

# LAW & JUSTICE COMMITTEE



Danny Schnopp

Catherine Garcia  
Teresa Vasquez, Chairperson

Michael McNatt

## 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 prison 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:**

- California City Correctional Facility
- California Correctional Institution – Tehachapi, CA
- Camp Erwin Owens, Kernville, CA – See Ad Hoc Committee Report \*\*\*
- Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility, McFarland, CA \*\*
- Delano Modified Community Correctional facility
- Golden State Medium Community Correctional Facility, McFarland, CA \*\*
- James G. Bowles Juvenile Hall, Probation Department, Bakersfield, CA - See Ad Hoc Committee Report \*\*\*
- Kern County Sheriff's Office, Central Receiving Facility, Bakersfield, CA
- Kern County Sheriff's Office, Lerdo Facility, Bakersfield, CA
- Kern County Sheriff's Office, Mojave Substation
- Kern County Sheriff's Office, Rosamond Substation
- Kern Valley State Prison, Delano, CA \*\*
- Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility, Bakersfield, CA
- McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility \*\*
- North Kern State Prison, Reception Center, Delano, CA \*\*
- Shafter Modified Community Correctional Facility \*\*
- Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility \*\*
- Wasco State Prison, Reception Center

*Note:*

*\*\*Inspection completed/no written report made/letter sent agency*

*\*\*\*Inspection completed by Ad Hoc Committee/completed written report made*

### **OTHER VISITS:**

California Grand Jurors' Association Training, Visalia, CA  
James G. Bowles Juvenile Hall, Bakersfield, CA  
American Association of University Women-Community presentation- Tehachapi, CA  
Camp Erwin Owen, Kernville, CA  
Kern County Board of Supervisors - Meetings  
Kern County Justice Facility, KCSO- Lerdo Facility  
Kern County Museum, Pioneer Village  
Bakersfield Home and Garden Show, Kern County Fair Grounds- Recruitment/Public Relations  
Grand Jury Awareness Week – February 5-9, 2018  
Kern County Sheriff's Office- Ride-a-long  
Bakersfield Police Department- Ride-a-long  
California Highway Patrol Facility- Orientation & Tour  
Kern County Grand Jury Indictment  
Kern County Grand Jury Orientation for 2018-19 Grand Jury applicants  
California Grand Jurors' Association, Report Writing Workshop

### **COMPLAINTS:**

- 12 Complaints Received, Investigated and Closed

# CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

## PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

On November 30, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured California Correctional Institution (CCI), at Tehachapi, to inspect and inquire into conditions and operations of the prison, pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## PROCESS:

The Committee reviewed the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website, and prior Kern County Grand Jury reports. A list of questions related to the inspection were sent and a response was received. On the date of the inspection, the Committee was met by the Warden, Chief Deputy Warden, Public Information Officer/Administrative Assistant, and Executive staff.

## BACKGROUND AND FACTS:

- A. CCI is located at 24900 Highway 202, Tehachapi, California, and covers 1,650 acres.
- B. In 1933, the California Institution for Women (Institution) opened on the site of what is now CCI. This was the first women's prison in California.
- C. After the earthquake in Kern County on July 21, 1952, the Institution was rebuilt in 1954 and re-opened as CCI, an all-men's prison.
- D. The maximum and medium security facilities were added between 1985 and 1986.
- E. At the time of the inspection, the total inmate population was 3,830; CDCR authorized inmate capacity 4,394; maximum bed capacity 5,401.
  - Facility A - General Population/Sensitive Needs Yard (GP/SNY)
    - GP/SNY (Level IV) 600
  - Facility B – GP/SNY (Level IV) 614
    - Administrative Segregation Unit (Ad-Seg) 57
    - Outpatient Housing Unit 15
  - Facility C – GP/SNY – (Level III) 871
  - Facility D – GP/SNY – (Level II) 1,221
  - Facility E – GP/SNY – (Level I) 446
  - Community Hospital/Inmate Patients 1
  - Firehouse Inmates 5

F. On the date of inspection, authorized sworn personnel were as follows:

	<u>Filled</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
• Warden	1	
• Chief Deputy Warden	2	
• Associate Warden	5	
• Correctional Captain	5	1
• Correctional Lieutenant	32	
• Correctional Sergeant	83	
• Correctional Officer	857	22
• Correctional Counselor III	1	
• Correctional Counselor II - Supervisor	5	
• Correctional Counselor II - Specialist	7	
• Correctional Counselor I	23	

G. There are 274.5 non-sworn civilian positions.

H. A full range of medical, dental, and mental health services are provided by:

- Medical Staff 161
- Dental Staff 31
- Mental Health Staff 39

I. The annual cost to house an inmate is approximately \$71,000, which includes \$21,582 for medical costs.

J. Facilities A, C, and D prepare their own meals. Facility D provides meals for Facilities B and E.

K. Inmates are provided three daily meals. Breakfast and dinner are served hot and lunch is served cold. The average daily cost for inmate meals is \$3.48.

L. According to staff, the Administration Building is unoccupied between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. and lacks a fire monitoring/suppression system.

M. As referenced in the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury Report, CCI received funding to purchase new ovens. According to staff, CCI has purchased four ovens.

N. As noted in all Kern County Grand Jury Reports since 2011-2012, the road leading up to the main entrance into CCI had pot holes and severe deterioration. According to staff, this section (Phase I) of the Road Replacement Project has been completed. This Project consists of three phases.

O. In the past year there have been no escapes; there was one attempted escape on August 11, 2017.

P. According to staff, there have not been any suicides since June 2016; since January 2017, there have been 61 attempted suicides.



- Q. As mentioned in the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury Report, renovations continue on the health clinics in Facilities A and B. New health clinics are under construction in Facilities C, D, and E, with a targeted completion date of September 2019.
- R. Inmates at CCI are included in the population total for the City of Tehachapi.
- S. CCI has Temporary Holding Cells (THC).
- T. CCI has Individual Exercise Modules (IEM) in Facility B.
- U. On September 2, 2017, CCI received accreditation from the American Correctional Association with a rating of 97.8% (90% required).

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. The Road Replacement Project, which consists of three phases, is pending funding for Phase II.
- F2. According to staff, CCI is required to have a staff member on “fire watch” between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. in the Administration Building.
- F3. According to staff, Facilities A and C were re-opened with fully equipped kitchens. There is no longer a need for the four new ovens that were purchased. These ovens are now being stored for future use.
- F4. As indicated in the 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury Report, Facility B did not have any recording cameras in the visitation area. During this inspection, staff advised that six recording cameras were installed in the visitation area on September 20, 2017.
- F5. As of December 12, 2016, CCI no longer has a Secure Housing Unit (SHU). Inmates from this unit were transferred to prisons with a SHU. However, the Administrative Segregation Unit remains in use.
- F6. Inmates in Ad-Seg are able to use the Individual Exercise Modules a maximum of three hours per day, and a minimum of 10 hours per week. This is the only form of exercise for these inmates. According to staff, IEM are also used for security purposes, such as during riots, security related cell searches, the separation of inmates during incidents, and as needed.
- F7. On June 7, 2016, CDCR was removed from under the court’s receivership for medical services, and placed on probationary status. According to CCI staff, CDCR’s probationary status was reviewed in January 2018, and will continue until April 2018, at which time it will be re-evaluated.

F8. The anticipated opening date for the Centralized Pharmacy was January 31, 2018. However, it is not yet operational.

F9. The Committee observed numerous areas in need of maintenance:

- Facility A – Kitchen
  - A non-functioning thermometer located above the freezer door entrance – according to staff, this external thermometer will not be replaced, a portable internal thermometer is being used
  - A cracked window on the freezer door – maintenance order submitted
  - Multiple freezer temperature log entries were missing
  - Freezer door seal needs replacement – maintenance order submitted
  - Water on the floor without caution signs – one sign immediately posted; additional caution signs ordered and received from the warehouse, per staff.
- Facility B
  - Unmarked step – fall risk/hazard
  - Individual Exercise Modules – moss, mildew and rust build-up in toilets; bugs, and debris in sinks – according to staff the IEM are cleaned weekly by inmates with approved chemicals
- Facility C – Kitchen/Dining room
  - No caution signs on wet floor – new caution signs ordered and provided to kitchens from warehouse, per staff
  - Multiple large areas – ceiling leaks repaired; ceiling panels with water stains remain and should be replaced
  - Leaking faucet at the rinse station – maintenance order submitted
  - An industrial food mixer is missing a safety guard – according to staff, this item has been red tagged “out of use” and replaced with another mixer
  - No grates on two floor drains in front of the steam line – a safety hazard – maintenance work order submitted
  - No hot water in the steam line – maintenance order submitted
  - Large area with broken and missing floor tiles in Dining Hall A – Cleaning and removal of the deteriorated floor tile is in progress. According to staff, the tile will not be replaced; the bare concrete floor will be sealed.
- Facility D – Records/Central Control Hallway intersection – Water damage and missing ceiling panels – maintenance order submitted

F10. CCI offers various educational, vocational, and behavioral treatment programs.

F11. Religious groups currently accommodated at CCI are:

- Apostolic
- Jehovah’s Witness
- Protestant
- Catholic

- Jewish
- Buddhist
- Islamic
- Satanic
- Rastafarian
- Wiccan
- Latter Day Saints
- Native American
- Odinists
- Gods and Earth

F12. Visitation is allowed on Saturdays, Sundays and four holidays: New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day, for approved visitors. Visitors can schedule visits through the CDCR Visitor Processing Appointment Scheduling System.

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Chief Deputy Warden, Public Information Officer/Administrative Assistant and the Executive staff for their time, knowledge and expertise. Additionally, the Committee would like to extend our appreciation for the extensive orientation and guided tour during our inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Grand Jury recommends that CCI should continue to seek funding for Phases II and III of the Road Replacement Project. (Finding 1)
- R2. The Grand Jury recommends that CCI should look for a more cost effective alternative than the staffing currently required for the "fire watch" in the Administration Building. (Finding 2)
- R3. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 9)
- R4. As a safety precaution, the step-down in the dayroom of Facility B should be clearly marked to help prevent falls. (Finding 9)
- R5. Recommend that daily temperature logs be completed consistently and in a timely manner, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 9)
- R6. Recommend that CCI should explore alternative methods in sanitizing the Individual Exercise Modules' sinks and toilets, in Facility B, and adhere to the regular maintenance schedule. (Finding 9)

R7. For the safety of inmates and staff, CCI should expedite the removal of the floor tiles, and seal the concrete floor in Facility C, Dining Hall A. (Finding 9)

**NOTES:**

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and California Correctional Institution (Tehachapi) 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/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 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**

P.O. Box 1031  
Tehachapi, CA 93581  
(661) 822-4402



April 30, 2018

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

Honorable Charles R. Brehmer:

**GRAND JURY TOUR**

On March 20, 2018, the California Correctional Institution (CCI) received the Kern County Grand Jury's Final Report addressed to W. J. Sullivan, Warden, CCI, Division of Adult Institutions (DAI), 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 from the Law and Justice Committee, Kern County Grand Jury's recommendations to: continue to seek funding for phases II and III of the road replacement project, find a more cost effective alternative than staffing fire watch, addressing maintenance and safety issues immediately, maintain daily temperature freezer logs consistently, explore alternative methods in sanitizing the Individual Exercise Modules (IEM) and expedite removal of the floor tile in the Facility C Dining Hall.

Based on the current and past Grand Jury's recommendations, CCI Administration has submitted *Special Repair Project (SRP)* reports to the Facilities Asset Management Branch, Capital Renovation and Maintenance Services Division requesting the aforementioned recommendations be prioritized as urgent for review and consideration for allocation of funding for the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year. CCI has received approval for some of the requested SRP's which are going through design and funding phases with DAI. The following are actions taken by CCI to address the Grand Jury's recommendations:

- Funding for phases II and III of the road replacement: CCI had the first phase of road replacement completed in November of 2017 and the second and third phases are approved for replacement and are pending funding approval from the Department of Finance.
- More cost effective alternative than staffing fire watch: CCI is in the process of updating and replacing its Fire Alarm Systems at Facility A and B. CCI had previously met with the State Fire Marshal and did receive approval to reduce the fire watch staffing down to one staff during non-working hours. A state wide fire alarm contract has just been approved and funded, with repairs to the fire alarm systems slated to begin the month of June 2018.
- Addressing maintenance and safety issues immediately: CCI has a Standard Automated Preventative Maintenance System, Work Orders, used to track and service all reported maintenance problems from all facilities at CCI. The work orders are prioritized by a Plant Operations Supervisor and all work orders categorized as serious or safety issues are addressed immediately.
- Maintain daily temperature freezer logs consistently: Training has been provided to the Food Service Division on completion of temperature logs and the Correctional Food Manager is monitoring compliance.



- Explore alternative methods in sanitizing the IEM's: CCI's Facility B has an inmate work crew assigned to clean the IEM's sinks/toilets and they will use alternative methods to reduce the hard water scaling build up. Additionally, the assigned Administrative Segregation Sergeant will conduct weekly inspections of the IEM's to ensure cleanliness.
- Removal of the floor tile in the Facility C Dining Hall: Plant Operations has removed the floor tile in the Facility C Dining Hall and has applied sealer to the concrete floor which mitigated the safety issue of broken and uneven floor tiles.

CCI's 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 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation 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 (661) 822-4402, Extension 4624.

Sincerely,



J. GUTIERREZ

Associate Warden, Business Services

cc: W. J. Sullivan, Warden

B. Cates, Chief Deputy Warden, Facilities C, D, E and Operations

R. Renn Amstead, Foreperson, Kern County Grand Jury

# **DELANO MODIFIED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

On January 25, 2018, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility (DMCCF), to inspect and inquire into conditions and operations of the prison pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## **PROCESS:**

The Committee reviewed the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website and prior Kern County Grand Jury reports. A list of questions related to the inspection was sent, and a response was received. On the date of the inspection, the Committee was met by the Chief of Corrections, a Captain, and a Sergeant.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

- A. The City of Delano owns DMCCF. There is a contract between CDCR and the City of Delano to operate DMCCF, which expires on June 30, 2018.
- B. DMCCF is located at 2727 West Industry Way in Delano.
- C. DMCCF began operations as a correctional facility in 1991 with Level I inmates. In 2011, the Facility closed due to the passage of Assembly Bill 109. In 2013, DMCCF re-opened as a Level II General Population yard. DMCCF is surrounded by a single cyclone fence with barbed wire, an inner brick fence, and motion detectors.
- D. The Facility houses inmates with less than 10 years remaining on their sentence.
- E. North Kern State Prison (NKSP) is their medical hub.
- F. The City of Delano contracts with an outside vendor to provide and prepare the inmate meals.
- G. Inmates are provided a hot breakfast and dinner, and lunch is served cold.

- H. On the date of inspection, the inmate population was 568, with a maximum capacity of 577.

West Area	East Area
Dorm 1 – 97	Dorm 5 – 92
Dorm 2 – 23	Dorm 6 – 87
Dorm 3 – 44	Dorm 7 – 88
Dorm 4 – 97	
Laundry – 6	
Kitchen – 3	
Canteen – 2	
Academic – 15	
Infirmery – 1	
Other – 2	
Receiving and Release – 11	

- I. DMCCF safety personnel are staffed as follows:

- Chief of Corrections 1
- Correctional Captain 1
- Correctional Lieutenant 5
- Correctional Sergeant 5
- Correctional Officer 44

- J. CDCR sworn personnel are staffed as follows:

- Correctional Captain 1
- Correctional Counselor II 1
- Correctional Counselor I 4

- K. DMCCF has 14 City of Delano civilian personnel.

- L. Between January 2017 and January 2018, there were no attempted or successful escapes, nor any attempted or completed suicides.

- M. DMCCF has nine Temporary Holding Cells.

- N. On May 17, 2017, an Environmental Health Survey was completed. According to California Department of Public Health, this survey was conducted, and "...was initiated to provide CDCR the means to ensure the health and safety of inmates and staff, as well as meeting correctional accreditation standards." According to staff, the results are pending.

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. DMCCF does not provide mental health services. Inmates requiring such specialized services, or in need of chronic medical care, are transferred to NKSP.
- F2. The women's restroom located in the foyer of the Administrative area, is designated as compliant with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). This restroom had a non-functioning commode on the date of the inspection.
- F3. According to staff, the annual cost to house an inmate is \$20,437.68, with an additional \$2,416.30 in medical costs.
- F4. The average daily cost for inmate meals is \$4.20.
- F5. On November 17, 2017, the City of Delano purchased a new recording camera system for DMCCF, which replaced 121 perimeter cameras and monitors. The new system has the capacity for a 30-day retention; any incident can be stored indefinitely.
- F6. Each inmate is assigned and participates in a full-time or combination full-time work, training, or educational program, when openings are available.
- F7. Inmates participate in vocational and/or academic education/pre-release programs. The emphasis is on basic education and job training skills.
- In July 2017, two educational classrooms were added
  - Currently, there are 17 computer stations
  - Installation of 14 additional computer stations are in progress
- F8. The population is subject to mandatory, random urinalysis testing, with 10 to 15 inmates being tested per week. They are also subjected to six daily locker searches per dorm.
- F9. The Canteen is available for inmates to purchase a variety of food and personal items through their account:
- Requested items are ordered from a canteen list
  - Maximum purchase allowed is \$220 per month, per inmate
  - All items are screened by staff for security concerns
- F10. Proposition 57 provides that an inmate may now earn a reduction in their sentence through Rehabilitative Achievement Credits.
- F11. According to staff, tiles in all restrooms and showers are being replaced, and porcelain commodes will be replaced with stainless steel units.
- F12. On the date of inspection, the Committee observed numerous health, safety and maintenance issues:

- Receiving and Release:
  - Decontamination shower was not available for its intended use - mop bucket and brooms were stored in the shower area - staff advised
- Kitchen:
  - Walk-in refrigerators #2 and #3, as well as the freezer, had multiple missing entries in the daily temperature logs, for the months of November and December 2017
  - On the date of inspection, a required sample breakfast tray (dead man's tray) was not retained. Kitchen staff stated they ran out of food before they were able to secure the sample
  - Water on floor without caution signs – one sign was immediately posted
  - A hose, used to wash down floors, was coiled on a rack above the wash basin designated for cleaning pots and pans – kitchen staff advised; maintenance order was completed on 1-28-2018 – rack removed
  - A sink drain pipe, for the back preparation table, emptied onto the floor – the preparation table was realigned over the floor drain
  - In the Bakery area, located next to the bread mixer, was a leaking faucet – staff advised – maintenance order pending
  - A bread mixer safety guard missing – maintenance order for replacement is pending
  - Sink used to clean preparation tables had a loose faucet, and a misaligned drain pipe, causing water to pool onto the floor – staff advised
- East and West Dorms:
  - Dorms have multiple ceiling leaks when it rains, and water damage around fire sprinkler heads and shower stall areas – according to staff, the City of Delano has approved a re-roofing project that is in progress, with an anticipated completion date of 2019
  - East Dorm #6 – water from the shower area pooled onto the floor with no caution signs in place; also had a leaking shower head – staff advised - no maintenance order provided
  - East Dorm #7 – had a sink with a leaking water faucet – staff advised - no maintenance order provided; there was pooled water adjacent to the shower area with no caution signs in place - staff advised

F13. As noted in the 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury Final Report, DMCCF continues to allow inmates “unlimited” showers. According to management staff, water conservation is not a concern.

F14. Inmates working in the laundry room are under direct staff supervision. DMCCF has four dryers and three washing machines. Inmate clothing and bedding is exchanged at least once a week.



- F15. Visitation is allowed on Saturdays, Sundays and five holidays: New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, for approved visitors. Visitors can schedule visits through the CDCR Visitor Processing Appointment Scheduling System, known as VPASS.

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the Chief of Corrections and facility staff for their time, knowledge, and expertise. Additionally, the Committee would like to extend our appreciation for the extensive orientation and guided tour during our inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Grand Jury recommends that DMCCF maintain all restrooms, with priority given to repair any ADA compliant restroom. (Finding 2)
- R2. All health, safety, and maintenance issues should be addressed by DMCCF, as mandated in California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Findings 2, 11, and 12)
- R3. DMCCF should comply with the required guidelines concerning the retention of a sample meal (dead man's tray), according to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department Operations Manual, Section 54080.11.2. (Finding 12)
- R4. DMCCF should review their practice of "unlimited" showers for inmates, to meet the California water conservation mandates. (Finding 13)

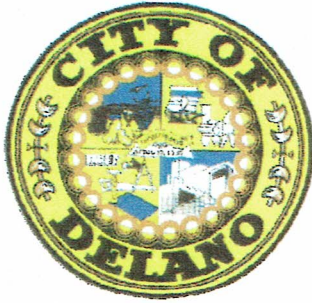
## **NOTES:**

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the City of Delano, and Delano Modified 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/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**



CITY HALL  
1015 ELEVENTH AVENUE  
POST OFFICE BOX 3010

DELANO, CALIFORNIA 93216-3010

(661) 721-3300  
(661) 721-3317 TDD  
[www.cityofdelano.org](http://www.cityofdelano.org)

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ricardo G. Chavez  
MAYOR

Ruben "Ruby" Hill  
MAYOR PRO TEM

Rueben Pascual  
Liz Morris  
Grace Vallejo

Maribel G. Reyna  
CITY MANAGER

July 10, 2018

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

Dear Honorable John Somers, Presiding Judge:

The Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility wishes to thank the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury staff who toured our facility and provided the following recommendations. Please see our responses underneath each recommendation.

- 1) The Grand Jury recommends that DMCCF maintain all restrooms, with priority given to repair and ADA compliant restroom. (Finding 2).
  - a) Finding 2 - The women's restroom located in the foyer of the Administrative area, is designated as compliant with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). This restroom had a non-functioning commode on the date of the inspection.
    - i) A Maintenance Work Order was submitted and the commode was immediately repaired.
- 2) The health, safety and maintenance issues should be addressed by DMCCF as mandated in California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Findings 2, 11 and 12).
  - a) Finding 2 - The women's restroom located in the foyer of the Administrative area, is designated as compliant with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). This restroom had a non-functioning commode on the date of the inspection.
    - i) This issue was addressed on Recommendation #1.

CITY OF DELANO

- b) Finding 11 – According to staff, tiles in all restrooms and showers are being replaced and porcelain commodes will be replaced with stainless steel units.
  - i) All tiles in the inmate restrooms have been removed and an industrial epoxy coating was put down on the restroom floors. This was completed as of 6/15/18.
- c) Finding 12 – On the date of inspection, the Committee observed numerous health, safety and maintenance issues:
  - i) Receiving and Release Decontamination shower was not available for its intended use – staff advised.
    - (1) Staff was trained on the decontamination protocols and importance of having the shower available for decontamination of staff and inmates.
  - ii) Kitchen Walk-in refrigerators #2 and #3 as well as the freezer had multiple missing entries in the daily temperature logs for the months of November and December 2017.
    - (1) Trinity Staff (DMCCF Contracted Kitchen Staff) were trained on temperature logs and their importance. Logs are being completed daily.
  - iii) On the date of inspection a required sample breakfast tray (dead mans' tray) was not retained. Kitchen staff stated they ran out of food before they were able to secure the sample.
    - (1) Trinity Staff were trained on the requirements of securing a sample tray and its importance. Sample trays are now being kept for each meal.
  - iv) Water on Kitchen floor without caution signs – one sign was immediately posted.
    - (1) Trinity Staff and Kitchen Officers were trained on importance of placing wet floor caution signs.
  - v) A hose, used to wash down floors was coiled on a rack above the wash basin designated for cleaning pots and pans – kitchen staff advised; maintenance order was completed on 1-28-18 – rack removed.
    - (1) The work order was completed on 1/28/18 and the rack was removed.
  - vi) A sink drain pipe for the back preparation table, emptied onto the floor – the preparation table was realigned over the floor drain.
    - (1) A work order was completed and the table and drains were repaired, securing the table to the floor so it doesn't move around.



- vii) In the bakery area, located next to the bread mixer was a leaking faucet – staff advised – maintenance order pending.
    - (1) A work order was completed and the faucet was repaired.
  - viii) A bread mixer safety guard missing – maintenance order for replacement is pending.
    - (1) A work order for the safety guard was completed. A safety guard was obtained and put on the mixer.
  - ix) Sink used to clean preparation table had a loose faucet and a misaligned drain pipe, causing water to pool onto the floor – staff advised.
    - (1) A work order to fix the faucet and misaligned drain was completed. The drain and faucet were repaired.
  - x) Dorms have multiple ceiling leaks when it rains and water damage around fire sprinkler heads and shower stall areas – according to staff, the City of Delano has approved a re-roofing project that is in progress with an anticipated completion date of 2019.
    - (1) The re-roofing project for DMCCF was submitted to the City of Delano and approved. The East side building has been re-roofed as of June 2018. The re-roofing of the West side building is currently out for bid and should be completed by September 2018.
  - xi) East Dorm #6 – Water from the shower area pooled onto the floor with no caution signs in place; also had a leaking shower head.
    - (1) A work order for the leaking shower head in dorm 6 was completed. The shower head was repaired. Staff was trained on the requirements and importance of caution/wet floor signs.
  - xii) East Dorm #7 – had a sink with a leaking water faucet – staff advised – no maintenance order provided/ there was pooled water adjacent to the shower area with no caution signs in place – staff advised.
    - (1) A work order for the sink/faucet was completed. The sink/faucet was repaired. Staff was trained on the requirements and importance of caution/wet floor signs as well as not allowing water to pool up.
- 3) DMCCF should comply with the required guidelines concerning the retention of a sample meal (dead man's tray), according to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Department Operations Manual, Section 54080.11.2. (Finding 12).



- a) Finding 12 – On the date of inspection a required sample breakfast tray (dead man's tray) was not retained. Kitchen staff stated they ran out of food before they were able to secure the sample
  - i) Trinity Staff were trained on the requirements and importance of securing a sample tray.
- 4) DMCCF should review their practice of "unlimited" showers for inmates, to meet the California water conservation mandates. (Finding 13).

The Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility (DMCCF) is definitely concerned about water conservation. At no time did the DMCCF administration portray or make inference that they are not conscious about water conservation. DMCCF has made great strides for water conservation. In 2015, DMCCF removed all of the landscaping requiring watering and replaced it with rock. However, DMCCF currently operates twenty four hours a day and have inmate work crews that work all three shifts that support the facility. Upon completion of the inmate's job assignment, they are allowed to shower. Therefore limiting the shower operations would not allow these inmates access to a shower and cleanliness. DMCCF has and continues to make efforts to conserve water.

The Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's Report.

Respectfully,



Gerald Marshall  
Chief of Corrections  
Delano Modified Community Correctional Facility

Cc: Kern County Grand Jury, Foreperson  
1415 Truxtun Avenue Suite 600  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

# **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CENTRAL RECEIVING FACILITY**

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

On August 10, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury), conducted the annual inspection of the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), Central Receiving Facility (CRF), the primary booking facility for Kern County, pursuant to Penal Code §§919(b) and 925.

## **PROCESS:**

In preparation for the inspection, questions were sent to CRF and a written response was received. Prior Grand Jury reports and the KCSO website were reviewed. The Committee was greeted by CRF management staff, followed by a brief orientation. An extensive inspection of the facility ensued.

## **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. All CRF operations were transferred to the KCSO, Lerdo Facility (Lerdo). The facility re-opened in 1998, serving as the Inmate Reception Center (IRC) for booking, processing, and housing inmates for Kern County.

- A. The maximum capacity is 292. On the date of the inspection, there were 116 inmates:
  - 95 males
  - 21 females
- B. There are four levels: Decks A, B, C, and IRC. Deck A, a tier with 97 beds, was closed on August 13, 2016, due to budget constraints.
- C. Current staffing:
  - Commander: 1; authorized 1
  - Lieutenant: 1; authorized 1
  - Senior Deputy Sheriff: 4; authorized 4
  - Sheriff Sergeant: 4; authorized 4
  - Deputy Sheriff: 49; authorized 50

- D. Non-sworn staffing:
- Sheriff Support Technician: 17; authorized 18
  - Sheriff Support Specialist: 3; authorized 3
  - Senior Sheriff Support Specialist: 1; authorized 1
  - Sheriff Aide: 5; authorized 9
- E. Medical staff is available 24/7 through Kern Medical.
- F. Pharmacy services are provided by Kern Medical - Sagebrush.
- G. Mental health services are available for the inmates.
- H. The booking process in IRC takes place in the basement of the facility.
- I. There are 10 body worn cameras (BWC) available to the staff. This is a pilot program that was initiated on March 12, 2015.
- J. There are two restraint chairs.
- K. The KCSO has a food service contract with Trinity Services Group (Trinity). Meals are prepared at Lerdo and delivered to CRF.
- L. Inmates are provided three daily meals, which includes two cold and one hot.
- M. The storage freezer and refrigerator temperature logs are kept onsite.
- N. Laundry services for inmates are provided through the Lerdo Facility.
- O. Inmate Laborers (ILs) do not receive monetary compensation.
- P. All four levels at CRF have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).
- Q. The average cost to house an inmate is \$95.47 per day, or \$34,846.55 per year, not including medical costs.
- R. Narcan Nasal Spray, a prescription medication for the treatment of an opioid overdose, is available for use.

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. Deck A is used to temporarily house inmates pending a court appearance. Inmates are not housed overnight on Deck A.

- F2. Observed five designated suicide cells:
- Deck B - 3
  - Deck C - 2
- F3. Observed nine designated Administrative Segregation Cells:
- Deck B - 4
  - Deck C - 5
- F4. One of the two restraint chairs is inoperable. According to staff, the required repair parts are no longer available.
- F5. There are ten ILs in the facility, who may complete their sentence, up to a year.
- F6. “High Risk” inmates require two Sheriff Deputies when being transported or guarded at Kern Medical, or other area hospitals.
- F7. Telemedicine is utilized at CRF. This equipment monitors an inmate’s vital signs and electronically transfers the information to Kern Medical for treatment assessment. According to medical staff, this tele-video process requires minimal CRF staff, and as a result is less costly.
- F8. Kern Medical provides on-site and off-site medical services.
- F9. Mental health services are provided by two staff members from the Kern County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Department.
- F10. The sworn staff receive training on administering Narcan Nasal spray. According to the manufacturer’s website, *“Narcan Nasal Spray is a prescription medicine used for treatment of an opioid emergency such as an overdose or a possible opioid overdose with signs of breathing problems and severe sleepiness or not being able to respond.”*
- F11. Narcan Nasal Spray can be administered by:
- Doctors
  - Nurses with doctor’s approval
  - Trained sworn staff (a doctor’s approval is not required)
- F12. According to staff, limited supplies of bottled water, food items, and other provisions, are available to sustain the facility in the event of a catastrophic occurrence.
- F13. Under the pilot program, two deputies on each of three shifts are assigned body worn cameras. The assigned cameras are activated at the start of the shift. Two cameras are held in reserve; one reserve camera is located in the IRC and the other in the Sergeant’s office.

- F14. Funds from Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109) will be used to upgrade the camera system as follows:
- Improve visual clarity, definition, and a broader scope of coverage
  - Add audio capability
  - Increase storage capacity
  - Enable all current non-recording cameras to record
- F15. The following projects, as noted in prior Grand Jury reports, have been addressed or completed:
- Antiquated Gate Control Panel was replaced in October 2016, with touchscreen monitors
  - Referencing the 2012-2013 Kern County Grand Jury report, the key reduction project to reduce 200 locks and 57 keys
    - Has resulted in 109 locks and 38 keys
    - According to staff, numbers are appropriate, and meet industry standards
    - No further reductions are planned
  - Elevators have been painted and the flooring replaced
  - Two signs and a red line have been added at the basement entrance, designating it as a Restricted Area
    - Public access is still unsecured
- F16. In June 2017, the facility implemented a new phone system called Securus. This system is biometric, and links an inmate's pin number with voice recognition capability. This prevents inmates from using or sharing another inmate's pin number.
- F17. The report management system previously used by KCSO, Law Enforcement Automated Data System (I/LEADS), was replaced in February 2017, with a Tyler Technology product, called Law Enforcement Record Management System (LERMS).
- F18. The jail management system used is the California Justice Information System (CJIS). The 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury report indicated that CJIS would be replaced by the end of 2016. However, this system is now scheduled to be replaced with Tyler Odyssey Integrated Criminal Justice Solution (Odyssey) by November 2017.
- F19. The CRF has two fingerprinting machines, both scheduled for replacement by the end of 2017, with funds from AB 109.
- F20. The public address system (PA) has not been working on Deck B since 2016. As a result, staff has been using a bullhorn. The current PA will be replaced by the end of 2017, with funds from AB 109.



- F21. In April 2017, CRF began using PIPE II, an electronic recording cell check device.
- F22. Records reviewed from February 2017, to the date of inspection, revealed numerous omissions in the freezer temperature logs.
- F23. Two flats of bread were inspected and some loaves had illegible or no expiration dates. According to kitchen staff, this bread had been recently delivered.
- F24. During the inspection, Health and Safety issues were noted as follows:
- Leaking kitchen faucet (replacement parts already received, installation pending)
  - Grate cover was missing over the condensation drain located between the two ice machines in the kitchen (subsequently replaced)
  - Deck B - cell 8, commode flush button leaks when activated (subsequently repaired)
  - Deck B - Non-functioning activation button, in middle shower (subsequently repaired)
  - Deck B - Hallway light bulb was out (subsequently replaced)
  - Deck C - cells 1, 2, and 3, commode flush button leaks when activated (subsequently repaired)
  - Deck C - cell 5, Non-functioning activation shower button (subsequently repaired)

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the CRF management staff for their time and information provided during the inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The inoperable restraint chair should be replaced as funds become available. (Finding 4)
- R2. The KCSO should develop a contingency plan for the CRF, in the event of a catastrophic occurrence. (Finding 12)
- R3. The body worn camera pilot program should be retained and expanded to include additional cameras. The program provides additional safety for staff and inmates. These cameras provide transparency which may limit liability. Funding for these cameras should be included in the KCSO's budget, and given priority. (Finding 13)

- R4. Additional security measures should be taken to prohibit public access to the basement entrance. As noted in the Kern County Grand Jury 2016-2017 report, *“The basement entrance should be secured from the public and used by law enforcement, court staff, and other authorized personnel only.”* (Finding 15)
- R5. Freezer temperature logs must be consistently maintained. (Finding 22)
- R6. The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. For the health of the inmates, KCSO should not accept perishable items without legible or visible expiration dates. (Finding 23)
- R7. General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, and routinely scheduled for the safety of staff and inmates. (Finding 24)

## **NOTES:**

- The Kern County Board of Supervisors and the Kern County Sheriff’s Office 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).

## **RESPONSE REQUIRED WITH 60 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

November 21, 2017

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

On August 10, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee of the 2017–2018 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 September 25, 2017. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2017–2018 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 the CRF. The objective review of the 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 the Grand Jury has provided.

**GRAND JURY FINDINGS:**

- F1. *Deck A is used to temporarily house inmates pending a court appearance. Inmates are not housed overnight on Deck A.*
- F2. *Observed five designated suicide cells:*
  - *Deck B – 3*
  - *Deck C – 2*
- F3. *Observed nine designated Administrative Segregation Cells:*
  - *Deck B – 4*
  - *Deck C – 5*
- F4. *One of the two restraint chairs is inoperable. According to staff, the required repair parts are no longer available.*
- F5. *There are ten ILs in the facility, who may complete their sentence, up to a year.*
- F6. *"High Risk" inmates require two Sheriff Deputies when being transported or guarded at Kern Medical, or other area hospitals.*
- F7. *Telemedicine is utilized at CRF. This equipment monitors an inmate's vital signs and electronically transfers the information to Kern Medical for treatment assessment.*

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SHERIFF**



*According to medical staff, this tele-video process requires minimal CRF staff, and as a result is less costly.*

- F8. Kern Medical provides on-site and off-site medical services.*
- F9. Mental health services are provided by two staff members from the Kern County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Department.*
- F10. The sworn staff receive training on administering Narcan Nasal spray. According to the manufacturer's website, "Narcan Nasal Spray is a prescription medicine used for treatment of an opioid emergency such as an overdose or a possible opioid overdose with signs of breathing problems and severe sleepiness or not being able to respond."*
- F11. Narcan Nasal Spray can be administered by:*
  - Doctors*
  - Nurses with doctor's approval*
  - Trained sworn staff (a doctor's approval is not required)*
- F12. According to staff, limited supplies of bottled water, food items, and other provisions, are available to sustain the facility in the event of a catastrophic occurrence.*
- F13. Under the pilot program, two deputies on each of three shifts are assigned body worn cameras. The assigned cameras are activated at the start of the shift. Two cameras are held in reserve; one reserve camera is located in the IRC and the other in the Sergeant's office.*
- F14. Funds from Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109) will be used to upgrade the camera system as follows:*
  - Improve visual clarity, definition, and a broader scope of coverage*
  - Add audio capability*
  - Increase storage capacity*
  - Enable all current non-recording cameras to record*
- F15. The following projects, as noted in prior Grand Jury reports, have been addressed or completed:*
  - Antiquated Gate Control Panel was replaced in October 2016, with touchscreen monitors*
  - Referencing the 2012-2013 Kern County Grand Jury report, the key reduction project to reduce 200 locks and 57 keys*
    - Has resulted in 109 locks and 38 keys*
    - According to staff, numbers are appropriate, and meet industry standards*
    - No further reductions are planned*
  - Elevators have been painted and the flooring replaced*
  - Two signs and a red line have been added at the basement entrance, designating it as a Restricted Area*
    - Public access is still unsecured*



- F16. *In June 2017, the facility implemented a new phone system called Securus. This system is biometric, and links an inmate's pin number with voice recognition capability. This prevents inmates from using or sharing another inmate's pin number.*
- F17. *The report management system previously used by KCSO, Law Enforcement Automated Data System (I/LEADS), was replaced in February 2017, with a Tyler Technology product, called Law Enforcement Record Management System (LERMS).*
- F18. *The jail management system used is the California Justice Information System (CJIS). The 2016-2017 Kern County Grand Jury report indicated that CJIS would be replaced by the end of 2016. However, this system is now scheduled to be replaced with Tyler Odyssey Integrated Criminal Justice Solution (Odyssey) by November 2017.*
- F19. *The CRF has two fingerprinting machines, both scheduled for replacement by the end of 2017, with funds from AB 109.*
- F20. *The public address system (PA) has not been working on Deck B since 2016. As a result, staff has been using a bullhorn. The current PA will be replaced by the end of 2017, with funds from AB 109.*
- F21. *In April 2017, CRF began using PIPE II, an electronic recording cell check device.*
- F22. *Records reviewed from February 2017, to the date of inspection, revealed numerous omissions in the freezer temperature logs.*
- F23. *Two flats of bread were inspected and some loaves had illegible or no expiration dates. According to kitchen staff, this bread had been recently delivered.*
- F24. *During the inspection, Health and Safety issues were noted as follows:*
- *Leaking kitchen faucet (replacement parts already received, installation pending)*
  - *Grate cover was missing over the condensation drain located between the two ice machines in the kitchen (subsequently replaced)*
  - *Deck B - cell 8, commode flush button leaks when activated (subsequently repaired)*
  - *Deck B - Non-functioning activation button, in middle shower (subsequently repaired)*
  - *Deck B - Hallway light bulb was out (subsequently replaced)*
  - *Deck C - cells 1, 2, and 3, commode flush button leaks when activated (subsequently repaired)*
  - *Deck C - cell 5, Non-functioning activation shower button (subsequently repaired)*

#### **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with most of the findings provided by the Grand Jury.

The Sheriff's Office agrees that the findings for F4, F12, F13, and F24 were accurate at the time of the site visit. However, the Sheriff's Office has continued to make adjustments and improvements in the areas described in the findings.

- F4. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. The chair was inoperable but has since been repaired with replacement parts from the original manufacturer.



- F12. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. The Sheriff's Office has undergone a comprehensive review of the CRF's critical incident response plan as it relates to the safety, security, and movement of inmates at the facility. Part of that response plan includes the transfer of inmates to the Lerdo complex, where a large supply of provisions will be available. Due to the numerous complexities that often accompany a catastrophic event, the Sheriff's Office is currently seeking extended shelf-life food and beverage options that can be stored at CRF.
- F13. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. The Sheriff's Office deploys two cameras on each of the *four* shifts at CRF.
- F24. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding.
- The leaking kitchen faucet has subsequently been repaired.

#### **GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. *The inoperable restraint chair should be replaced as funds become available. (Finding 4)*
- R2. *The KCSO should develop a contingency plan for the CRF, in the event of a catastrophic occurrence. (Finding 12)*
- R3. *The body worn camera pilot program should be retained and expanded to include additional cameras. The program provides additional safety for staff and inmates. These cameras provide transparency which may limit liability. Funding for these cameras should be included in the KCSO's budget, and given priority. (Finding 13)*
- R4. *Additional security measures should be taken to prohibit public access to the basement entrance. As noted in the Kern County Grand Jury 2016-2017 report, "The basement entrance should be secured from the public and used by law enforcement, court staff, and other authorized personnel only." (Finding 15)*
- R5. *Freezer temperature logs must be consistently maintained. (Finding 22)*
- R6. *The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. For the health of the inmates, KCSO should not accept perishable items without legible or visible expiration dates. (Finding 23)*
- R7. *General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, and routinely scheduled for the safety of staff and inmates. (Finding 24)*

#### **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. The Sheriff's Office obtained replacement parts from the manufacturer, and the restraint chair has been repaired.
- R2. The Sheriff's Office has undergone a comprehensive review of CRF's critical incident response plan as it relates to the safety, security, and movement of inmates at the facility. Part of that response plan includes the transfer of inmates to the Lerdo Complex, where

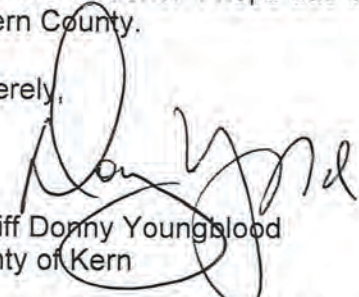


a large supply of provisions are maintained. Due to the numerous complexities that often accompany a catastrophic event, the Sheriff's Office is currently seeking extended shelf-life food and beverage options that can be stored at CRF.

- R3. The Sheriff's Office was recently awarded a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Body-Worn Camera (BWC) and Policy Implementation Project for Fiscal Year 2017. While the cameras from that grant will be going to the Metropolitan Patrol Section, this demonstrates the Sheriff's Office commitment to expand the BWC program. The BWCs at CRF supplement the 128 cameras that are currently operational within the facility, and the BWCs will continue to be deployed in their current capacity. The Sheriff's Office recognizes the value of the BWC program at CRF and will continue to seek additional funding sources as they become available.
- R4. The Sheriff's Office recognizes the increased level of security that can result from securing the opening to the basement at CRF. There is a significant cost associated with a project of this size and the Sheriff's Office is exploring design and funding options. While we continue to look at different options, the Sheriff's Office has acquired appropriate signage to notify members of the public that access to the basement is restricted to authorized personnel only.
- R5. The Sheriff's Office is working with Trinity Food Services to ensure there is necessary oversight and accountability for maintaining accurate and complete freezer and refrigerator logs.
- R6. The Sheriff's Office is working with Trinity Food Services to ensure they provide the necessary oversight for the proper handling and storage of food that is provided to inmates at CRF.
- R7. 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 Recommendation 7 (R7), and specifically in Finding 24 (F24), were immediately corrected after they were discovered. The Sheriff's Office will continue to closely monitor and address maintenance concerns as they are discovered.

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 Tyson Davis  
Chief Deputy Shelly Castaneda  
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman

Chief Deputy Larry McCurtain  
Clerk of the Board  
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman  
Assistant CAO Teresa Hitchcock



Kern County Board of Supervisors  
Response to Grand Jury Final Report  
Kern County 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 F4, F12, F13, and F24 as described in the Sheriff's response.

Response to Recommendations:

*R1: The inoperable restraint chair should be replaced as funds become available.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the restraint chair was repaired.

*R2: The Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) should develop a contingency plan for the Central Receiving Facility (CRF), in the event of a catastrophic occurrence.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response to seek a contingency plan of storing extended shelf-life food and beverage options at the CRF in addition to their critical incident response plan which includes transferring CRF inmates to the Lerdo facility where supplies are already maintained.

*R3: The body worn camera pilot program should be retained and expanded to include additional cameras. The program provides additional safety for staff and inmates. These cameras provide transparency which may limit liability. Funding for these cameras should be included in the KCSO's budget, and given priority.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that recognizes the value of the Body-Worn Camera program and demonstrates their commitment to expand the program by seeking additional available funding sources.

*R4: Additional security measures should be taken to prohibit public access to the basement entrance. As noted in the Kern County Grand Jury 2016-2017 report, "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 have acquired appropriate signage to notify the public that access to the basement is restricted to authorized personnel only while they continue to explore design and funding options to secure the opening.

*R5: Freezer temperature logs must be consistently maintained.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they are working with Trinity Food Services to ensure there is necessary oversight and accountability to maintain accurate and complete temperature logs.

*R6: The process for storing and handling of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. For the health of the inmates, KCSO should not accept perishable items without legible or visible expiration dates.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response to work with Trinity Food Services to ensure they provide the necessary oversight for proper handling and storage of food that is provided.

*R7: General maintenance and facility repairs should be closely monitored, and routinely scheduled for the safety of staff and inmates.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they are dedicated to maintain a safe environment by immediately correcting and closely monitoring concerns discovered.

COMPL\_GJ Sheriff CRF B

# **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LERDO DETENTION FACILITY**

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), Lerdo Detention Facility (Lerdo), houses sentenced inmates and those awaiting adjudication by the Superior Court of California, County of Kern. On March 20, 2018, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury), toured Lerdo to conduct an inspection pursuant to Penal Codes §§919(b) and 925.

## **PROCESS:**

In preparation for this inspection, questions were sent to Lerdo and a response was received. In addition, prior Kern County Grand Jury reports and the KCSO website were reviewed. After a brief orientation, management staff provided an extensive inspection tour of the facility. Following the inspection of Lerdo, staff provided a brief tour of the new Kern County Justice Facility (Justice Facility), prior to its official opening.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

Lerdo is located at 17365 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield, California. It is the largest detention facility operated by the Kern County Sheriff's Office.

In 1940, Lerdo was originally designed as a minimum security facility "Honor Farm," which utilized low-risk inmates to perform a variety of husbandry activities including raising, slaughtering, and preparing livestock for consumption. These activities have since been eliminated.

Lerdo has four separate housing units: Pre-Trial, Minimum-Male, Minimum-Female, and Maximum-Medium (Max-Med) male only. In 1978, the Max-Med security facility opened, and Pre-Trial housing was constructed in the late 1980's.

On August 7, 2012, KCSO received a \$100 million conditional award from the State of California, under Assembly Bill 900, for the construction of a new, approximately 216,000 sq. ft., facility at Lerdo. The Justice Facility will include an additional 822 beds for the Max-Med security housing units. This expansion includes a 104-bed maximum-security unit for Medical, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. In addition, there will be nine classrooms constructed to accommodate inmate programs, designed to reduce recidivism by better preparing inmates for re-entry into the community. The Justice Facility will include an infirmary, inmate/family video visitation capability, recreational, laundry, food services, warehouse/utility, and maintenance areas.

- A. On the date of inspection, there were 1,921 inmates with an authorized maximum capacity of 2,544.

	<u>Date of Inspection</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
• Pre-trial	959	1,344
• Minimum-Male	489	696
• Max-Med	383	408
• Minimum-Female	90	96

- B. Lerdo inmate population is fluid and fluctuates daily.
- C. Lerdo is a 24-hour facility, which provides custody functions such as: inmate supervision, custody support services, facility security, rehabilitation, transportation, classification, and food services.
- D. The 2017-2018 annual cost to house an inmate was \$34,846, with an additional \$8,732 in medical expenses.
- E. Under a contractual agreement with the United States Marshals Service, federal prisoners are housed within the Max-Med and Pre-trial housing units. Lerdo is reimbursed \$120 per prisoner, per day. On the date of inspection, there were 82 federal prisoners.
- F. On the date of inspection, staffing was as follows:
- |                            |     |            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|------------|-----|
| • Commander                | 1   | authorized | 1   |
| • Detentions Lieutenant    | 7   | authorized | 8   |
| • Detentions Sergeant      | 23  | authorized | 24  |
| • Detentions Senior Deputy | 26  | authorized | 34  |
| • Detentions Deputy        | 236 | authorized | 289 |
- G. There are 100 allocated civilian positions, of which 87 were filled.
- H. Medical staff is available 24/7 for inmates, or through Kern Medical on an as needed basis.
- I. Services for dental, and Behavioral Health and Recovery, are available for inmates.
- J. KCSO has a food service contract with Trinity Services Group. Inmate meals are prepared at Lerdo as well as for KCSO – Central Receiving Facility, located in downtown Bakersfield. Two cold meals (breakfast/lunch) and a hot dinner are provided.
- K. Refrigerator and freezer daily temperature logs are maintained at Lerdo.
- L. Inmate work programs include:
- Cleaning State highways - Caltrans, minimum level inmates only



- Waste management - Kern Council of Governments, minimum level inmates only
  - Kitchen and laundry inmate work crews – on-site only
- M. Pre-Trial, Minimum-Male, Minimum-Female, and Max-Med have separate visitation areas and procedures. Conjugal visits are not allowed.
- N. The last biennial inspection of Lerdo was completed by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for the period of 2014-2016. Pursuant to California Penal Code §6031, inspections are performed to determine compliance with the minimum standards for detentions facilities, as outlined in Title 15 and 24, California Code of Regulations.
- O. Between April 7th and 10th, 2018, Lerdo was audited by the BSCC regarding the Prison Rape Elimination Act - PREA, and certification is pending.

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. The road leading into the Lerdo Facility is in need of major repairs.
- F2. Retention of Detention Deputies is a concern among staff, as reflected in current staffing levels.
- F3. According to staff, beginning on May 12, 2018, the new Justice Facility is scheduled to receive inmates from Lerdo's current male population.
- F4. Visitation in the new Justice Facility will be facilitated through 60 non-contact video visitation stations, for approved visitors only.
- F5. According to staff, the Kern County Board of Supervisors has allocated \$1.7 million for a Lock Replacement Project. This project will ultimately replace 348 cell door locks, with the first phase scheduled to begin during 2018.
- F6. According to staff, in 2018 a pilot program to alleviate the need to refer and transport Kern County inmates to State mental hospitals is scheduled to begin. This program will be administered within the infirmary, in H Pod, which will include four units in the designated Admission Evaluation and Stabilization Center. This center will evaluate inmates for competency and provide treatment to restore competency to stand trial. The courts, and the California Department of State Hospitals, may make referrals to this program. The long-term plan is to accept inmates into this program from other counties, thus providing revenue to Kern County.
- F7. The Infirmary has seven designated safety/suicide cells.

- F8. According to staff, as noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Final Report, the scheduled renovations in the Minimum-Male facility, have been completed.
- F9. Although noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Final Report that renovations were under way in the Minimum-Female barracks, based on this Committee's observation, there is still a dire need for these barracks to be renovated or replaced.
- F10. Prior to the implementation of Assembly Bill 109, in 2011, inmates were sentenced to county jails for one year and a day, or less. Today, inmates may be remanded to Lerdo for the duration of their sentence. As a result, detentions officers are dealing with a more sophisticated inmate population. According to staff, to date, the longest sentence at Lerdo is approximately ten years.
- F11. Lerdo has the following restraint chairs:
- Pre-Trial - 3
  - Max-Med - 2
  - Minimum - 1
- F12. Academic and vocational programs are available.
- F13. There are specialized services designed for incarcerated military veterans.
- F14. According to staff, Lerdo is collaborating with Marley's Mutts to develop an inmate program to care for canines. Kern County Animal Services is developing a program for newborn/orphaned kittens.
- F15. In the event of a catastrophic occurrence, and without access to outside resources, staff advises they would be able to sustain the facility for approximately 72 hours.
- F16. During the inspection, the following health, safety, and maintenance issues were noted by the Committee; Maintenance Orders (M.O.) concerning some repairs received:
- Minimum-Female Housing:**
- Barracks #1:**
- Faucet knob missing - staff advised
    - knob replaced, M.O. completed
  - Two entrance doors not closing properly – staff advised
    - two spring mechanisms replaced, M.O. completed
  - Two ceiling lights non-operational - staff advised
    - light bulbs replaced, M.O. completed
  - Drinking fountain spout loose - staff advised

- drinking fountain valve re-fastened, M.O. completed
- Sink closest to the showers not secured to the wall – staff advised
  - M.O. not provided

#### Barracks #2:

- Shower tile missing, water seeping through wall into sleeping area - staff advised
  - shower repaired/tile area patched, M.O. completed
- Two ceiling lights non-operational and light cover loose - staff advised
  - light cover secured and light bulbs replaced, M.O. completed
- Toilet flush button leaks when pressed – staff advised
  - flush button replaced, M.O. completed
- Sink - hot water handle not secured – staff advised
  - hot water handle replaced, M.O. completed
- Door closing mechanism partially functional – staff advised
  - door mechanism repaired, M.O. completed

#### Barracks #3

- Shower stall missing water knob – staff advised
  - knob replaced, M.O. completed
- Shower stall water knob unsecured – staff advised
  - knob replaced, M.O. completed
- Two shower stalls missing shower heads – staff advised
  - shower heads replaced, M.O. completed
- Hot water faucet non-functional – staff advised
  - valve fixed, M.O. completed
- Sink with standing water, not draining properly – staff advised
  - drain cleared, M.O. completed
- Drinking fountain valve was turned off due to a leak – staff advised
  - valve repaired, M.O. completed

#### **Minimum-Male Housing:**

##### Barracks #16

- Two drinking fountain spouts missing – staff advised
  - spouts replaced, M.O. completed

##### Barracks #19

- Middle sink clogged – staff advised
  - blockage cleared. M.O. completed
- Urinal overflows when flushed – staff advised
  - debris removed and water flow adjusted, M.O. completed

#### **Max-Med Housing:**

- Toilet when flushed, water continually runs – staff advised
  - replaced toilet diaphragm, M.O. completed
- Drinking fountain in exercise yard, excessive water pressure, water sprayed beyond sink; fountain nozzle corroded with rust – staff advised

- cleared sink orifice and replaced missing “O” ring, corrosion removed, M.O. completed

**Minimum-Male Housing – Temporary Holding Cell – THC #2**

- Toilet when flushed, continually runs – staff advised –
  - toilet repaired and run time adjusted, M.O. completed
- Sink with low water pressure, water trickled out – staff advised
  - water line and faucet orifice cleared, M.O. completed
- Floor un-swept, dirty, and littered with tissue – staff advised
  - response pending

**Court Holding Area:**

**Holding room #1**

- Water faucet inoperable – staff advised
  - parts replaced, M.O. completed
- Ceiling air vent blocked with dried toilet paper – staff advised
  - vent cleaned, M.O. completed

**Holding room #2**

- Water faucet inoperable – staff advised
  - parts replaced, M.O. completed

F17. The following health and safety issues were identified by the Committee in the Kitchen:

- Three sample Dead man’s trays not dated; last dated tray was March 18, 2018. The required food tray samples for 3 days were not retained – Kitchen and Lerdo staff advised
- Insufficient caution signs in place regarding wet floors – staff advised – signage added during inspection
- Refrigerators #1 through #5 are missing multiple daily temperature log entries between February 22nd and 25th, and on March 1, 2018. Daily temperature log entries were not recorded as required per California Code of Regulations, Title 15.
- Freezers #1 and #2 are missing multiple daily temperature log entries between February 22nd and 25th, 2018. Freezer #1 had missing entries on March 1st and 19th, and freezer #2 had a missing entry on March 1, 2018.

F18. Since 2013, all fire inspection reports have noted the same issues regarding fire alarm maintenance. The latest biennial fire inspection by the Kern County Fire Department was completed on August 24, 2017, and clearance granted.

F19. Lerdo staff has participated in community events/activities such as:

- Shop with a Cop
- Reading at Elementary Schools
- Community Food Baskets
- Holiday Cottage – clothing and toys for needy children

- F20. Inmates can participate in Family Reunification, “Paint Night,” with their children. At the end of the activity, incarcerated parents exchange paintings with their children.

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the Lerdo staff for their time, information, and hospitality provided during the tour and inspection. In addition, the tour of the new Justice Facility was greatly appreciated.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Kern County Sheriff’s Office should address road maintenance issues through the appropriate County budget process. (Finding 1)
- R2. KCSO should address staff retention issues. (Finding 2)
- R3. KCSO should make the completion of the Lock Replacement Project a priority. (Finding 5)
- R4. KCSO should give priority to renovating or replacing the Minimum-Female barracks. (Finding 9)
- R5. KCSO should immediately address all health, safety, and maintenance issues, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 16)
- R6. KCSO should direct the kitchen staff to consistently complete refrigerator and freezer daily temperature logs in a timely manner, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 17)
- R7. KCSO should address recurring fire alarm maintenance issues identified in the biennial fire inspection reports since 2013. (Finding 18)

## **NOTES:**

- The Kern County Board of Supervisors, Kern County Sheriff’s Office, and the Lerdo Detention 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website:

[www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).

**RESPONSE REQUIRED WITH 60 DAYS TO:**

**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

**COPY**

July 19, 2018

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

On March 20, 2018, the Law and Justice Committee of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury visited the Kern County Sheriff's Office Lerdo Detention Facility. Based on their findings, the Grand Jury published a report that was made public on June 21, 2018. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Final Report concerning the Kern County Sheriff's Office Lerdo Detention Facility.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Grand Jury for its efforts in reviewing the Kern County Sheriff's Office Lerdo Detention Facility. The objective review 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 the Grand Jury has provided.

**GRAND JURY FINDINGS:**

- F1. *The road leading into the Lerdo Facility is in need of major repairs.*
- F2. *Retention of Detention Deputies is a concern among staff, as reflected in current staffing levels.*
- F3. *According to staff, beginning May 12, 2018, the new Justice Facility is scheduled to receive inmates from Lerdo's current male population.*
- F4. *Visitation in the new Justice Facility will be facilitated through 60 non-contact video visitation stations, for approved visitors only.*
- F5. *According to staff, the Kern County Board of Supervisors has allocated \$1.7 million for a Lock Replacement Project. This project will ultimately replace 348 cell door locks, with the first phase scheduled to begin during 2018.*
- F6. *According to staff, in 2018 a pilot program to alleviate the need to refer and transport Kern County inmates to State mental hospitals is scheduled to begin. This program will be administered within the infirmary, in H Pod, which will include four units in the designated Admission Evaluation and Stabilization Center. This center will evaluate inmates for competency and provide treatment to restore competency to stand trial. The courts, and the California Department of State Hospitals, may make referrals to this program. The*

*long-term plan is to accept inmates into this program from other counties, thus providing revenue to Kern County.*

- F7. *The Infirmary has seven designated safety/suicide cells.*
- F8. *According to staff, as noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Final Report, the scheduled renovations in the Minimum-Male facility, have been completed.*
- F9. *Although noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Final Report that renovations were under way in the Minimum-Female barracks, based on this Committee's observation, there is still a dire need for these barracks to be renovated or replaced.*
- F10. *Prior to the implementation of Assembly Bill 109, in 2011, inmates were sentenced to county jails for one year and a day, or less. Today, inmates may be remanded to Lerdo for the duration of their sentence. As a result, detentions officers are dealing with a more sophisticated inmate population. According to staff, to date, the longest sentence at Lerdo is approximately ten years.*
- F11. *Lerdo has the following restraint chairs:*
- *Pre-Trial – 3*
  - *Max-Med – 2*
  - *Minimum – 1*
- F12. *Academic and vocational programs are available.*
- F13. *There are specialized services designed for incarcerated military veterans.*
- F14. *According to staff, Lerdo is collaborating with Marley's Mutts to develop an inmate program to care for canines. Kern County Animal Services is developing a program for newborn/orphaned kittens.*
- F15. *In the event of a catastrophic occurrence, and without access to outside resources, staff advises they would be able to sustain the facility for approximately 72 hours.*
- F16. *During the inspection, the following health, safety, and maintenance issues were noted by the Committee; Maintenance Orders (M.O.) concerning some repairs received:*  
***Minimum-Female Housing:***  
***Barracks #1:***
- *Faucet knob missing - staff advised*
    - *knob replaced, M.O. completed*
  - *Two entrance doors not closing properly – staff advised*
    - *two spring mechanisms replaced, M.O. completed*
  - *Two ceiling lights non-operational - staff advised*
    - *light bulbs replaced, M.O. completed*
  - *Drinking fountain spout loose - staff advised*
    - *drinking fountain valve re-fastened, M.O. completed*
  - *Sink closest to the showers not secured to the wall – staff advised*
    - *M.O. not provided*
- Barracks #2:***
- *Shower tile missing, water seeping through wall into sleeping area - staff advised*
    - *shower repaired/tile area patched, M.O. completed*
  - *Two ceiling lights non-operational and light cover loose - staff advised*



- light cover secured and light bulbs replaced, M.O. completed
- Toilet flush button leaks when pressed – staff advised
  - flush button replaced, M.O. completed
- Sink - hot water handle not secured – staff advised
  - hot water handle replaced, M.O. completed
- Door closing mechanism partially functional – staff advised
  - door mechanism repaired, M.O. completed

**Barracks #3**

- Shower stall missing water knob – Staff advised
  - knob replaced, M.O. completed
- Shower stall water knob unsecured – staff advised
  - knob replaced, M.O. completed
- Two shower stalls missing shower heads – staff advised
  - shower heads replaced, M.O. completed
- Hot water faucet non-functional – staff advised
  - valve fixed, M.O. completed
- Sink with standing water, not draining properly – staff advised
  - drain cleared, M.O. completed
- Drinking fountain valve was turned off due to a leak – staff advised
  - valve repaired, M.O. completed

**Minimum-Male Housing:**

**Barracks #16**

- Two drinking fountain spouts missing – staff advised
  - spouts replaced, M.O. completed

**Barracks #19**

- Middle sink clogged – staff advised
  - blockage cleared, M.O. completed
- Urinal overflows when flushed – staff advised
  - debris removed and water flow adjusted, M.O. completed

**Max-Med Housing:**

- Toilet when flushed, water continually runs – staff advised
  - replaced toilet diaphragm, M.O. completed
- Drinking fountain in exercise yard, excessive water pressure, water sprayed beyond sink; fountain nozzle corroded with rust – staff advised
  - cleared sink orifice and replaced missing "O" ring, corrosion removed, M.O. completed

**Minimum-Male Housing – Temporary Holding Cell – THC #2**

- Toilet when flushed, continually runs – staff advised –
  - toilet repaired and run time adjusted, M.O. completed
- Sink with low water pressure, water trickled out – staff advised
  - water line and faucet orifice cleared, M.O. completed
- Floor un-swept, dirty, and littered with tissue – staff advised
  - response pending

**Court Holding Area:**

**Holding room #1**

- Water faucet inoperable – staff advised
  - parts replaced, M.O. completed
- Ceiling air vent blocked with dried toilet paper – staff advised
  - vent cleaned, M.O. completed

**Holding room #2**

- Water faucet inoperable – staff advised

- parts replaced, M.O. completed

- F17. The following health and safety issues were identified by the Committee in the Kitchen:
- Three sample Dead man's trays not dated; last dated tray was March 18, 2018. The required food tray samples for 3 days were not retained – Kitchen and Lerdo staff advised
  - Insufficient caution signs in place regarding wet floors – staff advised – signage added during inspection
  - Refrigerators #1 through #5 are missing multiple daily temperature log entries between February 22nd and 25th, and on March 1, 2018. Daily temperature log entries were not recorded as required per California Code of Regulations, Title 15.
  - Freezers #1 and #2 are missing multiple daily temperature log entries between February 22nd and 25th, 2018. Freezer #1 had missing entries on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 19th, and Freezer #2 had a missing entry on March 1, 2018.
- F18. Since 2013, all fire inspection reports have noted the same issues regarding fire alarm maintenance. The latest biennial fire inspection by the Kern County Fire Department was completed on August 24, 2017, and clearance granted.
- F19. Lerdo staff has participated in community events/activities such as:
- Shop with a Cop
  - Reading at Elementary Schools
  - Community Food Baskets
  - Holiday Cottage – clothing and toys for needy children
- F20. Inmates can participate in Family Reunification, "Paint Night," with their children. At the end of the activity, incarcerated parents exchange paintings with their children.

#### **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with the Grand Jury's findings F1 through F16, F19 and F20. The Sheriff's Office does not concur with a portion of finding F17 and does not concur with finding F18.

- F17. The Kern County Sheriff's Office agrees in part with the finding. The notation on bullet point number three, referenced a California Code of Regulations, Title 15, requirement for daily temperature log entries. There is currently no requirement within the California Code of Regulations, Title 15 for daily temperature log entries.
- F18. The Kern County Sheriff's Office does not agree with the finding. The Sheriff's Office has obtained clearance on all fire inspections since the 2013 inspection noted in this finding. The Sheriff's Office continues to utilize two vendors to service the fire suppression systems quarterly, annually, and service the sprinklers every five years. All ongoing maintenance issues are addressed in a timely manner.

#### **GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Kern County Sheriff's Office should address road maintenance issues through the appropriate County budget process. (Finding 1)
- R2. KCSO should address staff retention issues. (Finding 2)
- R3. KCSO should make the completion of the Lock Replacement Project a priority. (Finding 5)



- R4. *KCSO should give priority to renovating or replacing the Minimum-Female barracks. (Finding 9)*
- R5. *KCSO should immediately address all health, safety, and maintenance issues, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 16)*
- R6. *KCSO should direct the kitchen staff to consistently complete refrigerator and freezer daily temperature logs in a timely manner, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 17)*
- R7. *KCSO should address recurring fire alarm maintenance issues identified in the biennial fire inspection reports since 2013. (Finding 18)*

#### **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with recommendations R1 through R5 provided by the Grand Jury. The Sheriff's Office does not concur with a portion of R6, or R7.

- R1. The Sheriff's Office continuously requests capital maintenance projects for infrastructure maintenance of the entire Lerdo Complex, including road repair. Road repair/maintenance will continue to stay on the projects list until the repairs are completed. Prior to the opening of the Justice Facility on May 9, 2018, the main entry road was repaired.
- R2. The Sheriff's Office, like other County departments, recognizes the issues surrounding staff retention. The Sheriff's Office has been working closely with Kern County Human Resources and the Board of Supervisors to address staffing issues. Lerdo Facility managers recently adjusted and redistributed the inmate population which reduced the number of overtime shifts necessary to operate the facilities. That adjustment will help address some of the staff retention issues, however, the overarching issue is related to budgetary constraints.
- R3. The Sheriff's Office started the Pre-Trial lock project on May 12, 2018. The contractor is working quickly and there are two pods that have been completed. It is estimated that the entire project should be completed before the end of 2018. This project is a priority for the Sheriff's Office and installation began as soon as the materials were available.
- R4. The Sheriff's Office recently adjusted and redistributed the inmate population, and as a result, the Female Minimum Facility is temporarily empty. The movement of female inmates was purposely accomplished to address the aging barracks where female inmates have been housed. The Sheriff's Office anticipates renovations and maintenance repairs to be completed, based on available funding, by the end of 2018. The barracks will then be repopulated with female inmates.
- R5. The Sheriff's Office is dedicated to maintaining a safe environment for both the staff and inmates housed at the Lerdo Complex. The Findings referenced in Recommendation 5 (R5), and specifically in Finding 16 (F16), were immediately corrected after they were discovered. The Sheriff's Office will continue to closely monitor and address maintenance concerns as they are discovered.
- R6. Although there is no requirement in the California Code of Regulations, Title 15, to maintain a daily log of temperatures, The Sheriff's Office is working with Trinity Food

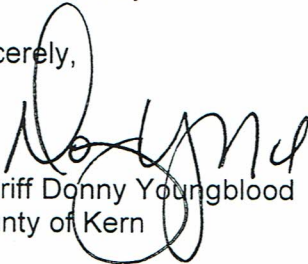


Services to ensure there is necessary oversight and accountability for maintaining accurate and complete freezer and refrigerator logs.

- R7. The Sheriff's Office will continue to maintain the fire alarm and fire suppression systems at the Lerdo Complex. The Sheriff's Office utilizes two vendors to service the systems quarterly, annually, and service the sprinklers every five years. Additionally, since January 2018, the Sheriff's Office has been working with the Kern County General Services Department to replace every fire control panel at Pre-Trial, Max-Med, and the warehouse. The current panels are aging and the Sheriff's Office has made the decision to replace them before they fail.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office sincerely thanks the Grand Jury's Law and Justice Committee for taking the time to visit the Lerdo Detention 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 Tyson Davis  
Chief Deputy Shelly Castaneda  
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman  
Chief Deputy Larry McCurtain  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman  
Assistant CAO Teresa Hitchcock

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

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct with the corrections and clarifications added to Findings F17 and F18 as described in the Sheriff's attached response.

Response to Recommendations:

R1: *The Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) should address road maintenance issues through the appropriate County budget process.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the department continue requesting Lerdo maintenance projects, including road repair, and keep the project listed until it is completed.

R2: *KCSO should address staff retention issues.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the department has been working closely to address the issues surrounding staff retention; however the overarching issue is related to budgetary constraints.

R3: *KCSO should make the completion of the Lock Replacement Project a priority.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that this project is a priority for the department. Installation began as soon as the materials were available and the contractor is working quickly to complete the entire project before the end of 2018.

R4: *KCSO should give priority to renovating or replacing the Minimum-Female barracks.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the department anticipates renovations and maintenance repairs to be completed, based on available funding, by the end of 2018.

R5: *KCSO should immediately address all health, safety, and maintenance issues, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the department is dedicated to maintain a safe environment for staff and inmates. The Sheriff's office will continue to closely monitor and address concerns as they are discovered.

R6: *KCSO should direct the kitchen staff to consistently complete refrigerator and freezer daily temperature logs in a timely manner, according to California Code of Regulations, Title 15.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that although there is no requirement to maintain a daily log of temperatures, the department will work with Trinity Food Services to ensure logs are completed.

R7: KCSO should address recurring fire alarm maintenance issues identified in the biennial fire inspection reports since 2013.

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they will continue to have the fire alarm systems serviced and replace the aging fire control panels.

COMPL\_GJ Sheriff Lerdo B

# **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MOJAVE SUBSTATION**

## **PREFACE:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), Mojave Substation (Substation), provides law enforcement for Eastern Kern County as well as three Kern County Superior Courtrooms. The Substation operates within the East Kern Superior Court District (Mojave Court), which is located adjacent to the Substation, and also serves as the main jail (Mojave Jail) for Eastern Kern County.

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inspected the Substation pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## **PROCESS:**

In preparation for the inspection, questions were sent to the Substation and a written response was received. Prior Kern County Grand Jury reports and the KCSO website were reviewed. The Committee met with staff on October 5, 2017, and held a question and answer session, followed by an inspection of the Substation.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

The Substation is located at 1771 Highway 58, Mojave, California, and serves the Mojave Desert area of Kern County. The area includes the communities of Cantil, Fremont Valley, Boron, North Edwards, Aerial Acres, Desert Lake, and the military complex at Edwards Air Force Base. According to the 2010 United States Census, 4,238 citizens reside in the community of Mojave. The Substation provides law enforcement services to approximately 14,000 residents. The response area covers 1,320 square miles, and is located in high desert terrain along the west end of the Mojave Desert. The Mojave Jail processes arrestees and detains them until they can be cited and released, or transferred to the Central Receiving Facility (CRF) in Bakersfield.

### **A. The sworn staffing level of the Substation is:**

- |                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Sergeant                          | 1                   |
| • Senior Sheriff's Deputy           | 2                   |
| • Sheriff's Deputy                  | 12 with 2 vacancies |
| • Senior Sheriff's Detention Deputy | 1                   |
| • Sheriff's Detention Deputy        | 4                   |
| • Sheriff's Deputy (Mojave Court)   | 3                   |

- B. There are two Sheriff's Support Technicians (civilian positions), with one vacancy.
- C. According to staff, during the months of August and September 2017, an average of ten inmates per day, with as many as 19 and as few as one, were transported from Bakersfield to Mojave for court appearances.
- D. The Mojave Jail has six holding cells, with a total of 14 beds.
- E. The Substation provides bailiffs and courtroom security for the three connecting courtrooms of the East Kern Superior Court.
- F. There are interior and exterior surveillance cameras throughout the Substation.
- G. Inmate meals are provided at the Mojave Jail through an outside vendor. However, inmates transported from the Lerdo Facility to the Mojave Jail, for court appearances, are provided a sack lunch prepared at the Lerdo Facility.

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. The Substation and Mojave Jail business hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During weekends and holidays, and after normal business hours, the public may access the external phone located outside the main entrance of the courthouse to contact the jail staff.
- F2. On the day of the inspection, there were eight inmates:
  - Six pending a court appearance
  - Two awaiting transfer to CRF
- F3. Inmates are brought to the Mojave Jail by the KCSO Transportation Unit from CRF, the Lerdo Facility for court appearances, and public defender/attorney visits. At the end of the business day, inmates are transported back to their assigned facilities.
- F4. The Mojave Jail processes arrestees and provides short term housing, typically not exceeding 72 hours, for male and female inmates that have no immediate medical or mental health needs. However, arrestees may be held up to 96 hours before being transported to CRF.
- F5. In 2016, there were 1,106 bookings into the Mojave Jail. There have been 862 bookings through the end of September 2017.
- F6. If there are no female Sheriff's Deputies on duty, female arrestees are not accepted at the Mojave Jail and are immediately transported to CRF.



- F7. Laundry services are provided through the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Lerdo Facility.
- F8. The 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury Report recommended that a surveillance camera be installed in the property room to monitor activities inside the room. According to staff, a surveillance camera still has not been installed due to budget constraints.
- F9. The outside area is monitored by surveillance cameras which are manned during the day by a private security agency and Sheriff's Deputies during normal business hours. Surveillance cameras have been installed throughout the Substation including:
- Internal cameras 12
  - External cameras 7
- F10. The 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury recommended that a security fence and gate be installed around the patrol car and employee parking area. According to staff, funding was not available due to budget constraints.
- F11. There is not a dedicated interview room available for Sheriff's Deputies at the Substation.
- F12. According to staff, in the event of a catastrophic occurrence, the Substation could be self-sustaining up to twelve days.
- F13. Community Service Unit volunteers provide an invaluable service by providing additional support to the Substation.

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Mojave Substation staff for their hospitality and professionalism extended during the inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. This Grand Jury, once again, recommends to KCSO, to purchase and install a surveillance camera, as a priority in the property room. (Finding 8)
- R2. The Grand Jury recommends that security and safety issues be addressed and given priority, as KCSO funds become available. (Findings 8 and 10)
- R3. The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO provide a dedicated interview room, as funds become available. (Finding 11)



## **NOTES:**

- The Kern County Sheriff's Office and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Mojave Substation 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).

## **RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 60 DAYS TO:**

**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

January 2, 2018

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

On October 5, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury inspected the Kern County Sheriff's Office Mojave Substation. Based on their findings, the Grand Jury published a report which was made public on November 6, 2017. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Final Report concerning the Kern County Sheriff's Office Mojave Substation.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Grand Jury for its efforts in reviewing the operations of the Mojave Substation. I appreciate the dedicated men and women of the Grand Jury and would like to thank them for all of their efforts. The grand jury provides an essential function to the community of Kern County, and their objective review helps to strengthen the foundation of trust between the community and the Sheriff's Office.

**GRAND JURY FINDINGS:**

- F1. The Substation and Mojave Jail business hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During weekends and holidays, and after normal business hours, the public may access the external phone located outside the main entrance of the courthouse to contact the jail staff.
- F2. On the day of the inspection, there were eight inmates:
  - Six pending a court appearance
  - Two awaiting transfer to CRF
- F3. Inmates are brought to the Mojave Jail by the KCSO Transportation Unit from CRF, the Lerdo Facility for court appearances, and public defender/attorney visits. At the end of the business day, inmates are transported back to their assigned facilities.
- F4. The Mojave Jail processes arrestees and provides short term housing, typically not exceeding 72 hours, for male and female inmates that have no immediate medical or mental health needs. However, arrestees may be held up to 96 hours before being transported to CRF.

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SHERIFF**



- F5. In 2016, there were 1,106 bookings into the Mojave Jail. There have been 862 bookings through the end of September 2017.
- F6. If there are no female Sheriff's Deputies on duty, female arrestees are not accepted at the Mojave Jail and are immediately transported to CRF.
- F7. Laundry services are provided through the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Lerdo Facility.
- F8. The 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury Report recommended that a surveillance camera be installed in the property room to monitor activities inside the room. According to staff, a surveillance camera still has not been installed due to budget constraints.
- F9. The outside area is monitored by surveillance cameras which are manned during the day by a private security agency and Sheriff's Deputies during normal business hours. Surveillance cameras have been installed throughout the Substation including:
- Internal cameras 12
  - External cameras 7
- F10. The 2015-2016 Kern County Grand Jury recommended that a security fence and gate be installed around the patrol car and employee parking area. According to staff, funding was not available due to budget constraints.
- F11. There is not a dedicated interview room available for Sheriff's Deputies at the Substation.
- F12. According to staff, in the event of a catastrophic occurrence, the Substation could be self-sustaining up to twelve days.
- F13. Community Service Unit volunteers provide an invaluable service by providing additional support to the Substation.

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office concurs with the findings provided by the Grand Jury.

**GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Grand Jury recommended that Kern County Sheriff's Office purchase and install a surveillance camera in the property room. (Finding 8)
- R2. The Grand Jury recommended that security and safety issues be addressed and given priority, as Kern County Sheriff's Office funds become available. (Findings 8 and 10)



- R3. The Grand Jury recommended that Kern County Sheriff's Office provide a dedicated interview room, as funds become available. (Finding 11)

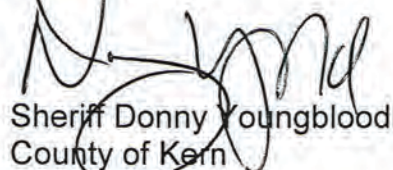
**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Sheriff's Office concurs with 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. On December 6, 2017, the Community Corrections Partnership Executive Board awarded the Sheriff's Office monies from the AB 109 growth fund to upgrade the camera system in the Mojave Jail/Substation. We are currently working on the specifications of upgrading the system, which will include storage for up to 13 months. We hope to have the camera upgrade project completed by the end of June 2018.
- R2. The security and safety issues at the Mojave Substation are important to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office continuously explores the possibility of securing the parking areas for patrol cars and our employees. The viability of this project and others will depend on future budget constraints.
- R3. A dedicated interview room at the Mojave Substation is important to the daily law enforcement operations at the substation. The Sheriff's Office is exploring the possibility of converting one of the offices to an interview room. Currently, the office is occupied and will be for an undetermined amount of time. In addition, the conversion will be dependent on available funds.

The Sheriff's Office sincerely thanks the Grand Jury's Law and Justice Committee for taking time to visit the Mojave Substation 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 Brain Wheeler  
Chief Deputy Tyson Davis  
Chief Deputy Shelly Castaneda  
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman  
Chief Deputy Larry McCurtain  
Clerk of the Board  
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman  
Assistant CAO Teresa Hitchcock

Kern County Board of Supervisors  
Response to 2017-18 Grand Jury Final Report  
Kern County Sheriff's Office Mojave Substation

Response to Findings:

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

Response to Recommendations:

*R1: The Grand Jury, once again, recommends to Kern County Sherriff's Office (KCSO), to purchase and install a surveillance camera, as a priority in the property room.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they are working on upgrading the camera system, which they hope to have completed by June 2018.

*R2: The Grand Jury recommends that security and safety issues be addressed and given priority, as KCSO funds become available.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they will consider the possibility of securing the parking areas when the budget allows.

*R3: The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO provide a dedicated interview room, as funds become available.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they will consider the possibility of converting one of the offices to an interview room when the office is unused and the budget allows.



# **KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ROSAMOND SUBSTATION**

## **PREFACE:**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Rosamond Substation (Substation), is located at 3179 35<sup>th</sup> Street West, Rosamond, California. Office space is shared with the Rosamond Community Services District. The Substation is in the southeastern area of Kern County which borders Los Angeles County, and serves over 20,000 residents.

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury), inspected the Substation pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## **PROCESS:**

In preparation for the inspection, prior Kern County Grand Jury reports and the KCSO website were reviewed. On October 5, 2017, the Committee met with staff and held a question and answer session, followed by an inspection of the Substation.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

In 1955, Rosamond had a resident post, where the resident Deputy Sheriff reported to the Sergeant at Mojave, and was responsible for all law enforcement services to the community. In the late 1960s, deputies moved into the first Rosamond Substation. This Substation was operated out of a back room at the Kern County Fire Department on Desert Street. In 1977, the Substation staff moved into its own building, which allowed for expansion. In 1983, the Substation was consolidated into the Mojave Substation. In 1987, the Rosamond Substation was re-opened on Diamond Street. In 1996, the Substation was relocated to 1379 Sierra Highway. It closed in August 2016, due to budget constraints. In September 2017, the Substation re-opened at its' current location, where KCSO is leasing office space from the Rosamond Community Services District. The current five year lease ends April 2022, with the option to extend the lease for an additional five years.

### **A. The sworn staffing level at the Substation is:**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| • Sheriff's Sergeant      | 1 |
| • Senior Sheriff's Deputy | 1 |
| • Sheriff's Deputies      | 7 |

### **B. There is one Sheriff's Support Technician (civilian position).**



- C. There are no holding cells at the Rosamond Substation. Arrestees are transported directly to the jail at the Mojave Substation.
- D. The Substation has nine patrol vehicles and one four-wheel drive vehicle. Deputies have the option to take their vehicles home, provided they live within Kern County, and pay a nominal fee of \$25.00 bi-monthly.
- E. There are no interior or exterior surveillance cameras in the Substation area.
- F. There are no dedicated interview rooms at the Substation.
- G. The evidence storage lockers are located within the Substation's multi-purpose room.
- H. In January 2017, the KCSO started using the "Evidence on Q" program to track stored evidence.
- I. Deputies normally work twelve hour shifts.
- J. The Substation utilizes volunteers from the Citizens Service Unit. There are also three Reserve Sheriff's Deputies.
- K. The last fire inspection on the leased property, was completed on October 5, 2017.

L. This information was provided by the KCSO:

## Rosamond Substation Arrest Stats

February 15, 2017 to October 1, 2017:

Row Labels	Charge Count
All Other Offenses	50
Assault - Aggravated	6
Assault - Simple	14
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	7
Disorderly Conduct	10
Drug Equipment Violations (Paraphernalia)	25
Drug/Narcotic Violations	20
Drunkenness	7
Family Offenses; Nonviolent	2
Impersonation	1
Liquor Law Violations	1
Not Reportable	15
Receipt of Stolen Property	12
Shoplifting	4
Theft - Motor Vehicle	2
Trespass of Real Property	4
Vandalism/Destruction/Damage of Property	7
Weapon Law Violations	14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>201</b>

### FINDINGS:

- F1. The Substation has one dedicated public service window in the lobby, which is monitored from the Sheriff's Support Technician's cubicle.
- F2. The Sergeant occupies a small office in the main building at the Substation.
- F3. The Substation occupies additional office space next to the Rosamond Community Services District garage, where a secure multi-purpose room is used for temporary storage of evidence.

- F4. There are seven evidence storage lockers. Stored evidence is logged into a computerized program called "Evidence on Q," where a bar code receipt is generated when the recording of evidence is completed. The evidence locker keys are then placed in a secured box, which is only accessible by the Sergeant.
- F5. There are no surveillance cameras in the multi-purpose/evidence storage room, or throughout the Substation.
- F6. Since there are no secure interview rooms at the Rosamond Substation, all interviews are conducted at the Mojave Substation.
- F7. According to staff, KCSO currently has a Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) pilot program. BWCs are not yet available for Deputies assigned to this Substation.
- F8. According to KCSO's overview handout, the summer months have the highest volume of calls for service. In August 2017, there were 588 calls for service in the Substation response area.

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank staff at the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Rosamond Substation, for the hospitality and professionalism extended during the inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO obtain interview rooms, i.e. for victims or suspects. KCSO should seek funding through available grants. (Finding 6)
- R2. The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO should obtain additional space for a dedicated property room, otherwise consider reconfiguring leased space. (Findings 3, 4 and 5)
- R3. The Grand Jury recommends that recording surveillance cameras be immediately installed in the multi-purpose/evidence storage room. The installation of cameras should be made a priority and included in the KCSO budget. (Finding 5)
- R4. The Grand Jury recommends that recording surveillance cameras be installed throughout the Substation. KCSO should seek funding through available grants. (Findings 1, 2, 3, and 5)

- R5. The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO make BWCs a budget priority for this Substation, due to the vast areas covered by Deputies.  
(Findings 7 and 8)

**NOTES:**

- The Kern County Sheriff's Office and The Kern County Sheriff's Office, Rosamond Substation 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).

**RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 60 DAYS TO:**

**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

January 8, 2018

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

On October 5, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury inspected the Sheriff's Office Rosamond Substation. Based on their findings, the Grand Jury published a report which was made public on November 27, 2017. Below is the Sheriff's Office response to the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Final Report concerning the Kern County Sheriff's Office Rosamond Substation.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Grand Jury for its efforts in reviewing the operations of the Rosamond Substation. I appreciate the dedicated men and women of the Grand Jury and would like to thank them for all of their efforts. The Grand Jury provides an essential function to the community of Kern County, and their objective review helps to strengthen the foundation of trust between the community and the Sheriff's Office.

**GRAND JURY FINDINGS:**

- F1. The Substation has one dedicated public service window in the lobby, which is monitored from the Sheriff's Support Technician's cubicle.
- F2. The Sergeant occupies a small office in the main building at the Substation.
- F3. The Substation occupies additional office space next to the Rosamond Community Services District garage, where a secure multi-purpose room is used for temporary storage of evidence.
- F4. There are seven evidence storage lockers. Stored evidence is logged into a computerized program called "Evidence on Q," where a bar code receipt is generated when the recording of evidence is completed. The evidence locker keys are then placed in a secured box, which is only accessible by the Sergeant.

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SHERIFF**



- F5. There are no surveillance cameras in the multi-purpose/evidence storage room, or throughout the Substation.
- F6. Since there are no secure interview rooms at the Rosamond Substation, all interviews are conducted at the Mojave Substation.
- F7. According to staff, KCSO currently has a Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) pilot program. BWCs are not yet available for Deputies assigned to this Substation.
- F8. According to KCSO's overview handout, the summer months have the highest volume of calls for service. In August 2017, there were 588 calls for service in the Substation response area.

#### **THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO FINDINGS:**

The Sheriff's Office concurs with the findings provided by the Grand Jury.

Bringing the Rosamond Substation back to the community of Rosamond was extremely important to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office recognized the importance of having a substation in the area so the Sheriff's Office and deputies could be more accessible to the community. In August 2016, the Sheriff's Office had to close the previous substation due to budget constraints. The entire time the substation was closed, the Sheriff's Office was actively looking for a new substation location in the Rosamond area. In partnership with Supervisor Zack Scrivner's Office and the Rosamond Community Service District (RCSD), the Sheriff's Office was able to locate an office within the RCSD building. This location meets the Sheriff's Office budget constraints and provides the public the access and services they deserve.

#### **GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. The Grand Jury recommended that KCSO obtain interview rooms, i.e. for victims or suspects. KCSO should seek funding through available grants. (Finding 6)
- R2. The Grand Jury recommended that KCSO should obtain additional space for a dedicated property room, otherwise consider reconfiguring leased space. (Findings 3, 4 and 5)
- R3. The Grand Jury recommended that recording surveillance cameras be immediately installed in the multi-purpose/evidence storage room. The installation of cameras should be made a priority and included in the KCSO budget. (Finding 5)
- R4. The Grand Jury recommended that recording surveillance cameras be installed throughout the Substation. KCSO should seek funding through available grants. (Findings 1, 2, 3, and 5)



- R5. The Grand Jury recommended that KCSO make BWCs a budget priority for this Substation, due to the vast areas covered by Deputies. (Findings 7 and 8)

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Sheriff's Office concurs with 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 the Grand Jury's recommendations.

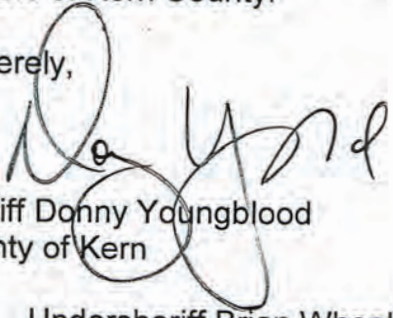
- R1. A dedicated interview room at the Rosamond Substation is important to the daily law enforcement operations of the substation. Because the Rosamond Substation is shared with the Rosamond Community Service District (RCSD), privacy concerns of the victims as well as the safety of the RCSD employees are a primary concern. The current arrangements with RCSD do not allow for a dedicated interview room. Deputies currently use the Mojave Substation facility for these purposes.
- R2. The Sheriff's Office examined the possibility of having a dedicated property room at the Rosamond Substation during the negotiations with RCSD. At that time, the area which RCSD could offer provided limited secured access and was open to all the RCSD employees. As time passes, the Sheriff's Office learns more about the needs of the substation, and we adapt as we are able. We will also consider reconfiguring leased space.
- R3. The Sheriff's Office agrees that the installation of a security camera system in the property storage area is important, and we believe it is vital in maintaining the trust of the community. The Sheriff's Office has considered using a small camera system that could meet our needs. At this time, a security camera system will be dependent on budgetary constraints.
- R4. The Grand Jury has recommended that security cameras be installed throughout the substation. RCSD has a robust security camera system that records the common areas of the building. If we need access to the system, RCSD will provide it. If the Sheriff's Office is able to install its own security camera overlooking the property storage area, all of the main areas would be properly covered. At this time, a security camera system covering the property storage area is dependent on budgetary constraints.
- R5. The Grand Jury recommended that the Sheriff's Office make body worn cameras (BWCs) a budget priority, due to the large service area of the substation. The Sheriff's Office agrees with this statement and has implemented various BWC programs throughout the department. The Sheriff's Office has utilized grant funding to purchase some of the cameras and is aggressively pursuing different funding options to deploy BWCs in all areas of the department.



With the aid of the RCSD, the Sheriff's Office will continue to assess and implement needs of the new substation. The Sheriff's Office appreciates everything the RCSD has already provided to assist us in serving our community.

The Sheriff's Office sincerely thanks the Grand Jury's Law and Justice Committee for taking time to visit the Rosamond Substation 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 Tyson Davis  
Chief Deputy Shelly Castaneda  
Chief Deputy Justin Fleeman  
Chief Deputy Larry McCurtain  
Clerk of the Board  
Kern County Grand Jury Foreman  
Assistant CAO Teresa Hitchcock



Kern County Board of Supervisors  
Response to 2017-18 Grand Jury Final Report  
Kern County Sheriff's Office Rosamond Substation

Response to Findings:

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

Response to Recommendations:

*R1: The Grand Jury recommends that Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) obtain interview rooms, i.e. for victims or suspects. KCSO should seek funding through available grants.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that the current arrangements do not allow for a dedicated interview room and Deputies currently use the Mojave Substation for these purposes.

*R2: The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO should obtain additional space for a dedicated property room, otherwise consider reconfiguring leased space.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they will consider reconfiguring leased space.

*R3: The Grand Jury recommends that recording surveillance cameras be immediately installed in the multi-purpose/evidence storage room. The installation of cameras should be made a priority and included in the KCSO budget.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that at this time a security camera system is dependent on budgetary constraints.

*R4: The Grand Jury recommends that recording surveillance cameras be installed throughout the Substation. KCSO should seek funding through available grants.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that they have access to the Rosamond Community Service District robust security camera system that records the common areas of the building and a security camera system covering the property storage area is dependent on budgetary constraints.

*R5: The Grand Jury recommends that KCSO make Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) a budget priority for this Substation, due to the vast areas covered by Deputies.*

We concur with the Sheriff's response that recognizes the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program as a budget priority and demonstrates their commitment to expand the program by seeking additional available funding sources to deploy BWCs in all areas of the department.

# **LARRY J. RHOADES KERN CROSSROADS FACILITY**

## **SUMMARY**

The Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility (Crossroads) is under the jurisdiction of the Kern County Probation Department (Probation Department). The Crossroads website states, *"...is devoted to redirecting the lives of some of the most delinquent youth in the County. ...The Crossroads facility is a secure, residential institution with a complete medical and mental health component. The program model is to train, educate, and guide minors who are committed by the Juvenile Court toward a more productive and delinquency-free lifestyle."*

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

On September 7, 2017, the Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) inspected Crossroads, pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## **PROCESS:**

In preparation for the inspection, related questions were sent to Crossroads and a written response was received. Prior Kern County Grand Jury reports and the Probation Department/Crossroads website were reviewed. The Committee met with staff members and held a question and answer session, followed by an inspection of the facility.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

The Larry J. Rhoades Crossroads Facility is located at 17824 Quality Road, Bakersfield, California, and opened in June of 2004.

Kern County male youths are committed to Crossroads for a period of one year, ideally spending six months in custody and six months released from the program, on furlough.

*"The Crossroads Facility Program represents a collective effort to change negative habits, attitudes, and behaviors. Juvenile Corrections Officers, Probation Officers, Mental Health personnel, teachers, and minors' parents or guardians all play a role in making a positive lifestyle change possible. Community service organizations and volunteers devote much appreciated time and effort toward the realization of this goal."*

*"The basic philosophy is to instill in these young people the concepts of responsibility, accountability, and consequences by incorporating structure,*

*discipline, education, and training in a behavior modification model. Some aspects of the program utilize military protocol, which provides structure in the development of leadership skills by allowing minors to earn rank and privilege.”*

- A. On the date of inspection, Crossroads had a population of 80 youths.
- B. Crossroads has three housing pods, with a maximum capacity of 40 youths per pod:
  - Sequoia Pod (A & B wings) currently no youths housed
  - Sierra Pod (C & D wings) 40 youths
  - Yosemite Pod (E & F wings) 40 youths
- C. The age of the youths range from 12 to 19, with the average age being 16, including some of the Highest Risk offenders in the County.
- D. The cost of the program is \$114,000 per youth annually, not including medical expenses.
- E. On the date of inspection, staff consisted of:
  - Administration 2
  - Deputy Probation Officer III 4
  - Juvenile Correctional Officer 61
  - Civilians 4
- F. Within 30 days of admission to Crossroads, a written assessment and case plan will be developed. Youths are assigned to a 24 or 36 week in-custody program.
- G. A typical youth's weekday begins at 5:00 AM and concludes at 9:00 PM, according to staff:
  - Attend 260 minutes in class (website is not up-to-date and reflects 270)
  - Participate in a variety of programs and activities
  - Perform work details as assigned
- H. Life skills and behavior modification programs provided:
  - 24/7 Dad
  - Strengthening Families
  - Aggression Replacement Training (ART)
  - Thinking for a Change (T4C)
  - Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse
  - Choices and Changes
  - Stages of Change
- I. Youths are released from Crossroads into the Aftercare Furlough Program.

J. Vocational Training Programs available:

- Oilfield Industry
- Construction
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Food Services

Certifications available:

- National Center for Construction, Education and Research (NCCER)
- Safe Serv (food services)

K. Regular visitation is on Sunday, and special visits are available on Saturday for youths with children.

L. Under the supervision of staff, meals are prepared on-site by youths.

M. The Kern County Environmental Health Services Department completed an inspection of Crossroads on March 10, 2017, no deficiencies or non-compliance issues were noted.

## **FINDINGS:**

F1. The Kern County Superintendent of Schools provides on-site academic instruction at Redwood High School.

F2. Mental Health services and evidence based programs are contracted with Phoenix Houses of California, Inc., in conjunction with Juvenile Probation Psychiatric Services.

F3. According to staff, in July 2017, Crossroads began using electronic Tele-psychic services, in conjunction with Juvenile Probation Psychiatric Services, reducing the need to transport youths for face-to-face psychiatric and counseling services.

F4. Sequoia pod is not currently being utilized for housing, due to a reduction in the number of youths being committed to Crossroads.

F5. Sequoia pod is used as a multipurpose building for recreational, religious services, and program activities.

F6. Meals are served in the Dining Hall, which typically consist of two hot meals, one sack lunch, and a snack.



- F7. On the date of inspection, the Committee observed multiple four-packs of bread stamped with the code “215” (representing August 3, 2017), making those loaves five weeks old. According to staff, deliveries are weekly or bi-weekly; bread is frozen, thawed, and used within three days.
- F8. During the inspection, the following health and safety issues were noted:
- Separation room in D Wing had a non-functioning toilet – has been repaired
  - Chemical storage closet in the kitchen was unsecured – staff advised/secured
  - Protocol supplies (non-prescription medications) are unsecured – staff advised
  - Daily temperature refrigerator/freezer logs missing entries (kitchen) – staff advised
  - Missing floor tile in youth bathroom (kitchen) – maintenance order pending
  - Day rooms have unmarked step downs, presenting a hazard – staff aware
- F9. In the event of a catastrophic emergency, staff stated that Crossroads has sufficient supplies on hand for self-sustainability, up to seven days.
- F10. The Aftercare Furlough Program facilitates the transition of youths back into the community, with continued intensive supervision provided by the Probation Department.
- F11. Crossroads has a 13 week treatment program for youths and their parents, called Strengthening Families. Upon completion of this program, youths receive one week off their commitment time.
- F12. Coordinated youth activities:
- Crossroads Honor Guard – community presentations
  - California State University, Bakersfield – attend various events
  - Bakersfield College – attend football games
  - Fog Run – Crossroads team
  - Habitat for Humanity – volunteer work
  - Educational Field Trips
- F13. The 2012-2013 Kern County Grand Jury recommended that all pods have video cameras. According to staff, there are still no cameras in the pods. It is anticipated that video recording cameras will be installed in the near future, since it is on the Probation Department’s Capital Projects list.
- F14. Crossroads has 34 indoor and 10 outdoor non-recording cameras throughout other areas of the facility.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. Recommend Crossroads staff should review ordering practices of perishable items and monitor expiration dates. (Finding 7)
- R2. Maintenance, security, and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Finding 8)
- R3. Recommend that daily temperature logs be completed in a timely manner. (Finding 8)
- R4. Steps in the dayroom of each pod should be clearly marked to prevent falls. (Finding 8)
- R5. Recommend that the recording camera installation be made a priority item on the Probation Departments Capital Projects list. (Findings 13 and 14)

## **NOTES:**

- The Kern County Probation Department and Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads 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.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury).

## **RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS TO:**

**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**

Kern County Board of Supervisors  
Response to Grand Jury Final Report  
Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility

Response to Findings:

The Board of Supervisors notes that the Grand Jury's findings are substantially correct with minor clarification to Findings F7 and F8 as described in Response R1, R2, R3, and R4.

Response to Recommendation:

*R1: The Grand Jury recommends Crossroads staff should review ordering practices of perishable items and monitor expiration dates.*

A review of the ordering practices and monitoring of expiration dates of perishable items was conducted. Crossroads also passed an Environmental Health inspection on August 23, 2017 with no violations observed of foodborne illness risk factors specifically the thawing and preparation.

*R2: The Grand Jury recommends maintenance, security, and safety issues should be addressed immediately.*

The Grand Jury's maintenance, security, and safety recommendations were all implemented. The D wing toilet and missing kitchen bathroom floor tile was repaired, the protocol supplies and chemical storage closet was secured, the toe caps on the dayroom steps were painted for easy identification, and the daily temperature logs were completed timely.

*R3: The Grand Jury recommends that daily temperature logs be completed in a timely manner.*

Since the Grand Jury's inspection, daily temperature readings have not been missed and were completed timely. The finding was an isolated occurrence in which staff failed to return to record a reading when supervising and directing a youth worker.

*R4: The Grand Jury recommends that steps in the dayroom of each pod should be clearly marked to prevent falls.*

The Crossroads facility was designed for safety and has passed all building inspections. The toe caps on the dayroom steps have been painted for easy identification.

*R5: The Grand Jury recommends that the recoding camera installation be made a priority item on the Probation Department's Capital Projects list.*

The camera installation is a priority for the department and the project was funded in the FY 2017-2018 Capital Project Budget.

# **WASCO STATE PRISON - RECEPTION CENTER**

## **PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:**

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2017-2018 Kern County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) toured Wasco State Prison-Reception Center (WSP-RC) to inspect and inquire into conditions and operations of the prison pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

## **PROCESS:**

The Committee reviewed the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) website, and prior Kern County Grand Jury reports. A list of questions relating to the inspection was sent to the WSP-RC and a written response received. On November 2, 2017, the Committee met with the Warden, Chief Deputy Warden, Public Information Officer/Administrative Assistant, and various executive and medical staff for a question and answer session, followed by an extensive inspection.

## **BACKGROUND AND FACTS:**

Opened in February 1991, WSP-RC is located at 701 Scofield Avenue, Wasco, California, and is situated on 634 acres. The WSP-RC was originally designed to house 2,484 inmates. Due to modifications and additions, currently the maximum housing capacity is 5,956. On the date of this inspection, the population was 5,105. WSP-RC processes approximately 14,000 to 17,000 inmates each year, from 11 different counties.

There are two Reception Centers in Kern County, WSP-RC and North Kern State Prison. WSP-RC is the largest Reception Center in the State, and houses male inmates. After being sentenced to state prison by the courts, inmates are housed for approximately 90 to 110 days at the Reception Center. During this time, each inmate receives a medical, dental, and mental health evaluation. In addition, an extensive review of the inmate's past and current offenses, gang affiliation, and medical history are some factors used to make classification and housing recommendations.

### **A. WSP-RC has:**

- General Population, medium custody - Level III inmates
- Minimum support inmates, provide institutional maintenance and landscaping services - Level I inmates
- A six-bed Firehouse - Level I inmates
- Reception Center – Inmates pending classification



- B. At the time of the inspection, the total inmate population was 5,105:
- Facility A - General Population 701
  - Facility B - Reception Center 975
  - Facility C - Reception Center 1,142
  - Facility D - Reception Center 1,247
  - Facility H - Reception Center 768
  - Facility M - General Population 137
  - Receiving and Release 117
  - Correctional Treatment Center (CTC)/Infirmary 14
  - Hospital (off-site) 4
- C. On the date of inspection, sworn personnel were as follows:
- Warden 1; vacant 0
  - Chief Deputy Warden 1; vacant 0
  - Associate Warden 6; vacant 0
  - Correctional Captain 6; vacant 0
  - Correctional Lieutenant 31; vacant 0
  - Correctional Sergeant 74; vacant 0
  - Correctional Officer 673; vacant 23
  - Correctional Counselor III 1; vacant 0
  - Correctional Counselor II 13; vacant 0
  - Correctional Counselor I 49; vacant 2
- D. There are 312 non-sworn civilian positions: current 275; vacant 37.
- E. There are 392 non-sworn Health Care Services positions: current 339; vacant 53. A full range of medical, dental and mental health services are provided by:
- Medical Staff 268
  - Dental Staff 37
  - Mental Health Staff 87
- F. The annual cost to house an inmate is \$75,560; an additional \$12,072 for medical costs.
- G. Inmates are provided three meals which are prepared on-site. Breakfast and dinner are served hot and lunch is served cold. The average daily cost for inmate meals is \$3.42.
- H. The storage freezer/refrigerator temperature logs are maintained on-site in the Correctional Food Manager's office.
- I. The Dietary Kitchen located in the CTC provides meals for inmates temporarily housed there.

- J. Laundry services are performed by inmates through the Prison Industry Authority.
- K. Visitation is allowed on Saturdays, Sundays, and four holidays (New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas) for approved visitors. General Population inmates are allowed contact visits from 8:00 am - 2:45 pm. Visitors can schedule visits through the CDCR Visitor Processing Appointment Scheduling System.
- Reception Center inmates follow the same visitation hours, however are limited to one-hour visits behind glass. Visitation appointments with Reception Center inmates must be made by phone.
- L. On August 21, 2017, WSP-RC received national accreditation from the American Correctional Association with a 99.7% approval rating; accreditation requires a minimum of 90%.
- M. During the week of July 17, 2017, an Environmental Health Survey was completed. This survey, conducted by the California Department of Public Health, was initiated to provide CDCR the means to ensure the health and safety of inmates and staff, and in meeting correctional accreditation standards. According to staff, the survey results are pending.

## **FINDINGS:**

- F1. The Reception Center has an Administrative Segregation Unit for:
- Maximum custody inmates
  - Protective custody inmates
  - High profile inmates
- F2. During the inspection, the following health and safety issues were noted:
- In the Dietary Kitchen located in the Correctional Treatment Center, the following was observed:
    - Bread was found to be 22 days old
    - Rack of bread was not elevated off the floor (staff notified)
  - In the Central Kitchen, the following was observed:
    - A rack of bread was not elevated off the floor (staff notified/immediately corrected)
    - There were multiple wet areas with no posted warning signs (staff notified)
    - The refrigerator temperature log was missing an entry (staff notified)

- F3. According to staff, due to California's budget constraints, funds for capital projects to make improvements to institutional structures have been unavailable. As a result, the 27 year-old roofs at WSP-RC have not been replaced.
- F4. According to staff, in the event of a catastrophic disaster, the institution has a 35 day food supply on-site, sufficient for 5,500 people:
- The first five days, all of the fresh food supplies (milk, juice, vegetables, fruits, fresh meats) would be consumed
  - The remaining 30 days, canned and frozen food items would be used
- F5. WSP-RC provides laundry services for its own facility, along with North Kern State Prison, Kern Valley State Prison, and Coalinga State Hospital.
- F6. Religious groups currently accommodated at WSP-RC are:
- Catholic
  - Muslim
  - Protestant
  - Native American
  - Christian Science
  - Jehovah's Witness
  - Buddhist
- F7. WSP-RC maintains a Library with resources and services available.
- F8. The institution offers various educational, vocational, and behavioral treatment programs.
- F9. WSP-RC has six restraint chairs which are located in Facility D. They are used with maximum custody inmates in the Administrative Segregation Unit, during mental health group therapy, as a safety precaution for staff. These restraint chairs are only used during therapy sessions and not for disciplinary purposes.
- F10. The inmates participate in a program called *Slow Down/Despacio*. This program uses a mentoring intervention style, raising the level of awareness among the local community's "at risk" youth, regarding the consequences of criminal activity.
- F11. On August 4, 2017, WSP-RC began to offer a canine program, called *Pawsitive Change*. Inmates work with and train dogs for adoption. This program is provided and coordinated through Marley's Mutts.
- F12. Telemedicine is offered at WSP-RC, which allows off-site physicians to provide services to inmates.

- F13. There are surveillance cameras throughout WSP-RC, and recordings can be retained indefinitely for specific incidents. As noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Report, there are still no cameras in the General Population dining area. According to staff, a statewide plan is underway to provide additional surveillance cameras in all institutions. This plan was initiated at High Desert State Prison in Susanville, California, approximately 18 months ago.
- F14. According to staff, as of January, 2017, there have been 21 attempted suicides, plus four completed suicides.
- F15. WSP-RC staff advised that in 2017, to date, there have been no escapes or attempted escapes.
- F16. WSP-RC staff have participated in, and contributed to, some local community events/activities as follows:
- Donated \$6,500 to Honor Flight Kern County
  - Veterans were served breakfast
  - Staff and inmates raised \$21,000 for Relay for Life
  - Thanksgiving baskets for families
  - Scholarship program
- F17. According to staff, the most significant change statewide is the expansion of programs available to inmates in preparing them to return to society as productive members. The Governor has made his edict, *"Today's inmate is tomorrow's neighbor."*

## **COMMENTS:**

The Committee would like to thank the Warden, Chief Deputy Warden, Public Information Officer/Administrative Assistant, and Executive Staff for their time, knowledge and expertise. Additionally, the Committee would like to extend our appreciation for the extensive orientation and guided tour during our inspection.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Findings 2 and 3)
- R2. Recommend that daily temperature logs should be completed consistently and in a timely manner. (Finding 2)
- R3. The process for storing of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Finding 2)



- R4. Recommend WSP-RC should review ordering practices of perishable items and monitor expiration dates. (Finding 2)
- R5. Recommend that CDCR should continue to expand programs that support inmates' transition back into society as productive members. (Findings 8, 10, 11 and 17)
- R6. Recommend that CDCR should consider giving priority to WSP-RC in the statewide camera installation plan. (Finding 13)

## **NOTES:**

- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Wasco State Prison – Reception Center should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.
- Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/grandjury)
- Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed on the Kern County Grand Jury website: [www.kerncounty.com/grandjury](http://www.kerncounty.com/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**  
**WASCO STATE PRISON – RECEPTION CENTER**  
P. O. Box 8800  
Wasco, California 93280-8800  
(661) 758-8400

**RECEIVED**

MAR 13 2018



March 6, 2018

By  \_\_\_\_\_

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

Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Dear Presiding Judge:

This is in response to R. Renn Amstead’s, Foreperson, 2017 – 2018 Kern County Grand Jury letter of December 11, 2017, concerning the Final Report for Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s inspection which was held on November 2, 2017. The following are responses to the “Findings and Recommendations” from the aforementioned Final Report:

**FINDINGS:**

- F1. Agree. The Reception Center has an Administrative Segregation Unit for:
- Maximum custody inmates
  - Protective custody inmates
  - High profile inmates
- F2. Agree. During the inspection, the following health and safety issues were noted:
- In the Dietary Kitchen located in the Correctional Treatment Center, the following was observed:
    - Bread was found to be 22 days old
    - Rack of bread was not elevated off the floor (staff notified)
  - In the Central Kitchen, the following was observed:
    - A rack of bread was not elevated off the floor (staff notified/immediately corrected)
    - There were multiple we areas with no posted warning signs (staff notified)
    - The refrigerator temperature log was missing an entry (staff notified)
  - High profile inmates

Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Page 2

March 6, 2018

- F3. Agree. According to staff, due to California’s budget constraints, funds for capital projects to make improvements to institutional structures have been unavailable. As a result, the 27 year-old roofs at Wasco State Prison – Reception Center (WSP-RC) have not been replaced.
- F4. Agree. According to staff, in the event of a catastrophic disaster, the institution has a 35 day food supply on-site, sufficient for 5,500 people:
- The first five days, all of the fresh food supplies (milk, juice, vegetables, fruits, fresh meats) would be consumed
  - The remaining 30 days, canned and frozen food items would be used
- F5. Agree. WSP-RC provides laundry services for its own facility, along with North Kern State Prison, Kern Valley State Prison, and Coalinga State Hospital.
- F6. Agree. Religious groups currently accommodated at WSP-RC are:
- Catholic
  - Muslim
  - Protestant
  - Native American
  - Christian Science
  - Jehovah’s Witness
  - Buddhist
- F7. Agree. WSP-RC maintains a library with resources and services available.
- F8. Agree. The institution offers various educational, vocational, and behavioral treatment programs.
- F9. Agree. WSP-RC has six restraint chairs which are located in Facility D. They are used with maximum custody inmates in the Administrative Segregation Unit, during mental health group therapy, as a safety precaution for staff. These restraint chairs are only used during therapy sessions and not for disciplinary purposes.
- F10. Agree. The inmates participate in a program called *Slow Down/Despacio*. This program uses a mentoring intervention style, raising the level of awareness among the local community’s “at risk” youth, regarding the consequences of criminal activity.



Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Page 3

March 6, 2018

- F11. Agree. On August 4, 2017, WSP-RC began to offer a canine program, called *Pawsitive Change*. Inmates work with and train dogs for adoption. This program is provided and coordinated through Marley’s Mutts.
- F12. Agree. Telemedicine is offered at WSP-RC, which allows off-site physicians to provided services to inmates.
- F13. Agree. There are surveillance cameras throughout WSP-RC, and recordings can be retained indefinitely for specific incidents. As noted in the 2013-2014 Kern County Grand Jury Report, there are still no cameras in the General Population dining area. According to staff, a statewide plan is underway to provide additional surveillance cameras in all institutions. This plan was initiated at High Desert State Prison in Susanville, California, approximately 18 months ago.
- F14. Agree. According to staff, as of January 2017 there have been 21 attempted suicides, plus four completed suicides.
- F15. Agree. WSP-RC staff advised that in 2017, to date, there have been no escapes or attempted escapes.
- F16. Agree. WSP-RC staff have participated in and contributed to some local community events/activities as follows:
- Donated \$6,500 to Honor Flight Kern County
  - Veterans were served breakfast
  - Staff and inmates raised \$21,000 for Relay for Life
  - Thanksgiving baskets for families
  - Scholarship program
- F17. Agree. According to staff, the most significant change statewide is the expansion of programs available to inmates in preparing them to return to society as productive members. The Governor has made his edict, “*Today’s inmate is tomorrow’s neighbor.*”

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- R1. Maintenance and safety issues should be addressed immediately. (Findings 2 and 3)



Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Page 4

March 6, 2018

Implemented. At this time new roofing material has been installed on Building 702 (Reception Center Program Offices and Medical Clinics) and Building 701 (Reception Center Clothing, Canteen, Retherm Kitchen, Central Health Services, and the Correctional Treatment Center). Roofing replacement has recently begun on the entire Minimum Support Facility; Buildings, 901, 902, 903, and 904, this includes two housing units, program office, clinic, kitchen, canteen, educational classrooms, and the chapel. This work is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2018. Housing units on Facilities ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’, ‘D’, and the Support Services Building for Facility ‘A’ are all on a five year special repair plan for complete roof replacement. Currently, Plant Operations staff repairs roof tops that leak, as they become apparent using available institution funds. At this time, wet floor signs are posted throughout all areas of the kitchen during spills or cleanup. Ongoing monitoring will be conducted by area supervisors.

- R2. Recommend that daily temperature logs should be completed consistently and in a timely manner. (Findings 2)

Implemented. Daily refrigerator temperatures are logged consistently on a timely manner. Ongoing monitoring will be conducted by area supervisors.

- R3. The process for storing of food, should comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. (Findings 2)

Implemented. Storing of food complies with the California Code of Regulations, Title 15. Food will not be placed on floor of refrigerator or freezer. Ongoing monitoring will be conducted by area supervisors.

- R4. Recommend WSP-RC should review ordering practices of perishable items and monitor expiration dates. (Findings 2)

Implemented. Ordering practices of perishable items has been reviewed. Expiration dates are monitored on a daily basis. Perishable food shall not remain in circulation past its expiration date. Ongoing monitoring will be conducted by area supervisors.

- R5. Recommend that California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) should continue to expand programs that support inmates’ transition back into society as productive members. (Findings 8, 10, 11 and 17)

Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Page 5

March 6, 2018

*Implemented. Under Proposition 57, which was approved by California voters in November 2016, the CDCR is simplifying and expanding credit-earning opportunities for good conduct and completion of approved in-prison programs and activities for inmates. Additionally, CDCR is recognizing the significant educational achievements of inmates by awarding credits to those that receive high school diplomas, GED's, or higher education degrees. The spirit behind Proposition 57 is the belief that people can change their behavior through rehabilitation opportunities. Through rehabilitation, people have the opportunity to change and acquire skills and tools to be productive members of our society once they leave prison.*

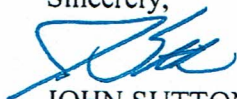
- R6. Recommend that California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) should consider giving priority to Wasco State Prison – Reception Center in the statewide camera installation. (Findings 13)

*Not Yet Implemented. There is a statewide initiative to install or upgrade the Video Surveillance systems in all institutions. CDCR is currently deploying video surveillance systems at High Desert State Prison and California Correctional Women Facility for fiscal year 2017/2018. These two sites will serve as a proof of concept for the model for the statewide project. Funding will be requested each fiscal year with the expectation of deploying to 7 – 8 institutions annually beginning in fiscal year 2019/2020 (Fiscal year 2018/2019 will be used to collect data as justification for future funding requests). The criteria which 7 – 8 institutions would receive the new video surveillance model each year has not yet been established by CDCR.*

On the behalf of Wasco State Prison – Reception Center, I would like to thank each of the members of 2017 – 2018 Kern County Grand Jury for taking the time out of their busy schedules to visit and tour our institution.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact me at (661) 758-7000 or email address [John.Sutton@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:John.Sutton@cdcr.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



JOHN SUTTON

Warden

Wasco State Prison – Reception Center

JS:tpg

Subject: Wasco State Prison – Reception Center’s Kern County Grand Jury 2017 – 2018  
Inspection

Page 6

March 6, 2018

c: Foreperson  
Kern County Grand Jury  
1415 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 600  
Bakersfield, CA 93301