioritized as urgent for review and consideration for allocation of funding for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year. CCI has currently received funding to repair the Fire Alarm Systems at Facility A and B, and the institutional road repairs have been funded in three phase, with the first phase (entrance road) repair slated to begin in late June.

Additionally, CCI Administration would like to commend the Grand Jury Committee members who toured CCI for their professionalism and for the comprehensive tour they conducted. Also, as requested in the Final Report, a copy of the Kern County Grand Jury Final Report has been posted and made available for public review.

It is of the utmost importance of the CDCR to keep the safety of the public foremost, while providing rehabilitative service to the inmate population in accordance with departmental policy. If you have additional questions in this regard, please contact me at Extension 4200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. J. Sullivan".

W. J. SULLIVAN
Warden (A)

cc: J. Robertson, Chief Deputy Warden, Facilities C, D, E and Operations
D. Ardis, Foreperson, Kern County Grand Jury

CENTRAL VALLEY MODIFIED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On December 1, 2016, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility at McFarland (CVMCCF) to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent CVMCCF staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports were also reviewed in preparation for the inspection. The Committee was met by the Warden, Assistant Warden, and Executive Staff.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The CVMCCF is located at 254 Taylor Avenue, McFarland, CA 93250. The CVMCCF is a 96,963 square foot single story masonry building on 20 acres of land. The facility was financed, designed, and constructed by Global Expertise in Outsourcing NZ Inc. Geo Group, Inc. (GEO).

CVMCCF is classified as a medium security facility. This facility is operated by GEO, which provides secure housing and rehabilitation opportunities for incarcerated males through a contract with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). CVMCCF prepares inmates for re-entry into society. It offers a wide range of work, educational, and treatment programs designed to reduce recidivism.

- A. On the date of inspection:
 - Inmate count - 671 (maximum capacity of 700 per contract)

- B. On the date of inspection:
 - CDCR Sworn personnel 12
 - Security personnel (GEO) 100
 - Civilian personnel (GEO) 49

- C. Only Level I and II inmates who have 10 years or less remaining on their sentence are housed at CVMCCF.

- D. CVMCCF has eight dorms, four on side A and four on side B. Each dorm has a maximum capacity of 88 inmates.

- E. From December 1, 2015 to December 1, 2016, there were no successful or attempted escapes.
- F. The facility utilizes a 24/7 perimeter patrol.
- G. CVMCCF follows the Use of Force Policy of CDCR:
 - CDCR and GEO security staff are trained to use the minimum amount of force necessary and reasonable to subdue an inmate
 - Only CDCR staff have access to firearms
 - CDCR and GEO security staff are trained in cell extraction techniques
- H. CVMCCF medical staff are contracted through Correct Care Solutions:
 - A full time Physician
 - Three full time Registered Nurses
 - One full time Health Services Administrator
 - One full time Licensed Vocational Nurse
 - One Dentist and one Dental Assistant (16 hours each per week)
- I. On April 19, 2016, CVMCCF completed an environmental health inspection, by the California Department of Public Health, and received an overall satisfactory rating with no significant health and safety issues.
- J. In July 2016, CVMCCF passed a Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Certification Audit, and exceeded three standards.
- K. CVMCCF was inspected and accredited for three years by the American Correctional Association, on August 8, 2016.
- L. The current contract between GEO and CDCR will expire in June 2018.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The average stay for an inmate at this facility is two years.
- F2. The contract cost to house an inmate is \$60.00 per day, including medical expenses.
- F3. Inmates will not be accepted to CVMCCF if they have experienced mental health issues or used psychotropic drugs within the last six months.
- F4. CVMCCF is not designated to house inmates that have complete loss of hearing.
- F5. Suicide cells are monitored directly and by video surveillance.

- F6. Video recordings are stored up to 14 days; “reportable incidents” are maintained for a minimum of five years (longer if necessitated for litigation).
- F7. Temporary Holding Cells (THC) are checked a minimum of every 30 minutes. Inmates placed in a THC are held no more than 10 consecutive days without a Captain’s review.
- F8. Visitation hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, including five holidays.
- F9. CVMCCF accommodates all religions.
- F10. Inmates receive three hot meals a day.
- F11. The library was well stocked with 4,107 books.
- F12. In Dorm B2, a fire exit was blocked by an inmate’s personal items.
- F13. The Committee observed numerous maintenance issues as well as health and safety concerns:
- Non-functioning faucets, toilets, and showers
 - Two internal doors were left ajar, one by a guard and one by an inmate
 - Perishable items were found expired in the kitchen – by three days and one day
 - A refrigerator thermometer was non-functional
 - There was standing water outside of the shower area in Dorm B2, without warning signs
- F14. An inmate representative, elected by inmates, is liaison to the Warden.
- F15. CVMCCF provides educational opportunities:
- ESL (English as a Second Language)
 - ABE (Adult Basic Education)
 - GED/HSE (General Education Development/High School Equivalency)
 - Coastline Community College Degrees
- F16. CVMCCF provides vocational programs:
- OSRT (Offices Services and Related Technologies)
 - HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning)
 - Plumbing
 - Electrical
- F17. CVMCCF offers self-help programs:
- Transitions
 - Anger Management

- Criminal Thinking
- Family Relations
- Substance Abuse Treatment

F18. On the day of the visit, 54 inmates had graduated from the GED program, and CVMCCF was anticipating 65 graduates by December 31, 2016.

F19. The murals in the visiting room are exceptional and were painted by the inmates.

F20. CVMCCF currently has 25 community volunteers; additional volunteers are needed, specifically in Substance Abuse and Religious programs.

F21. The Staff at CVMCCF participates in multiple community projects and events:

- Coffee With Cops
- Stuff the Bus (school supplies)
- Cops for Candy (Halloween)
- National Veterans Cemetery (Christmas wreath placement)
- High school scholarships

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Assistant Warden, Chief of Security (GEO), and various staff for their time, expertise, and for the extensive tour of their facility.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

R1. Fire exits should never be blocked. (Finding 12)

R2. Doors should be secured at all times. (Finding 13)

R3. Perishable items should be checked for expiration dates. Short-dated perishables should not be accepted from the vendors. (Finding 13)

R4. Kitchen temperature gauges should be maintained and accurate at all times, for the health and safety of inmates and staff. (Finding 13)

R5. Maintenance issues need to be addressed immediately for both inmates and staff safety. (Finding 13)

R6. The community volunteer program should expand their recruitment efforts, to focus on the current needs of the inmates. (Finding 20)

NOTES:

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and McFarland Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.

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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**



June 12, 2017

Honorable John S. Somers
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxton Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Central Valley MCCF
254 Taylor Avenue
McFarland, CA 93250

TEL: 661-792-3492
www.geogroup.com

Dear Honorable Judge Somers:

I have received and reviewed your communication dated March 15, 2017. The report identified six recommendations resulting from the inspection conducted on December 1, 2016 by the Law and Justice Committee of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury. As requested, please find the following plans of action implemented to resolve the recommendations.

Recommendations

- R1. Fire exits should never be blocked. F12. In Dorm B2, a fire exit was blocked by an inmate's personal items.

Plan of Action:

All department heads and security supervisors have been reminded to check all fire exit doors during daily rounds of the facility to verify there are no blocked fire exit doors. By June 8, Central Valley MCCF will re-iterate to all staff the facility's policy against blocking of fire exit doors at shift briefings. In addition, the Fire Safety Manager will continue to verify compliance during weekly and monthly inspections.

- R2. Doors should be secured at all times. F13. Two internal doors were left ajar, one by a guard and one by an inmate.

Plan of Action:

By June 8, Central Valley MCCF will re-iterate to all staff the facility's policy against leaving doors ajar at shift briefings. All department heads and security supervisors have been directed to make on-the-spot corrective action when observing a staff member or inmate leaving a door ajar.

- R3. Perishable items should be checked for expiration dates. Short-dated perishables should not be accepted from the vendors. F13. Perishable items were found expired in the kitchen—by three days and one day.

Plan of Action:

By June 12, 2017 kitchen staff will be retrained on the facilities policy regarding perishable items, including verification of expiration dates upon receipt of items. On May 1, 2017, the Assistant Warden of Security began conducting random weekly checks of perishable items to verify items have not been kept beyond expiration date. Random checks will continue until compliance is observed for 3 consecutive months.

- R4. Kitchen temperature gauges should be maintained and accurate at all times, for the health and safety of inmates and staff. F13. A refrigerator thermometer was non-functional.

Plan of Action:

On January 20, 2017, all refrigerator thermometers were replaced with digital thermometers. On that date, Kitchen staff were instructed to immediately report malfunctioning thermometers to the Food Service Manager. The Food Service Manager is responsible for ensuring immediate replacement of the thermometer.

- R5. Maintenance issues need to be addressed immediately for both inmates and staff safety. F13. Non-functioning faucets, toilets, and showers.

Plan of Action:

As of March 31, 2017, all identified faucets, toilets, and showers were fixed. The Maintenance manager conducts weekly and monthly inspections to identify any issues, and any potential hazards for staff and inmates. The dorm officers are required to document the findings on their Daily Inspection Form, which is turned in at the end of their watch. If there's an issue, the Lieutenant will submit a work order for maintenance prior to their end of shift. Repairs beyond the Maintenance Managers' control are immediately reported to the Facility Administrator for direction.

- R6. The community volunteer program should expand their recruitment efforts, to focus on the current needs of the inmates. F20. CVMCCF currently has 25 community volunteers; additional volunteers are needed, specifically in Substance Abuse and Religious programs.

Plan of Action:

Central Valley MCCF currently has 25 community volunteers who represent 15 different religions and services. On June 8, 2017, an email was sent to all Re-Entry Counselors and Community Relations Board members asking for assistance in finding potential volunteers to help with AA/NA/Substance Abuse services. During the facility's next Community Relations Board meeting scheduled for June 16, 2017, the facility will ask committee members to advertise in their respective organizations that Central Valley MCCF is in need of additional volunteers, and specifically in the areas of alcohol and substance abuse.

Central Valley MCCF extends our appreciation to the Kern County Grand Jury for its review and recommendations. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,



Mark Bowen
Warden

Cc: Foreperson, Kern County Grand Jury, 1415 Truxton Avenue, Suite 600, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Patricia Persante, Executive Vice President, Contract Compliance, GEO
Janet Hardwick, Vice President, Contract Compliance, GEO
James Black, Vice President, Western Region, GEO
Cheryl Nelson, Director of Operations, Western Region, GEO
Heather West, Director, Contract Compliance, Western Region, GEO
Trina Maso de Moya, Director, Contract Compliance, Project Management, GEO
Wendy Pearman, Administrative Assistant, Contract Compliance, GEO
Susan Tracey, Department Secretary, Contract Compliance, GEO
Lizet Uribe, Compliance Administrator, GEO

GOLDEN STATE MEDIUM COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured Golden State Medium Community Correctional Facility (Golden State), to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent Golden State staff a list of questions prior to the inspection, and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website, were reviewed. On May 30, 2017, the Committee met with the Assistant Warden, the Chief of Security, and various facility staff.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The facility was built in 1997, and is located at 611 Frontage Road, McFarland, California 93250. The complex consists of a 93,390 square foot building, situated on 12.7 acres. Golden State is owned by Global Expertise and Outsourcing, Inc. (GEO), and provides contracted services to CDCR. Golden State has the capacity to house 700 inmates, per CDCR contract. The contract with CDCR expires June 2018.

- A. GEO staff manages the day to day operations of Golden State. CDCR provides oversight and has an assigned administrative staff on site.
- B. On the day of inspection, the GEO correctional staff (non-sworn) was:
 - Warden 1
 - Assistant Wardens 2
 - Chief of Security 1
 - Lieutenants 6
 - Correctional Officers 90
- C. Seven sworn CDCR staff members are assigned to Golden State.
- D. Golden State is staffed by 48 GEO non-security personnel and six contracted medical staff.
- E. On the day of inspection, the inmate population was 682. The population consists of Level II inmates, with ten years or less remaining on their sentence. Golden State is designated a Sensitive Needs Yard (SNY) facility.

- F. The CDCR reimburses GEO \$60.00 per inmate per day, and \$5.46 for medical services per inmate per day.
- G. Inmate housing consists of two wings, A and B. Each wing has four dormitories (dorm), with a capacity of 88 inmates per dorm.
- H. There are 13 Transit Holding Cells (THC) and two Medical Isolation cells.
- I. Golden State has 112 video recording cameras.
- J. Some programs offered to inmates at Golden State are:
 - Substance Abuse
 - Educational
 - Vocational
 - Pre-release/Re-entry
- K. Golden State provides:
 - Classrooms
 - Library
 - Computer lab
- L. In the past year, there have been no suicides, homicides, or escapes at Golden State.
- M. Golden State does not have any restraint chairs.
- N. Visitation is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, including Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, and Independence Day.

FINDINGS:

- F1. Cell extractions are conducted by CDCR staff. When circumstances warrant, CDCR staff may deputize GEO personnel.
- F2. Limited medical and dental services are provided at Golden State. Inmates needing additional medical treatment or mental health services are transported to outside facilities.
- F3. THCs are used primarily for inmates pending transfer, but may be used for disciplinary purposes.
- F4. Golden State retains video recordings for 30 days. In the event of an extraction, CDCR retains the recordings for five years.

- F5. Golden State's Capital Project request includes an additional 20 video recording cameras. At the time of the inspection, there were two video recording cameras in the visitation area; one indoor and one outdoor.
- F6. According to GEO staff, newly installed shade coverings were added to the outdoor visitation area, providing protection from the elements and comfort for visitors and inmates. (*This type of covering has not been present at other CDCR prisons in Kern County.*)
- F7. In the event of an emergency, Golden State has a Mutual Aid Agreement with:
- Kern Valley State Prison
 - North Kern State Prison
 - Wasco State Prison
 - McFarland Police Department
- F8. The two leaking ice machines, as noted in the 2013-2014 Grand Jury Final Report, have been repaired.
- F9. Religious services, for 14 denominations, are provided by one Chaplain and 19 volunteers.
- F10. Laundry services are provided by six inmates and are supervised by a GEO correctional staff member.
- F11. In August of 2017, per GEO staff, CDCR plans to implement the guidelines of Proposition 57, which may further reduce the inmate population.
- F12. According to GEO staff, plans are in place to install computers in Dorms A-1 and B-1. These computers will be used by inmates to only access educational programs.
- F13. During the Committee's inspection, the following maintenance, security, and safety issues were observed:
- Central Control's metal tray receptacle was off track and accessible to the inmates. Staff was advised, and a maintenance order is pending.
 - There were two uneven surfaces and two badly worn areas on the disability ramp, leading to the vocational classroom trailer. Staff was advised and a maintenance order is pending.
 - The drinking fountain in THC 4 was not working. Staff was advised.
 - The dishwasher was not functioning properly. The Committee was advised that the dishwasher is being replaced. A copy of the purchase order was received.

- F14. Golden State's last annual fire inspection was completed on November 8, 2016, by the Kern County Fire Department.
- F15. The California Department of Public Health completed the Environmental Health Inspection on April 11, 2017.
- F16. The GEO staff participates in the following community activities:
- Egg Festival
 - Cinco de Mayo
 - Scholarships
 - Relay for Life
 - Toys for Tots
 - Stuff the Bus

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Assistant Warden, the Chief of Security, and staff for their hospitality, cooperation, and professionalism.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Additional recording cameras should be placed in the indoor and outdoor visitation areas. (Finding 5)
- R2. Maintenance, security, and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 13)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Golden State Medium Community Correctional Facility 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**



October 11, 2017

Golden State MCCF
611 Frontage Road
McFarland, CA. 93250

www.geogroup.com

Honorable Judge Charles R. Brehmer
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxton Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Honorable Judge Brehmer:

I have received and reviewed your communication dated June 19, 2017. The Administration here at Golden State MCCF agree with Findings F1-F16. The report identified two recommendations resulting from the inspection conducted on May 30, 2017 by the Law and Justice Committee of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury. As requested, please find the following plans of action implemented to resolve the recommendations.

Recommendations

R.1 (F5) Additional recording cameras should be placed in indoor and outdoor visitation.

Plan of Action:

There have been 20 recording cameras placed on our 2017 Capital Expenditure Request. Upon delivery of the cameras, additional recording cameras will be placed within the Visitation area, both indoor and outdoor.

R.2 (F13) Maintenance, security, and safety issues should be addressed immediately.

- Central Control's metal tray receptacle was off track and accessible to the inmates. Staff was advised and a Maintenance Order is pending.

Plan of Action:

The tray receptacle was repaired on May 30, 2017. We have had no further issues with the tray being off track.

- There were two uneven surfaces and two badly worn areas on the disability ramp leading to the Vocational classroom trailer. Staff were advised and a Maintenance Order is pending.

Plan of Action:

The ramp was refurbished on 7/21/2017 with new materials. All surfaces are even. There are no worn areas due to new material being placed on the ramps surface.



- The drinking fountain in THC-4 was not working properly. Staff was advised.

Plan of action:

Maintenance turned up the water pressure in the area of THC-4 and corrected the issue. Low pressure was due to the City of McFarland's water pump going out. On 10/11/17 Maintenance conducted a checkup of the area and looked again at the THC-4 water fountain and found it to be functioning adequately.

- The dishwasher was not functioning properly. The committee was advised that the dishwasher was being replaced. A copy of the purchase order was received.

Plan of Action:

On August 10, 2017 the new dishwasher was installed. We have had no issues with functionality since the installation.

Golden State MCCF extends our appreciation to the Kern County Grand Jury for its review and recommendations. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,

Wanda Wilson
Warden

Cc: Foreperson, Kern County Grand Jury, 1415 Truxton Ave. Suite 600, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Patricia Persante, Executive Vice President, Contract Compliance, GEO
Janet Hardwick, Vice President, Contract Compliance, GEO
James Black, Vice President, Western Region, GEO
Cheryl Nelson, Director of Operations, Western Region, GEO
Heather West, Director, Contract Compliance, Western Region, GEO
Trina Maso De Moya, Director, Contract Compliance, Project Management, GEO
Wendy Pearman, Administrative Assistant, Contract Compliance, GEO
Susan Tracey, Department Secretary, Contract Compliance, GEO
Jennifer Martinez, Compliance Administrator, GEO

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CENTRAL RECEIVING FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On August 15, 2016, The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury), pursuant to Penal Code §§919(b) and 925, visited the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), Central Receiving Facility (CRF), the main booking facility for the County of Kern, to perform an annual inspection.

PROCESS:

The Committee was greeted by the CRF Commander, the Lieutenant in charge of daily operations, the supervising Sergeant, and other staff members. A brief orientation was provided, followed by a tour and inspection of the facility.

BACKGROUND and FACTS:

The CRF is a four story building located at 1415 Truxtun Avenue in the City of Bakersfield. The building was constructed in the late 1950s and jail operations began in 1958. The CRF was closed from 1993 to 1998 due to budget constraints and all CRF operations were transferred to the Kern County Sheriff's Office Lerdo Facility (Lerdo). The CRF reopened in 1998, serving as the Inmate Reception Center for booking, processing, and housing inmates for the County of Kern. As noted in prior Grand Jury reports, the current gate control panel is outdated and requires replacement, which is budgeted for 2016. Currently, there are 109 locks that require 38 keys to access the jail doors. As stated in prior Grand Jury reports, this is an ongoing project to reduce the number of required keys to operate the jail doors to five keys.

- A. The maximum capacity of the CRF is 292 male and female inmates. On the date of the inspection, there were 73 male and 22 female inmates occupying bed space for a total of 95 inmates. No federal inmates are housed at CRF.
- B. There are four levels at the CRF: Central Receiving, Decks A, B, and C. Deck A, a tier with 97 beds, was closed on August 13, 2016, due to budget constraints.
- C. The CRF staffing level is as follows:

- Lieutenant: Current 1; Authorized 1
 - Senior Deputy Sheriff: Current 2; Authorized 4
 - Deputy Sheriff (Deputy): Current 50; Authorized 50
 - Sheriff Sergeant: Current 4; Authorized 4
- D. The CRF non-sworn staffing level is as follows:
- Sheriff Support Technician: Current 17; Authorized 18
 - Sheriff Support Specialist: Current 3; Authorized 3
 - Senior Sheriff Support Specialist: Current 1; Authorized 1
 - Sheriff's Aide: Current 4; Authorized 5
- E. The CRF offers both onsite and offsite medical staff availability 24/7 from Kern Medical.
- F. The CRF has mental health services provided by the Kern County Mental Health Department. There are two mental health staff members at the facility daily.
- G. The CRF booking process occurs in the basement of the building.
- H. The CRF has a total of 128 cameras located throughout the facility.
- I. The CRF has language translators available for inmates, including Text Telephone (TTY).
- J. The Taser brand Axon Body Worn Camera (BWC) are being worn by designated CRF deputies.
- K. The CRF has two restraint chairs available.
- L. Laundry services are provided through the Lerdo Facility.
- M. Inmates are provided three daily meals, which includes two cold meals and one hot meal. The meals are prepared and processed at the Lerdo Facility and transported to the CRF.
- N. The storage freezer and refrigerator logs were available and posted.
- O. As indicated by the KCSO, it is committed to zero-tolerance for any form of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The KCSO Detention Bureau is committed to enforcing the standards set forth by the Prison Rape Elimination

Act (PREA). The KCSO conducts a thorough PREA intake screening of each inmate received at the jail.

- P. All four levels at CRF have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) available for medical emergencies.
- Q. The average cost per inmate is \$85.17 per day which equates to approximately \$31,087.05 per year (excluding medical costs).
- R. There were four inmate escapes between April 15 and August 15, 2016. All escapees were returned to custody:
 - One escaped from a Kern County Court Room
 - One escaped from Kern Medical while being guarded
 - One escaped from Kern Medical while wearing an ankle monitor
 - One escaped by hiding beneath an inmate transportation bus

FINDINGS:

- F1. The current gate control panel is scheduled to be replaced beginning November 16, 2016, with an anticipated completion date of December 1, 2016.
- F2. The re-keying of locks, resulting in the reduction of jail keys, is an ongoing project. The project originally started with 200 locks and 57 keys, as noted in the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Final Report. There are currently 109 locks and 38 keys remaining.
- F3. As noted in prior Grand Jury Reports, the flooring in the inmate elevator still needs to be replaced and the elevator painted. The Department is in the process of obtaining a quote and acquiring funds.
- F4. When it is determined that an inmate needs additional medical services and/or treatment, the inmate is transported to the Lerdo Facility, Kern Medical, or a local hospital.
- F5. The basement parking is not secured from public access. The basement entrance does not have signage designating it as a restricted area. According to Staff, there have been multiple instances when members of the public have unknowingly entered the basement parking area.
- F6. The CRF has a total of 93 recording and 35 non-recording cameras. A recording camera was added to the women's sobering cell on October 20, 2015 using AB109 funds.

- F7. All Staff are required to complete four hours of training on the use of restraint chairs.
- F8. Some deputies are equipped with BWCs. This is a pilot program that began on March 12, 2015. There are currently ten deputies with BWCs deployed in the facility. These cameras are worn when the deputies are on duty and utilized when an event requires recording. Currently the BWC video recordings are kept indefinitely and have unlimited storage capability.
- F9. Health and safety issues were observed during the inspection of the facility. Since the date of inspection, some noted issues in parenthesis have been addressed:
- Leaky faucet in the kitchen (repaired)
 - Leaky faucet in the hallway between the laundry room and Sergeant's office area (repaired)
 - The water fountain on Deck B next to the break room, was not draining and contained trash (repaired)
 - Drainage hole next to the ice machine was missing a grate cover (replaced)
 - Broken floor tile in the Sergeant's office area (repaired)
 - A safety cell and a holding cell both have altered drainage grate covers
 - A shower head in the male dress-out room had a plastic bag over the nozzle. According to Staff, this was done to direct the water flow when filling water buckets. This shower is operable for inmate use, as needed
 - A shower on Deck B was littered with trash. According to Staff, the shower is cleaned weekly, or as needed
 - There was a broken chair on Deck B, without signage, posing a safety hazard (chair removed)
 - Several bags containing food items for inmates were sitting on the floor. These items required refrigeration. CRF staff was unable to confirm the length of time these sandwiches, which contained meat and cheese, had been sitting out. These food items were immediately discarded
- F10. The freezer log was reviewed and found that an entry for the following morning had already been posted by Staff. The CRF Lieutenant was immediately notified.
- F11. During the inspection, it was observed that several areas were littered with trash and food items.

- F12. The current jail management system used by the KCSO is the California Justice Information System (CJIS). This system is being replaced with the Tyler Odyssey Integrated Criminal Justice Solution (Odyssey) by the end of 2016.
- F13. The current report management system used by KCSO is Intergraph Law Enforcement Automated Data System (I/LEADS). This report management system is being replaced with a Tyler Technology product, by the end of 2016.
- F14. The CRF currently has two fingerprinting machines. The purchase of two new fingerprinting machines has been approved and are scheduled to be installed by the end of 2016. The new machines will interface with the Remote Access Network (RAN).
- F15. The Public Address System (PA) was not working on Deck B, so staff was utilizing a bullhorn. An estimate has been obtained and the KCSO is seeking funds for replacement.
- F16. The Board of State and Community Corrections conducted an inspection of the KCSO Central Receiving Facility on June 20, 2016. The results of this inspection are pending.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to extend a “thank you” to the Commander, Lieutenant and the Staff at CRF for their time, hospitality, and providing comprehensive information, as well as an extensive tour of the facility.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. In order to expeditiously complete the re-keying of locks and reduce the number of required keys down to five, serious consideration should be given to adding dedicated staff to this project. This project should be elevated and given priority, it has been an ongoing issue and noted in prior Grand Jury Reports since 2012-2013. (Finding 2)
- R2. The un-secured entrance to the basement needs signage added, indicating “no public access”. The basement entrance should be secured from the public and used by law enforcement, court staff, and other authorized personnel only. (Finding 5)

- R3. Improvements should be implemented to address daily housekeeping issues. (Findings 9, 11, and 16)
- R4. General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, routinely scheduled, and repaired, so as to prevent injury to staff and inmates. (Findings 1, 2, 3, 9, 15, and 16)
- R5. The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Findings 9, 10, 11, and 16)

NOTES:

- The Kern County Sheriff's Office should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
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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**



1350 Norris Road
Bakersfield, California 93308-2231

December 27, 2016

The Honorable John S. Somers, Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

On August 15, 2016, the Law and Justice Committee of the 2016–2017 Kern County Grand Jury visited the Kern County Sheriff's Office Central Receiving Facility (CRF). Based on their findings, the Grand Jury published a report that was made public on November 10, 2016. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2016–2017 Grand Jury Final Report concerning the Kern County Sheriff's Office Central Receiving Facility.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Grand Jury for its efforts in reviewing the operations of CRF. The objective review of CRF provided by the Grand Jury helps to strengthen the foundation of trust between the community and the Sheriff's Office. As always, the Sheriff's Office appreciates the valuable insight provided by the Grand Jury.

GRAND JURY FINDINGS:

- F1. *The current gate control panel is scheduled to be replaced beginning November 16, 2016, with an anticipated completion date of December 1, 2016.*
- F2. *The re-keying of locks, resulting in the reduction of jail keys, is an ongoing project. The project originally started with 200 locks and 57 keys, as noted in the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Final Report. There are currently 109 locks and 38 keys remaining.*
- F3. *As noted in prior Grand Jury Reports, the flooring in the inmate elevator still needs to be replaced and the elevator painted. The department is in the process of obtaining a quote and acquiring funds.*
- F4. *When it is determined that an inmate needs additional medical services and/or treatment, the inmate is transported to the Lerdo Facility, Kern Medical, or a local hospital*
- F5. *The basement parking is not secured from public access. The basement entrance does not have signage designating it as a restricted area. According to*

Staff, there have been multiple instances when members of the public have unknowingly entered the basement parking area.

- F6. *The CRF has a total of 93 recording and 35 non-recording cameras. A recording camera was added to the women's sobering cell on October 20, 2015 using AB109 funds.*
- F7. *All Staff are required to complete four hours of training on the use of restraint chairs.*
- F8. *Some deputies are equipped with BWCs [body worn cameras]. This is a pilot program that began on March 12, 2015. There are currently ten deputies with BWCs deployed in the facility. These cameras are worn when deputies are on duty and utilized when an event requires recording. Currently the BWC video recordings are kept indefinitely and have unlimited storage capacity.*
- F9. *Health and safety issues were observed during the inspection of the facility. Since the date of inspection, some noted issues in parenthesis have been addressed:*
- Leaky faucet in the kitchen (repaired)*
 - Leaky faucet in the hallway between the laundry room and the Sergeant's office area (repaired)*
 - The water fountain on Deck B next to the break room was not draining and contained trash (repaired)*
 - Drainage hole next to the ice machine was missing a grate cover (replaced)*
 - Broken floor tile in the Sergeant's office area (repaired)*
 - A safety cell and a holding cell both have altered drainage grate covers*
 - A shower head in the male dress-out room had a plastic bag over the nozzle. According to Staff, this was done to direct the water flow when filling water buckets. This shower is operable for inmate use, as needed*
 - A shower on Deck B was littered with trash. According to staff, the shower is cleaned weekly, or as needed*
 - There was a broken chair on Deck B, without signage, posing a safety hazard (chair removed)*
 - Several bags containing food items for inmates were sitting on the floor. These items required refrigeration. CRF staff was unable to confirm the length of time these sandwiches, which contained meat and cheese, had been sitting out. These food items were immediately discarded*
- F10. *The freezer log was reviewed and found that an entry for the following morning had already been posted by Staff. The CRF Lieutenant was immediately notified.*
- F11. *During the inspection, it was observed that several areas were littered with trash and food items.*

- F12. *The current jail management system used by the KCSO is the California Justice Information System (CJIS). This system is being replaced with the Tyler Odyssey Integrated Criminal Justice Solution (Odyssey) by the end of 2016.*
- F13. *The current report management system used by KCSO is Intergraph Law Enforcement Automated Data System (I/LEADS). This report management system is being replaced with a Tyler Technology product, by the end of 2016.*
- F14. *The CRF currently has two fingerprinting machines. The purchase of two new fingerprinting machines has been approved and are scheduled to be installed by the end of 2016. The new machines will interface with the Remote Access Network (RAN).*
- F15. *The Public Address System (PA) was not working on Deck B, so staff was utilizing a bullhorn. An estimate has been obtained and the KCSO is seeking funds for replacement.*
- F16. *The Board of State and Community Corrections conducted an inspection of the KCSO Central Receiving Facility on June 20, 2016. The results of this inspection are pending.*

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with findings F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14, and F16.

The Sheriff's Office agrees that the findings for F1, F9, F12, F13, and F15 were accurate at the time of the site visit. However, following the Grand Jury's visit, the Sheriff's Office has addressed all issues noted in F9. In addition, the projects described in F1 and F15 have a confirmed start date of December 27, 2016.

- F1. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. However, based on the current projections, the control panel project has been delayed and will begin on December 27, 2016.
- F8. Although the current BWC storage system has an unlimited storage capacity, at the direction of County Counsel, KCSO policy establishes specific time limits for the proper disposal and / or retaining of BWC recordings.
- F9. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding.
- The safety cell and holding cell drainage grate covers have been modified to completely enclose the grates with a perforated metal cover.
 - The shower head in the male dress-out room was replaced with a fitting to allow for a rubber hose to be attached and used to safely direct water into mop buckets.

F12 and F13. Due to delays in the programming process, the projected implementation dates have been delayed until later in 2017.

F15. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. A quote was obtained to repair the defective Public Address System (PA) on Deck B, and update the aging and antiquated PA system on Deck A and Deck C. Funds from AB109 have been allocated for the project and the installation is scheduled to run concurrent with the control panel (Finding 1).

GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. *In order to expeditiously complete the re-keying of locks and reduce the number of required keys down to five, serious consideration should be given to adding dedicated staff to this project. This project should be elevated and given priority, it has been an ongoing issue and noted in the prior Grand Jury Reports since 2012-2013. (Finding 2)*
- R2. *The un-secured entrance to the basement needs signage added, indicating "no public access." The basement entrance should be secured from the public and used by law enforcement, court staff, and other authorized personnel only. (Finding 5)*
- R3. *Improvements should be implemented to address daily housekeeping issues. (Findings 9, 11, and 16)*
- R4. *General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, routinely scheduled, and repaired, so as to prevent injury to staff and inmates. (Findings 1, 2, 3, 9, 15, and 16)*
- R5. *The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Findings 9, 10, 11, and 16)*

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with a majority of the recommendations provided by the Grand Jury. The Sheriff's Office will continue to explore additional avenues of funding in order to complete several of the Grand Jury's recommendations.

- R1. As noted in "Finding 2", there are currently 38 keys that are utilized for locks throughout the facility.

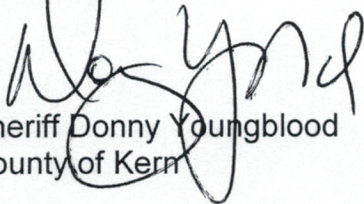
The Sheriff's Office has reevaluated the need to continue the re-keying of locks as it relates to security and overall function at CRF, and has determined that the current number of keys is appropriate. The Sheriff's Office will continue to repair or replace unserviceable locks as necessary to ensure there is no risk to the safety and welfare of the inmates housed at the CRF.

- R2. The Sheriff's Office recognizes the need for reinforcing the security of the basement entrance at CRF. We are exploring costs and available options related to this. In addition, the Sheriff's Office is working to acquire appropriate signage as suggested in R2.

- R3. The Sheriff's Office is committed to maintaining a safe, secure, and clean environment for our inmate population. The Sheriff's Office has addressed all of the specific issues noted in R3. Further measures have been implemented to ensure the ongoing, overall cleanliness of CRF. It should be noted that the results of the Board of State and Community Corrections inspection (F16) noted there were no non-compliance health issues at CRF.
- R4. The Sheriff's Office is dedicated to maintaining a safe environment for both the staff and inmates housed at CRF. Many of the Findings referenced in R4 were immediately corrected after they were discovered. The process for securing the funding for the remaining large items has been initiated. The Sheriff's Office will continue to closely monitor and address maintenance concerns as they are discovered.
- R5. The Sheriff's Office is required to follow the guidelines of Title 15, and we are taking the necessary steps to ensure we are in compliance with those guidelines.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office sincerely thanks the Grand Jury's Law and Justice Committee for taking the time to visit the Central Receiving Facility and providing their valuable insight and recommendations. 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 Curtis Cornelison
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman
Clerk of the Board
County Administrative Office

Kern County Board of Supervisors
Response to Grand Jury Final Report
Kern County Sheriff's Office Central Receiving Facility

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct with minor clarifications added to Findings F1, F8, F9, F12, F13, and F15 as described in the Sheriff's response.

Response to Recommendations:

R1: In order to expeditiously complete the re-keying of locks and reduce the number of required keys down to five, serious consideration should be given to adding dedicated staff to this project. This project should be elevated and given priority, it has been an ongoing issue and noted in prior Grand Jury Reports since 2012-2013.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the current number of keys is appropriate and that they will repair or replace unserviceable locks as necessary for security and overall function.

R2: The un-secured entrance to the basement needs signage added, indicating "no public access". The basement entrance should be secured from the public and used by law enforcement, court staff, and other authorized personnel only.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they will explore costs, available options, and appropriate signage to reinforce security of basement entrance.

R3: Improvements should be implemented to address daily housekeeping issues.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they addressed specific issues and implemented further measures to maintain a safe, secure, and clean environment. Results of the Board of State and Community Corrections inspection noted no non-compliance health issues.

R4: General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, routinely scheduled, and repaired, so as to prevent injury to staff and inmates.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that many findings were immediately corrected and funding for the remaining items have been initiated.

R5: The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they are taking necessary steps to ensure compliance with Title 15 guidelines.

Kern Valley State Prison

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On January 24, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP) to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent KVSP staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports were reviewed in preparation for the inspection. The Committee met with the Warden, Assistant Warden, the Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer (AA/PIO), and various staff members.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

KVSP is located at 3000 W. Cecil Ave. Delano, CA 93215. The prison sits on 600 acres. KVSP houses primarily Level IV inmates. Generally, Level III and Level II inmates are in transition to other facilities or as a medical/mental health override. Level I inmates are housed in the Minimum Support Facility. Sixty-five percent of the inmates at KVSP are serving a life sentence. At the time of the inspection, there were 3,723 inmates with a maximum capacity of 4,084.

A. Inmate count on day of Inspection:

- Level I - 39
- Level II - 142
- Level III - 95
- Level IV - 3,447

B. Staff count on the date of inspection:

- 1 – Warden
- 1 – Chief Deputy Warden
- 6 – Associate Wardens
- 6 – Captains
- 30 – Lieutenants
- 84 – Sergeants
- 850 – Correctional Officers
- 35 – Correctional Counselors

- C. Non-sworn staff are as follows:
- 258 – non-medical
 - 223 – medical
 - 33 – dental
 - 54 – mental health
- D. From January 24, 2016 to January 24, 2017, there were no escapes, successful or attempted.
- E. Since passage of AB109 in 2011, KVSP has reduced its population by approximately 1,000 inmates.
- F. KVSP follows CDCR's Use of Force Policy:
- *Deadly force will only be used when it is reasonably necessary to defend the employee or other persons from an imminent threat of death or great bodily injury*
 - *To prevent an escape from custody*
 - *To stop acts such as riots or arson that constitute an immediate jeopardy to institutional security and because of their magnitude are likely to result in escapes, great bodily injury, or the death of other persons*
 - *Staff are trained to "stop the threat", they are not trained for "shoot to kill"*
- G. Contracted interpreters are available via telephone 24/7.
- H. KVSP has a Central Kitchen and twenty satellite kitchens.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The KVSP operating budget for 2016 was \$174,220,432.
- F2. The annual cost to house an inmate is \$44,783; medical cost is an additional \$11,830.
- F3. KVSP currently has 1,341 full time inmate work assignments.
- F4. The Central Kitchen "blast chills" meals that are sent to the satellite kitchens. These meals can be stored up to three days.
- F5. Level IV inmates receive meals in their cells. In Yard B there is pilot program that uses eight hot and eight cold meal carts, which KVSP plans to expand to the other yards.
- F6. KVSP is the hub for self-identified transgender inmates and they are housed separately.

- F7. KVSP does not have restraint chairs.
- F8. On weekends, the facility receives an average of 800 visitors.
- F9. KVSP has three rooms for conjugal visits and/or extended family visits, but one room is reserved for emergency or facility needs.
- F10. During the Committee's inspection, the following maintenance and safety issues were observed in the Central Kitchen:
- An unattached hand washing sink and pipes, and is pending repair
 - No warning signs posted indicating wet floors, staff was notified
 - In the general freezer, a box of food was found on the floor, staff was notified and it was corrected immediately
- F11. The 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury recommended that all wooden benches be replaced with metal benches or capped with a metal seat.
- Two benches have been repaired
 - Four benches are pending repair
- F12. In 2016, KVSP had three suicides and another 16 attempted.
- F13. The maximum restitution amount collected from an inmate is 55% of any money earned or received.
- F14. As recommended by a prior Grand Jury, electronic equipment for the vocational class was delivered during July and August of 2016, and is currently being used by the inmates.
- F15. Laundry services are provided through the California Prison Industry Authority (PIA) at Wasco State Prison. The cost is approximately \$250,000 a year, per the contract.
- F16. KVSP was accredited on August 18, 2014, by the American Correctional Association, for a period of three years.
- F17. Some staff in Receiving and Release were not fully familiar with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) guidelines and the Inmate Orientation process.
- F18. In March 2017, KVSP will initiate an Electronic Unit Health Record System.
- F19. The Correctional Treatment Center serves as an Emergency Room for the Facility. There is major ongoing re-modeling, with an anticipated completion date in 2018.
- F20. The satellite medical clinics in each facility are being renovated, adding more space for treatment.

F21. The Mental Health Facility has 22 offices, some exceed design capacity:

- three have one staff (designed for one)
- seven have two staff (designed for one)
- six have three staff (designed for two)
- one large office has five staff (designed for five)
- one large office has eight staff (designed for eight)
- four offices are solely used as interview rooms

F22. According to staff, KVSP's focus is to reduce inmate violence by minimizing idle time. KVSP has 19 self-help programs, some of which include Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, Anger Management, and Criminal Thinking.

F23. KVSP offers courses, both on-line and on-site, with staff from Bakersfield College.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Assistant Warden, the AA/PIO, and various staff for their time, expertise, and the extensive tour of their facility.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Findings 10 and 11)
- R2. Receiving and Release staff should be fully trained and knowledgeable in all assigned areas. (Finding 17)
- R3. The Mental Health Facility should be expanded to provide sufficient office space for the Staff and inmates to meet confidentiality requirements. Consideration should be given to pursuing grant funding. (Finding 21)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Kern Valley State Prison 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**

**DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS
KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON**

P.O. Box 3130
Delano, CA 93216-6000

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May 4, 2017

Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Honorable Judge,

This is in response to the letter I received dated, March 15, 2017, concerning the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury report on Kern Valley State Prison. The following is submitted in response to the aforementioned letter:

- Per California Penal Code Section 933 (a), Kern Valley State Prison agrees with the findings located in the Kern County Grand Jury's report for 2016-2017.
- Recommendations of the Grand Jury:
 - R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately.
(Findings 10 and 11)

This recommendation will be implemented. Steps are being taken to expedite the Work Order and repair process (i.e. Work Order Coordinator Training). Additionally, other workflow modifications are being made in an attempt to compensate for the 25% vacancy rate we are currently experiencing in Plant Operations. It should be noted all safety issues are categorized as "Priority One" Work Orders and are given priority to be completed before lower priority Work Orders.

- R2. Receiving and Release staff should be fully trained and knowledgeable in all assigned areas. (Finding 17)

This recommendation has been implemented. Training relative to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and Operational Procedure #204, Receiving and Release (R&R) was given to the R&R Sergeant and seven (7) R&R Officers.

- R3. The Mental Health Facility should be expanded to provide sufficient office space for the staff and inmates to meet confidentiality requirements. Consideration should be given to pursuing grant funding. (Finding 21)

cc: Dwayne Ardis, Foreperson
Kern County Grand Jury
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 600
Bakersfield, CA 93301

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This recommendation will be implemented, in part. The space issue will continue to be addressed through our Space Committee procedure. One thing to keep in mind is staff are not in their offices all day due to treatment schedules and they often have different regular days off. This reduces the times when an office might be occupied by two staff members. Additional treatment space is being identified through the same space Committee Procedure as well. Grant funding is being pursued for various Mental Health Treatment programs, however, grants are seldom issued for improvements or additions to physical Plant. Currently, KVSP is able to provide Mental Health Treatment to its inmate population while maintaining all necessary confidentiality requirements.

Kern Valley State Prison extends our appreciation to the Kern County Grand Jury for its annual reviews and recommendations to improve and sustain our high standard of excellence.

Please contact Lieutenant Michael Betzinger, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer should you have concerns/questions at (661) 721-6314.

Sincerely,



CHRISTIAN PFEIFFER
Warden
Kern Valley State Prison

McFARLAND FEMALE COMMUNITY REENTRY FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On October 27, 2016, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) visited the McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility at McFarland (MFCRF), to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

In advance, the Committee sent the MFCRF staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports were also reviewed in preparation for the inspection. The Committee was met by the Warden, the Assistant Warden, a Captain from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Executive Personnel, and various institutional staff.

BACKGROUND and FACTS:

The MFCRF is located at 120 Taylor Avenue, McFarland, California 93250. The MFCRF is a 36,704 square foot, one-story masonry building with a maximum capacity of 300 inmates. It was financed, designed and built on five acres of land by Global Expertise in Outsourcing NZ Ltd, The GEO Group Inc. (GEO).

The MFCRF opened as a female reentry institution in August 2014. GEO is committed to providing leading, evidence-based rehabilitation programs to offenders in-custody and post-release into the community. The goal is to provide a more gender responsive environment, conducive to providing programs focused on reducing recidivism and implementing the "GEO Continuum of Care".

- A. MFCRF is a Female Community Reentry Program and follows the policies and regulations of GEO and CDCR.
- B. On the date of inspection:
 - Inmate count - 284 (maximum capacity 300)
- C. On the date of inspection:
 - CDCR Sworn personnel – 12 filled positions; 0 vacant
 - Security personnel (GEO) – 43 filled positions; 3 vacant
 - Civilian personnel – 64 filled positions; 2 vacant
- D. There are four dorms, each with a maximum capacity of 75 inmates.

- E. Inmates received at MFCRF have five years or less remaining on their sentence.
- F. The MFCRF provides the following programs to assist inmates in securing employment upon their release.
- Academic Education:
 - Adult Basic Education/English Language Development
 - High School Equivalency Test (HiSET only)
 - College Correspondence Courses
 - Certificate Program:
 - Certiport Computer
 - Culinary Arts
 - Career Technical Education (CTE) / Vocational programs available:
 - Culinary Arts
 - Office Services and related technology
 - Rehabilitation evidence based programs:
 - Family Relationship
 - Anger Management
 - Criminal Thinking
 - Substance Abuse
 - Transition
- G. The facility has a lending-library for inmate use.
- The library, on the day of inspection, had 2,150 fiction and 1,480 non-fiction books
- H. MFCRF has recording cameras and the data is retained for approximately 30 days.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The 2015-2016 Grand Jury noted that there were numerous indoor antennas throughout the dorms. During this yearly inspection, the Committee observed television signal boosters installed on dorm windows. The Committee was informed by Staff that more antennas would be installed on the roof.
- F2. Inmates are transferred to MFCRF from Folsom, Chowchilla, and California Institute for Women (Chino).
- F3. Upon arrival, each inmate receives three sets of clothing and two weeks of personal hygiene products.
- F4. The cost to house an inmate is \$89.50 per day, which includes medical.

- F5. Inmates receive two hot meals, breakfast and dinner, and a cold meal at lunch.
- F6. The MFCRF launders uniforms, sheets, and towels for the inmates. Inmates are responsible for laundering their own personal items.
- F7. Inmates must sign up to use the washers and dryers. Dorms A, B, and C each have one washer and one dryer. Dorm D has two washers and two dryers.
- F8. Inmates who have funds available, may purchase items through the canteen once every two weeks.
- F9. Regular mail is delivered to the inmates at their dorm. Legal mail must be signed for and picked up at the canteen.
- F10. A limited number of musical instruments were available to be checked out from the library.
- F11. The CDCR provides a two day course in Gender Responsiveness Training. All employees, sworn and non-sworn, must complete this training.
- F12. There is a Women's Advisory Council (WAC), which consists of one representative from each dorm. They meet monthly with Staff to resolve and discuss any issues from inmates.
- F13. All inmates must be enrolled in at least two programs. A job assignment qualifies as one program.
- F14. This is the first year for the Culinary Arts program and it is an accredited program administered by Bakersfield College.
- F15. A Registered Nurse (RN) is on duty 24/7. There is a doctor and a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) who work full time. When the doctor is not at the facility, he/she is on call.
- F16. Dental services are available two days a week.
- F17. Only CDCR Staff are authorized to carry weapons.
- F18. Prior to release, most inmates choose to participate in a five week transitional class.

- F19. Ten percent of the substance abuse program participants at MFCRF are tested monthly. GEO also tests 10% of the entire inmate population monthly.
- F20. There were no cameras in the salon, library, CDCR staff or the program staff trailers.
- F21. The Committee randomly selected multiple packages of perishable items. One was found to be five days expired and another indicated one day expired.
- F22. The Committee observed numerous maintenance issues as well as health and safety concerns. These included non-functioning faucets, toilets, and showers. Standing water was found outside the shower area without signage. In Dorm A, water was leaking from the ceiling into a bucket on the floor, and there was a broken floor tile in Dorm D, with no caution signs.
- F23. On July 22, 2016, MFCRF completed a Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit, with 100% compliance.
- F24. MFCRF was awarded a three-year accreditation on August 8, 2016, by the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Assistant Warden, CDCR Captain, and staff for their time, expertise, and the extensive tour of their facility.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Install cameras in the salon, library, CDCR and program staff trailers to increase security, when funding is available. (Finding 20)
- R2. Perishable items should be checked for expiration dates. Short-dated perishables should not be accepted from the vendors. (Finding 21)
- R3. All dorms should have two washers and two dryers, to accommodate the needs of the inmates, when funds become available. (Finding 7)
- R4. Provide more musical instruments to be checked out by the inmates, possibly through donations. (Finding 10)
- R5. Maintenance issues need to be addressed immediately for both staff and inmate safety. (Finding 22)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
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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**

MCFARLAND FEMALE COMMUNITY REENTRY FACILITY

On October 27, 2016 members of the Kern County Grand Jury conducted an annual visit. The members toured the facility and interviewed inmates during the visit. In addition they were able to ask questions and review documentation necessary to gain insight into the current operation of the institution. During the tour, several maintenance items were noted including a few non-operational showers, toilets and sinks. The facility maintenance department works diligently to maintain effective equipment operations and provides daily maintenance on high usage items including showers, sinks, and toilets.

As part of the annual review, the following information has been compiled per your request. We trust our responses are useful and satisfy the content of each inquiry. If you require further documentation or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the facility.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The 2015-2016 Grand Jury noted that there were numerous indoor antennas throughout the dorms. During this yearly inspection, the Committee observed television signal boosters installed on dorm windows. The Committee was informed by Staff that more antennas would be installed on the roof.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F2. Inmates are transferred to MFCRF from Folsom, Chowchilla, and California Institute for Women (Chino).
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F3. Upon arrival, each inmate receives three sets of clothing and two weeks of personal hygiene products.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F4. The cost to house an inmate is \$89.50 per day, which includes medical.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F5. Inmates receive two hot meals, breakfast and dinner, and a cold meal at lunch.

- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F6. The MFCRF launders uniforms, sheets, and towels for the inmates. Inmates are responsible for laundering their own personal items.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F7. Inmates must sign up to use the washers and dryers. Dorms A, B, and C each have one washer and one dryer. Dorm D has two washers and two dryers.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs partially with the observations. Each Housing Unit is equipped with 2 washers and 2 dryers, however on the date of the tour 3 washers and 3 dryers were out of service and pending repair/replacement. Once repaired/replaced the housing units will all have 2 washers and 2 dryers. Targeted completion date is April 2017.**
- F8. Inmates who have funds available, may purchase items through the canteen once every two weeks.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F9. Regular mail is delivered to the inmates at their dorm. Legal mail must be signed for and picked up at the canteen.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F10. A limited number of musical instruments were available to be checked out from the library.
- **McFarland FCRF does not concur with the observation. The facility plans to implement a music program this year.**
- F11. The CDCR provides a two day course in Gender Responsiveness Training. All employees, sworn and non-sworn, must complete this training.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F12. There is a Women's Advisory Council (WAC), which consists of one representative from each dorm. They meet monthly with Staff to resolve and discuss any issues from inmates.
- **McFarland FCRF does not concur with the observation. The Women's Advisory Council (WAC) is comprised of (2) dorm**

representatives, (1) Chairperson, (1) Vice Chair, (1) Secretary, (1) Parliamentarian, and (1) Sergeant of Arms.

- F13. All inmates must be enrolled in at least two programs. A job assignment qualifies as one program.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs partially with the observation. All inmates must participate in at least one program.**
- F14. This is the first year for the Culinary Arts program and it is an accredited program administered by Bakersfield College.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F15. A Registered Nurse (RN) is on duty 24/7. There is a doctor and a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) who work full time. When the doctor is not at the facility, he/she is on call.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F16. Dental services are available two days a week.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F17. Only CDCR Staff are authorized to carry weapons.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F18. Prior to release, most inmates choose to participate in a five week transitional class.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F19. Ten percent of the substance abuse program participants at MFCRF are tested monthly. GEO also tests 10% of the entire inmate population monthly.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F20. There were no cameras in the salon, library, CDCR staff or the program staff trailers.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**

- F21. The Committee randomly selected multiple packages of perishable items. One was found to be five days expired and another indicated one day expired.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F22. The Committee observed numerous maintenance issues as well as health and safety concerns. These included non-functioning faucets, toilets, and showers. Standing water was found outside the shower area without signage. In Dorm A, water was leaking from the ceiling into a bucket on the floor, and there was a broken floor tile in Dorm D, with no caution signs.
- **McFarland FCRF agrees partially with the observations. Housing Unit toilets, sinks and showers require routine adjusting and repair due to constant usage. The maintenance department works diligently to maintain effective operations of all facility equipment. All maintenance repairs are prioritized based on the date of discovery and/or service request.**
- F23. On July 22, 2016, MFCRF completed a Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit, with 100% compliance.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**
- F24. MFCRF was awarded a three-year accreditation on August 8, 2016, by the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections.
- **McFarland FCRF concurs with the observation.**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Install cameras in the salon, library, CDCR and program staff trailers to increase security, when funding is available. (Finding 20)
- **Camera allocations are reviewed annually during the facility risk assessment. Inmates are not authorized to be in the aforementioned areas without the presence of staff. The facility surveillance system, in addition to areas of potential vulnerability, were evaluated during the July 2016 PREA certification audit with no concerns noted. The salon and library are equipped with doors which have windows, and the CDCR & programs trailers have multiple windows.**
- R2. Perishable items should be checked for expiration dates. Short-dated perishables should not be accepted from the vendors. (Finding 21)

- **On the date of the tour two packages of perishable items were noted to be past the listed “sell by date.” McFarland FCRF has implemented a Weekly Perishable Items Random Inspection log book which will provide additional quality control checks on expiration dates. In addition, staff will make every effort to avoid acceptance of short-dated perishables from the vendors.**
- R3. All dorms should have two washers and two dryers, to accommodate the needs of the inmates, when funds become available. (Finding 7)
- **On the day of the tour 3 washers and 3 dyers were non-operable and pending repair/replacement. These items are expected to be reinstated by the end of April 2017.**
- R4. Provide more musical instruments to be checked out by the inmates, possibly through donations. (Finding 10)
- **McFarland FCRF accepts community donations for musical equipment. The facility is working on implementing a music program this year.**
- R5. Maintenance issues need to be addressed immediately for both staff and inmate safety. (Finding 22)
- **McFarland FCRF works diligently to maintain effective operations of all facility equipment. Any items requiring the attention of maintenance are submitted into the facilities work order tracking system and repaired/replaced accordingly. Daily and weekly safety inspections are conducted to identify any potential hazards for staff and inmates.**

NORTH KERN STATE PRISON

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On February 16, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured North Kern State Prison (NKSP) to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent NKSP staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website were reviewed, in preparation for the inspection. The Committee met with the Warden, Associate Warden, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer (AA/PIO), Executive and Medical staff, and other staff from various areas of the facility.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

NKSP is located at 2737 West Cecil Avenue, Delano, California 93216-0567. NKSP is a Medium Security Facility with General Population inmates, and it has a Minimum Support Facility with a ten-bed Firehouse, which includes Level I inmates. The Facility focuses on providing educational/vocational opportunities for the General Population portion of inmates; equipping them with skills that will aid in finding employment upon their release. NKSP has a designed capacity of 2,694 (single cell). On the day of inspection there were 4,659 inmates.

The Reception Center (RC) processes incoming inmates, usually within a 90 day period. NKSP staff determine the inmate's classification score and statewide institutional placement, based on compiling the inmate's criminal record, life history, medical and psychological history, and social relationships.

The RC consists of three facilities: B, C, and D. Facility D houses inmates in the Administrative Segregation Unit.

Located at NKSP, the Central/Southern California Transportation Hub provides services to the CDCR.

A. Inmate count on the day of Inspection:

- Reception Center
 - Facility B (two tiered cell setting) - 1,035
 - Facility C (two tiered dormitory) - 1,521
 - Facility D (two tiered cell setting) - 928

- General Population
 - Facility A (two tiered cell setting) - 861
 - Facility M (open dormitory) - 160
- Administrative Segregation Unit - 93
- Fire House - 7
- Outside Hospital/Out to Court - 3
- Receiving/Release - 34
- Infirmary - 16
- Family Visiting - 1

B. Staff count on the day of Inspection:

- Warden - 1
- Chief Deputy Warden - 1
- Associate Warden - 5
- Captain - 6
- Lieutenant (1 vacant) - 25
- Sergeant - 67
- Correctional Officer (CO) (8 vacant) - 633
- Permanent Intermittent CO - 6
- Correctional Counselor - 47
- Correctional Counselor II Specialist - 5
- Correctional Counselor II Supervisor - 7
- Correctional Counselor III - 2

C. NKSP and Wasco State Prison are the two largest RCs for CDCR.

D. The annual cost to house an inmate is \$70,836 and an additional \$13,833 for medical care.

E. Central Kitchen prepares approximately 14,400 meals per day, including 135 specialty meals.

F. Inmates receive three meals per day. Breakfast and dinner are served hot and lunch is served cold. Inmates are allowed twenty minutes for each meal.

G. Laundry services are provided through California Prison Industry Authority (PIA) at Wasco State Prison. The cost is approximately \$250,000 a year, per the contract.

H. NKSP has nine perimeter towers, however, only two are staffed.

I. The perimeter fence is electrified.

- J. All Controlled Use of Force incidents are video recorded per CDCR policy. Each recording is maintained for a period of five years.
- K. Visiting hours are 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, also New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- L. The number of civilian employees are:
 - Medical - 239
 - Mental Health - 78
 - Dental - 25
 - Non-custody staff - 263
- M. Inmates who are diagnosed and documented as transgender, are housed at other designated institutions within CDCR.
- N. NKSP does not have restraint chairs.
- O. The California Department of Public Health, Environmental Compliance Section, last conducted an annual inspection at NKSP in September 2016.
- P. The American Correctional Association inspected NKSP on March 17, 2016. NKSP was granted accreditation on August 8, 2016.

FINDINGS:

- F1. An Emergency Room and Observation Room are being added in the Central Health Treatment and Triage area, with an anticipated completion date in February 2018.
- F2. The Satellite Medical Clinics are being renovated with an anticipated move in date of April/May 2017:
 - Facility A is adding six rooms
 - Facilities B and C are adding new clinics
 - Facilities B and D are adding Pill Pharmacies
- F3. NKSP will be implementing an Electronic Health Records program to digitally record medical data, starting in June 2017.
- F4. NKSP cost for an inmate's daily meals are:
 - Standard - \$3.23
 - Kosher - \$9.00
 - All other specialty meals - \$3.73
- F5. Inmates are allowed a five minute shower, three times per week. Inmates with work assignments are allowed to shower at the end of their work day.

- F6. In 2015-2016, NKSP had the highest number of General Education Degree (GED) graduates in the CDCR system.
- F7. NKSP offers inmates on-site courses, with staff from Bakersfield College.
- F8. The NKSP Staff and personnel from Marley's Mutts are discussing the development and implementation of a canine training program for inmates.
- F9. The Staff at NKSP participate in a variety of community activities:
- Special Olympics
 - Relay for Life
 - Honor Flight
 - Delano Chamber of Commerce
 - Tip-A-Cop
- F10. In March 2017, the RC is adding a new Counseling Center.
- F11. A portion of the Diagnostic Area is being renovated as a Reception Center, with an anticipated completion date of February 2018.
- F12. The Correctional Treatment Center has a five-point restraint gurney and a safety cell.
- F13. The Committee observed numerous maintenance issues as well as health and safety concerns:
- Staff was notified of a dead bird at the ambulance entrance
 - Plumbing issues and non-functioning faucets (throughout the Facility)
 - Wet floors without warning signs (Central Kitchen)

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Associate Warden, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer (AA/PIO), Executive and Medical Staff, and other staff from various areas of the Facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

- R1. For the safety of inmates and staff, maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 13)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and North Kern State Prison 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**

DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS**NORTH KERN STATE PRISON**

2737 West Cecil Avenue

P. O. Box 567

Delano, California 93216



May 24, 2017

The Honorable John S. Somers
Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, CA 93301

The Law and Justice Committee of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury visited North Kern State Prison (NKSP) on Thursday, February 16, 2017, to inquire into the management and conditions of NKSP pursuant to California Penal Code Section 919(b).

The Grand Jury released the final report documenting their findings and recommendations on April 24, 2017. The following is the response to the findings and recommendations contained in the report.

FINDING 1: An Emergency Room and Observation Room are being added in the Central Health Treatment and Triage area, with an anticipated completion date in February 2018.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 2: The Satellite Medical Clinics are being renovated with an anticipated move in date of April/May 2017.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 3: NKSP will be implementing an Electronic Health Records program to digitally record medical data, starting in June 2017.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 4: NKSP cost for an inmate's daily meals are:

- Standard - \$3.23
- Kosher - \$9.00
- All other specialty meals - \$3.73

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 5: Inmates are allowed a five minute shower, three times per week. Inmates with work assignments are allowed to shower at the end of their work day.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 6: In 2015-2016, NKSP had the highest number of General Education Degree (GED) graduates in the CDCR system.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 7: NKSP offers inmates on-site courses, with staff from Bakersfield College.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 8: The NKSP Staff and personnel from Marley's Mutts are discussing the development and implementation of a canine training program for inmates.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 9: The Staff at NKSP participate in a variety of community activities:

- Special Olympics
- Relay for Life
- Honor Flight
- Delano Chamber of Commerce
- Tip-A-Cop

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 10: In March 2017, the RC is adding a new Counseling Center.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 11: A portion of the Diagnostic Area is being renovated as a Reception Center, with an anticipated completion date of February 2016.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 12: The Correctional Treatment Center has a five-point restraint gurney and a safety cell.

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

FINDING 13: The Committee observed numerous maintenance issues as well as health and safety concerns:

- Staff was notified of a dead bird at the ambulance entrance
- Plumbing issues and non-functioning faucets (throughout the Facility)
- Wet floors without warning signs (Central Kitchen)

RESPONSE: The respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATION 1: For the safety of inmates and staff, maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 13)

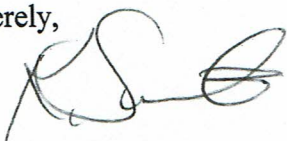
RESPONSE: The dead bird located between the building and fence near the ambulance entrance was removed.

Four plumbing issues were addressed during the Grand Jury tour. Work orders for the plumbing issues had been placed. Since then the work orders have been completed.

A "wet floor" sign was not placed in the scullery area of the Central Kitchen. Training regarding the placement of wet floor signs was provided to the Central Kitchen staff as well as the Inmate workers.

Should you have any questions, please contact Lt. Jose M. Martinez, Administrative Assistant/ Public Information Officer at (661) 721-2345 ext. 5007.

Sincerely,



KELLY SANTORO

Warden

Cc: Dwayne Ardis, Foreperson, 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Adult Institutions,
Reception Centers Mission

SHAFTER MODIFIED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured the Shafter Modified Community Correctional Facility (SMCCF) to inspect and report on conditions and operations pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

Prior to the inspection, the Committee sent SMCCF staff a list of questions, and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports, and the CDCR website, were also reviewed. On March 28, 2017, the Committee met with the Chief of Corrections, the Assistant Chief of Corrections, the City Manager, and various staff members.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The SMCCF is located at 1150 East Ash Avenue, Shafter, California 93263. From January 1991 to November 2011, the City of Shafter (City) operated the Shafter Community Correctional Facility (SCCF), under contract with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). As a result of Assembly Bill 109, SCCF was closed.

The facility re-opened as Shafter Modified Community Correction Facility, under a new contract between the City and CDCR. The contract is due to expire on June 30, 2018. The facility first received inmates on December 16, 2013. The SMCCF houses Levels I and II inmates with ten years or less remaining on their sentence. The majority of these inmates have a history of violence.

- A. On the day of inspection there were 578 inmates, with a facility capacity of 640.
- B. Command staff (sworn) on the day of inspection:
- Chief 1
 - Assistant Chief 1
 - Lieutenants 2
 - Administrative Sergeant 1
 - Sergeants 4
 - Senior Officers 5
 - Correctional Officers 53

- C. CDCR - sworn staff - on the day of inspection - on site:
- Correctional Counselor II 1
 - Correctional Counselor I 4
- D. Civilian staff (non-sworn) on the day of inspection:
- Business Manager 1
 - Office Technician 1
 - Maintenance 1
 - Cooks 5
 - Education Instructors 6
 - Clerk Typists 4
 - Nurses 3
 - LVN 1
 - Physician 1
- E. There are no restraint chairs at SMCCF.
- F. There are no “suicide watch” cells; inmates requiring these specialized services are immediately transferred to Wasco State Prison.
- G. Some inmates have court ordered drug testing. Ten percent of the remaining inmate population is randomly tested monthly.
- H. SMCCF has four dormitories located on the West side, and four on the East side of the facility. Each dorm can house up to 80 inmates.
- I. Located in the Receiving and Release area, there are five Temporary/Transit Holding Cells, a large holding cell, and one cell equipped with a shower.
- J. In the Medical Department, there is one Observation Cell and two Medical Cells.
- K. Visitation is on Saturdays and Sundays, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., including Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The annual cost to house an inmate is \$25,313, including medical costs of \$2,055.
- F2. Both medical and dental services are available at SMCCF.

- F3. Inmates have a \$5 co-pay for new medical issues, but not for follow-up treatments. The co-pay for indigent inmates may be waived.
- F4. Mental health services are not available at SMCCF. Inmates requiring these services are transferred to another facility.
- F5. The daily food cost per inmate is approximately \$3.65. Breakfast and dinner are served hot, lunch is a cold meal.
- F6. A computer program named "Randomizer" selects inmates for random drug testing.
- F7. Transgender and Disabled Inmates are not housed at SMCCF.
- F8. There have been no attempted/successful escapes from SMCCF in the past year.
- F9. On December 16, 2014, an inmate overdosed, and the death was ruled accidental. According to the Warden, this is the only death at this facility since its inception.
- F10. Inmates in the East and West dorms alternate daily usage between two exercise yards. Before and after each exercise session, staff closes off both yards, and completes a "sweep" for contraband. This was previously recommended by the 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury.
- F11. Each dorm has three available phones, used on a "first come first serve basis." Only collect calls can be placed.
- F12. Inmates can earn access to the Canteen to purchase miscellaneous items on a weekly dorm rotation. The maximum an inmate can spend is \$170 per month.
- F13. The SMCCF accommodates as many religions as possible through the use of volunteers.
- F14. Inmates are permitted to shower between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. SMCCF has initiated the use of low-flow shower heads to reduce water usage.
- F15. All inmates are placed into an academic program based on skill assessments. Inmates remain in their assigned program until promotion to the next class, graduation, or parole. Some available classes are:
- GED (General Education Diploma)
 - ABE I or II or III (Adult Basic Education)
 - ESL (English as a Second Language)
 - Office Services and Related Technology
 - Building Maintenance and Landscaping

- F16. There are numerous programs that inmates can voluntarily participate in:
- AA/NA (Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous)
 - Correspondence Classes offered through Palo Verde, Coastline and Lassen College – there are currently 100 inmates enrolled in distance learning classes
 - Anger Management
 - Westec - Passport
 - Resume Writing
 - Conversational Spanish
 - Computer Learning Lab
 - College Club
- The CDCR - Rehabilitative Programs Division will be adding more programs.
- F17. All laundry is cleaned on-site, with an annual cost of approximately \$160,000. The laundry crew consists of one Correctional Officer and 10 inmates.
- F18. For security, there are 67 video recording cameras (without audio) throughout the facility. All video recordings are retained for only three days, with the following exceptions:
- When an incident is recorded, stored indefinitely
 - Staff requests a recording, stored indefinitely
- F19. During the Committee's inspection, the following maintenance and safety issues were observed:
- One inoperable clothes washer - will be repaired, as per the Warden
 - Kitchen faucet leaking at wall base - Maintenance Order - repaired on March 31, 2017
 - East Dorm
 - indoor/outdoor carpeting bunches up creating a hazard
 - hand washing sink plumbing was loose, and detached from the wall
 - shower head missing - Maintenance Order - new shower head was installed on March 31, 2017
 - East and West Dorms – all indoor/outdoor carpeting will be removed and the floors painted, as per the Warden
 - East and West Dorms - an eight month "plumbing project" is under way, to remove and replace all "under the sink" plumbing. Project costs have been included in budget years 2016, 2017, and 2018, as per the Warden
- F20. The SMCCF has submitted a purchase order for a clothes washer and dryer, increasing the number to four washers and four dryers.
- F21. The SMCCF has a 24/7 armed perimeter patrol.

- F22. The Warden indicated that SMCCF correctional staff is accepting other employment with CDCR, due to greater compensation and benefits package.
- F23. The SMCCF had its last fire inspection on October 29, 2016.
- F24. The California Department of Public Health – Environmental Health Services Section conducted an inspection of SMCCF on April 20, 2016. The SMCCF has submitted a Corrective Action Plan.

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Chief of Corrections, the Assistant Chief of Corrections, the Shafter City Manager and various staff for their time, knowledge and expertise.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 19)
- R2. For the security and safety of staff and inmates, the SMCCF should retain all video recordings for more than three days. In addition, retention of video recordings can serve as an invaluable tool in preserving incidents for legal purposes. This issue should be identified and designated a budget/contract priority item. The SMCCF and/or CDCR should research and apply for grant funding to preserve recordings for a minimum of 30 days. (Finding 18)

NOTES:

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the City of Shafter, and Shafter Modified Community Correctional Facility should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
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- 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**



MODIFIED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

August 8, 2016

Presiding Judge
Kern County Superior Court
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 212
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Presiding Judge:

The City of Shafter, Shafter Modified Community Correctional Facility (MCCF), appreciates the time and effort the jury members made in visiting our facility on March 28, 2017. Reviews and inquiries of this nature provide valuable information our staff can utilize in managing the operations of the MCCF.

Based on the report submitted by the jury members, I am providing the following responses:

- R1. Jury Recommendation: The Grand Jury recommends, "Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 19)"

Shafter MCCF Response: All maintenance issues are addressed and repaired within 24 hours by the Maintenance Supervisor. Repairs that cannot be finalized by the Maintenance Supervisor will be completed by an outside contractor within 72 hours of initial notification. All safety issues are addressed immediately by a Corrections Lieutenant and resolved within 24 hours.

- R2. Jury Recommendation: The Grand Jury recommends, "For the security and safety of staff and inmates, the SMCCF should retain all video recordings for more than three days. In addition, retention of video recordings can serve as an invaluable tool in preserving incidents for legal purposes. This issue should be identified and designated a budget/contract priority item. The SMCCF and/or CDCR should research and apply for grant funding to preserve recordings for a minimum of 30 days. (Finding 18)"

Shafter MCCF Response: The video surveillance equipment utilized at the SMCCF is programmed to retain 72 hours of video and that retention timeframe has proven adequate to meet the needs of the facility. All video recordings of incidents that occur at the SMCCF are duplicated on a separate media storage venue and kept indefinitely. Additionally, all incident video recordings are submitted to CDCR (CBU) for indefinite storage as well.

Presiding Judge
August 8, 2017
Page 2

I hope this information proves helpful and if you should have any questions and/or concerns, do not hesitate to call me at (661) 746-8900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Lozano', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul R. Lozano
Chief of Corrections

cc: Scott Hurlbert, City Manager
Kern County Grand Jury, Foreperson

TAFT MODIFIED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On March 14, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured the Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility (TMCCF) to inspect and report on conditions and operations, pursuant to California Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee sent TMCCF staff a list of questions related to the scheduled inspection, and received a written response. Prior Grand Jury reports and the internet were reviewed in preparation for this inspection. The Committee met with the Captain/Facility Manager and the Security Captain.

BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

The TMCCF is located at 330 Commerce Way, Taft, California 93268. The Facility was built in 1990 and opened in January 1991. The Facility closed in November of 2011, as a result of Assembly Bill 109, and was re-opened in February 2014, as a modified community correctional facility, under a contract between the City of Taft and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). TMCCF is a Special Needs Yard (SNY) facility, which houses Level II inmates with ten years or less remaining on their sentence.

- A. Inmate count on the day of inspection was 573 (maximum capacity of 600 per contract)

- B. Staff count on the day of inspection:
 - Captains 2
 - Lieutenants 5
 - Sergeants 5
 - Senior Correctional Officers 5
 - Correctional Officers 40

- C. Civilian count on the day of inspection:
 - Teachers 6
 - Maintenance 2
 - Office Assistants 2
 - Accountants 2
 - Senior Registered Nurse 1

- Registered Nurses 3
- Licensed Vocational Nurses 2
- Doctor 1
- Dental Hygienist 1

D. Visitation is on Saturdays and Sundays, from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

FINDINGS:

- F1. The contract between TMCCF and CDCR expires in 2018.
- F2. The TMCCF held its last quarterly fire drill on March 9, 2017.
- F3. TMCCF has a two year contract with Aramark Foods, which expires on June 30, 2018. The contract allows \$4.86 per day to feed each inmate.
- F4. Breakfast and dinner are served hot and lunch is cold. On weekends all meals are served hot.
- F5. The yearly cost to house an inmate is \$21,900, with medical included.
- F6. Inmates pay \$5.00 co-pay for any new medical issue, but not follow-up treatments. The co-pay fee for indigent inmates may be waived.
- F7. Dental services are contracted through the City of Taft.
- F8. In case of an emergency, TMCCF has provisions for at least 14 days.
- F9. All laundry is cleaned on-site and costs approximately \$15,000 per year.
- F10. Previously, inmates were permitted to shower between 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. Currently, they are permitted to shower between 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The intent is to reduce water usage, as recommend by the 2015-2016 Grand Jury.
- F11. During the Committee's inspection, the following maintenance and safety issues were observed:
 - In the shower area, a drinking fountain has excessive pressure resulting in water on the floor, work order pending
 - In Dorm A-4, there is a non-functional drinking fountain with a rusted drain, work order pending
 - The double sink in the laundry room has a crack in the center which leaks water on to the floor. The faucet also continually drips due to the hot water handle not functioning properly, work orders pending

- A large sink and a small sink located in the kitchen both have loose faucets, work order pending
- The refrigerator/freezer temperature logs in the kitchen lacked documentation on the day of inspection
- A metal plate at the bottom of the security fence, in the recreation yard has separated, a safety and security issue – Staff notified
- In the laundry area, metal brackets affixed to the secured supplies' chain link fence, have not been painted red, a security issue – Staff notified

F12. The Designated Suicide Cell is being used for storage; for example, mattresses stored.

F13. All personnel at TMCCF are employed by the City of Taft, per contract with CDCR.

F14. Each month, TMCCF randomly administers a urinalysis test to 60 inmates for drugs and alcohol. These tests are monitored by staff.

F15. Disabled or transgender inmates are not housed at TMCCF.

F16. There are 70 recording cameras throughout the facility. TMCCF maintains all inmate cell extraction recordings for a term of five years. Over the past three years, there have been no cell extractions.

F17. There are five Temporary Holding Cells (THC). Only one is equipped with a recording camera.

F18. Inmates at TMCCF are offered educational/vocational and work incentive programs. Inmates who actively participate and complete these programs may qualify to earn “milestone” credits, which may reduce incarceration time up to six weeks in a twelve month calendar period.

F19. There are approximately 200 inmates enrolled in college courses.

F20. The staff at TMCCF participates in community activities:

- Shop with a COP
- Food sales with proceeds donated to local charities

COMMENTS:

The Committee would like to thank the Captains and Staff for their time, knowledge, and professionalism.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. The metal brackets in the laundry area should be painted red, to alert Staff if any are missing, a security and safety issue. This recommendation was made by the 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury. (Finding 11)
- R2. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately, for both the safety of staff and inmates. (Finding 11)
- R3. The Designated Suicide Cell should always be available. It should never be used for storage. (Finding 12)
- R4. As funding becomes available, all THCs should have recording cameras, for the security and safety of both staff and inmates. (Finding 17)

NOTES:

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.

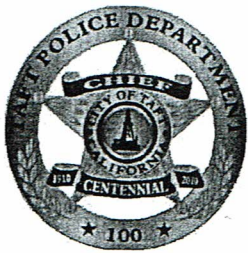
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RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS

**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**



The Taft Police Department - MCCF

330 Commerce Way Taft CA. 93268
661-765-2840 – Main 661-765-2850 – Fax
Craig Jones – City Manager
Ed Whiting – Chief of Police

*Celebrating 100 Years
1916 to 2016*

June 6, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Ardis,

Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility would like to thank you for your recent Grand Jury visit on March 14, 2017.

I have prepared responses to the recommendations given by the Grand Jury related to your recent tour.

R1. The metal brackets in the laundry area should be painted red, to alert Staff if any are missing, a security and safety issue. This recommendation was made by the 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury. (Finding 11)

The respondent agrees with the finding. The recommendation has been implemented.

On March 14, 2017 the metal brackets **inside** the laundry area were painted red, to alert Staff if any brackets are missing. The metal brackets on the **outside** of the laundry area were painted red after last years visit to alert Staff if any brackets were missing. Both inside and outside areas are now painted red.

R2. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately, for both the safety of staff and inmates. (Finding 11)

The respondent agrees with the finding. The recommendation has been implemented.

Officers complete daily security checks through all areas of the facility on each shift for maintenance and safety issues. A work order request is completed and routed to the maintenance department. Work orders are completed in order of priority issues. Replacement parts are ordered and items are replaced and repaired as parts are received at the facility.

R3. The Designated Suicide Cell should always be available. It should never be used for storage. (Finding 12)

The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. The recommendation has been implemented. The approved suicide mattress and suicide suit will remain in the suicide cell. The emergency gurney has been removed and placed in another area.

R4. As funding becomes available, all THC's should have recording cameras, for the security and safety of both staff and inmates. (Finding 17)

As funds become available, Taft MCCF will look into recording cameras for the remaining THC cells for the safety and security of both staff and inmates.

Respectfully,



Tami Holt
Chief of Corrections

Cc; Craig Jones, City Manager
Ed Whiting, Chief of Police
Yvette Mayfield, City Clerk