

# **BCFPD** response to Grand Jury report

1 message

**Mark Bingham** <mbingham@bcfd.com> To: grandjury@scgrandjury.org

Fri, Oct 30, 2020 at 2:44 PM

Attn: Honorable Judge John Gallagher,

Please accept this response from the Boulder Creek Fire Protection District Board. Please see the attached documents.

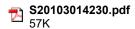
Mark Bingham
Fire Chief
Boulder Creek Fire District

13230 Central Avenue Boulder Creek, CA 95006

831-338-7222- Office 831-234-5206- Cell

mbingham@bcfd.com

#### 2 attachments



FireRisks\_Boulder Creek\_FPD\_Packet grand jury 7 23 20.pdf



Fire Chief
Mark Bingham
13230 Central Avenue
Boulder Creek, CA 95006-9125

Honorable Judge John Gallagher,

After reading the Grand Jury report titled "Ready Aim Fire" the BCFPD Board of Directors have determined that there are several findings and conclusions that are inaccurate in regards to the BCFPD. The following are several more egregious examples:

- Pg. 53 states in paragraph 1 in regards to sufficient financial resources to replace mobile equipment. In 2018 the residents of Boulder Creek FPD voted in an overwhelming 80% majority to fund Measure N which was a bond measure to support the BCFPD 30-year apparatus replacement plan. To date we have purchased three apparatus from Measure N funds.
- In the report the District was sited not having a second means of notifying the public in an emergency. The BCFPD does have a secondary means of notifying the public of an emergency via an (LRAD) air raid siren.
- In the report the District was sited not having an evacuation plan and one that was published and available to the public.
   The district does have a published evacuation plan and has made this available in multiple platforms for all to use.

During this investigation not one person including the fire Chief or any Board of director from BCFPD was interviewed. In future investigations the District would like a chance to assist and provide feedback to the Grand Jury. Lastly, most of the findings do not fall under the responsibility of Boulder Creek Fire Protection District and hence make it difficult to answer.

Respectfully submitted,

Boulder Creek Fire Protection District Board of Directors



# The 2019–2020 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury Requires that the

# Boulder Creek Fire Protection District Board of Directors

Respond to the Findings and Recommendations

Specified in the Report Titled

# Ready? Aim? Fire! Santa Cruz County on the Hot Seat

by October 1, 2020

When the response is complete, please

- 1. Email the completed Response Packet as a file attachment to <a href="mailto:grandjury@scgrandjury.org">grandjury@scgrandjury.org</a>, and
- 2. Print and send a hard copy of the completed Response Packet to

The Honorable Judge John Gallagher Santa Cruz Courthouse 701 Ocean St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060

# Instructions for Respondents

California law PC §933.05 (included <u>below</u>) requires the respondent to a Grand Jury report to comment on each finding and recommendation within a report. Explanations for disagreements and timeframes for further implementation or analysis must be provided. Please follow the format below when preparing the responses.

#### Response Format

- 1. For the Findings included in this Response Packet, select one of the following responses and provide the required additional information:
  - a. AGREE with the Finding, or
  - PARTIALLY DISAGREE with the Finding and specify the portion of the Finding that is disputed and include an explanation of the reasons therefor, or
  - c. **DISAGREE** with the Finding and provide an explanation of the reasons therefor.
- 2. For the Recommendations included in this Response Packet, select one of the following actions and provide the required additional information:
  - a. **HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED**, with a summary regarding the implemented action, or
  - b. HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE, with a timeframe or expected date for implementation, or
  - c. **REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS**, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for that analysis or study; this timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report, or
  - d. **WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

#### Validation

Date of the Board's response approval: September 30, 2020

If you have questions about this response form, please contact the Grand Jury by calling 831-454-2099 or by sending an email to grandjury@scgrandjury.org.

# **Findings**

F1. X	Vegetation/fuel management and abatement are not receiving the attention nor funding needed from the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors, and therefore are not adhering to California Government Executive Order 1.8.19-EO N-05-19.
	AGREE PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The 5<sup>th</sup> district representitive, Bruce McPherson has been a supporter hosting several community meetings on the topic of wildfire preparation. He recently worked with the Felton FPD in contributing \$20,000 to a fuel reduction project along Mt Hermon Rd to fortify one of the main evacuation routes out of the San Lorenzo Valley. This is a good start but, there needs to be more funds allocated to Vegetation/fuel management.

**F2.** Santa Cruz County residents are at increased risk of fire danger due to the lack of risk management for wildfire. Specific risks are not formally identified, tracked, assessed for impact, nor is progress reported by fire departments in the County. Therefore, leaders responsible for budgets and accountability are left unprepared to manage risk, impact, or performance.

	AGREE
Χ	_ PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
	DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The development of a local risk assessment tool is in progress with participation from all the county fire agencies, County office of emergency services, and CAL Fire. Establishing best practices for balancing fuel reduction with environmental impact needs to be considered before implementing new policy. Currently, we follow the fire risk map used by CAL Fire in the state responsibility area (SRA) for tracking risk within our district. Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County helps secures grant funding and tracks fuel reduction efforts across the county as well.

**F3.** City and County officials have not collaborated with PG&E to identify the location of high risk PG&E electrical equipment, and so are left uninformed as to how to manage their responsibilities or how to instruct residents about potential danger due to proximity to this equipment.

_ AGREE
_ PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
X DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The County Office of Emergency Services has hosted several meetings with PG&E where county first responders could ask questions regarding PG&E's policies and procedures for wildfire response, power shut offs, and offered training to the fire crews on identification of electrical hazards in the wildland. PG&E has hosted several town hall meetings in 2019, in the San Lorenzo Valley to educate residents on how to prepare for power shutoffs and other emergencies.

**F5.** Santa Cruz County would greatly benefit if steps were taken to implement the CAL FIRE, San Mateo - Santa Cruz Unit 2018 recommendation of developing detailed, site specific Community Wildfire Protection Plans for communities throughout the County.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

	<b>F6.</b> Response time data for fire departments in Santa Cruz County is challenging to obtain. Santa Cruz Regional 9-1-1 previously reported response time data in their annual reports, but did not do so in the 2018 or 2019 annual reports.
	AGREE
	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
X	DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

This information was not asked for and can be easily obtained in a short amount of time.

**F10.** Roadside vegetation in rural areas of the County is not being cleared consistently which could potentially increase emergency response time, putting life and property in unnecessary danger. Furthermore, evacuations could be restricted as there is no rule or program that mandates that roads, even critical evacuation routes, be kept cleared meeting defensible space requirements.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

**F11.** There are only approximately 17,000 accounts for the Santa Cruz County opt-in CodeRED™ emergency system, which implies that a significant portion of the County may not receive emergency alert messages, which potentially reduces residents' opportunity to take action in a timely, life-saving manner.

	AGREE
Χ	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
	DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

We would like to explore options for expanding alerting. Code Red has been a great tool but has limitations in areas where cellular service is lost in power shut offs. AM radio and NOAA weather alert radios show potential for expanding the reach of alerting. Additionally the use of our Station 1 Air raid siren has proven to work in allerting residents of danger. The Fire District has also used social media as an outlet to further share emergency alert information.

**F12.** Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRADs), have been deployed in other areas of the state and have proven effective tools in alerting residents in urban and rural areas to a wildfire. However, Santa Cruz County has no such devices, increasing the risk to County residents.

	AGREE
	<b>PARTIALLY DISAGREE</b> – explain the disputed portion
X	DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

LRADS (air raid siren), like the one that currently sits atop of the Boulder Creek down town station is in service and continues to be used as another means to alert residents of an emergency.

**F13.** High risk communities in the County are left unnecessarily vulnerable due to the lack of easily accessible, published information of refuge/assembly areas and structures.

	AGREE
X	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
	DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

When discussing areas of refuge care must be given to not give the illusion of safe assembly points for all circumstances. Depending on several factors such as fire location, direction of fire travel, wind, topography, fire behavior and the number of residents needing to evacuate, seeking refuge along an evacuation route may not be the safest action. In the BCFPD there are very few locations that could serve this purpose. Through the use of fire modeling software we hope to validate our fire protection plans and publish information in regards to when and where to go for safety.

In 2018 the BCFPD did complete and publish evacuation maps for our residents. The information can be found on our website. All residents did receive a hard copy of material via mail.

$\epsilon$	<b>F14.</b> Because the County does not publish a "shelter in place" plan, when a fire expands rapidly, residents cannot make informed decisions about whether to shelter in place or evacuate.
	AGREE
X	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
	DISAGREE – explain why
Respor	nse explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

We educate citizens using social media and at public events to be prepared not scared, a program to help residents with what can be done to prepare, and therefore giving them tools to make an educated decision in an emergency situation. We also have information on our website for the public on this topic. We do agree that more could be done to make this more available to the masses

**F15.** Unlike the City of Santa Cruz, the County does not publish emergency evacuation routes, purportedly to avoid having old or untimely information being followed in an emergency. The County therefore withholds revealing evacuation routes until an emergency is in progress, likely creating unnecessary risk and potential for chaos.

	AGREE
	<b>PARTIALLY DISAGREE</b> – explain the disputed portion
X	DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

The BCFPD has published evacuation routes for our Dist and have published this on our website. We recently used these evac routes and proved the plan a success. We will continue to evaluate the plans and look forward to using fire modeling software for additional validation and as a tool in the field to implement an evacuation.

**F16.** In the Wildland Urban Interface zone, and in many town centers, traffic choke points exist, and in some instances have roadway obstacles to traffic flow such as overgrown vegetation, concrete medians, curbs, and lane reductions resulting in roads that are inadequate for mass evacuations.

X	_ AGREE
	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
	DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

**F19.** Wildfire preparedness informational materials are well done and public education is attempted by fire departments in the County, but fails to sufficiently reach and motivate residents to act.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

**F20.** The FireWise institution provides a valuable fire prevention program and, as of March 2020, there were eight FireWise communities registered in the County. Marin County, by contrast, with a similar population, has sixty registered communities, highlighting the need for more FireWise promotion and participation in Santa Cruz County.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

**F21.** The County Office of Emergency Services and fire agencies in the County encourage residents to be prepared for an emergency, however the passive mechanisms such as web sites used to encourage preparedness are not proving to be sufficient.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

**F22.** Property owners in the County are responsible for their own vegetation management, yet they are often not sufficiently educated about vegetation management practices, or do not have the capability, financial resources, or desire to create defensible space.

X AGREE
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

	Hazard Mitigation. It is not clear whose responsibility it is to minimize this County wide risk.
	AGREE
	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
<u> X</u>	DISAGREE – explain why
Respo	onse explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

CAL Fire is responsible for all wildland fire related concerns within the state responsibility areas of the county. CAL Fire works with the local jurisdictions within the county to coorenate mitigation efforts. All of the rural areas including 100% of the Boulder Creek Fire District are within the state responsibility area.

**F24.** The annual report to the County Board of Supervisors and the County Administrative Office by County Fire/CAL FIRE does not provide data or analysis of resources, response times, code enforcement, inspection, or education. This information is necessary to show what gaps exist between current performance and community needs in order for informed budget decisions to be made. Without adequate background information, the Board of Supervisors is unable to hold CAL FIRE accountable for the specific responsibilities specified in their contract.

	AGREE
	PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
X	_ DISAGREE – explain why

Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

All of the fire agencies in the county, including the county fire department report their activities to the national fire incident reporting system. The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is a reporting standard that fire departments use to uniformly report on the full range of their activities, from fire to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to severe weather and natural disasters. We are not in a position to comment on the relationship between the county and CAL Fire in regards to contract obligations without further research.

F25. The four fire protection districts in the San Lorenzo Valley would benefit by further aligning their policies and procedures in anticipation of future consolidation.
 AGREE
 PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion
 X DISAGREE – explain why

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The SLV fire districts have been and continue to work together closely and share services, personnel, and equipment wherever possible. Any formal consolidation of agencies would only benefit the community if full time staffing was part of the agreement. Consolidation of the 4 volunteer agencies as one volunteer fire station would not result in any savings to the taxpayer or improvement of response times. Any such consolidation would likely result in a significant increase on parcel taxes to cover costs of additional full time staff.

**F26.** Reporting data, statistics, and formats utilized by fire agencies throughout the County are highly inconsistent, uncoordinated, and therefore not readily evaluated and compared. The standard Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating system would be useful to adopt. Response time data are not well described or consistently reported by the jurisdictions, making accurate assessment difficult, especially by other agencies or by the public.

x AGREE PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion DISAGREE – explain why
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):
<b>F27.</b> The 2015 County of Santa Cruz Emergency Operations Management plandoes not adequately address evacuation, and references data too outdated to be useful, such as a population density map from the 2000 census.
<ul> <li>X AGREE</li> <li>PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion</li> <li>DISAGREE – explain why</li> </ul>
Response explanation (required for a response other than Agree):

**F29.** The Grand Jury finds that formally specified baseline and target performance statements, in alignment with the Center for Public Safety Excellence Assessment Process, neither currently exist nor are they reported by fire departments in the County as required by best practice standards. There are no goals set or measures made of progress for review by the Board of Supervisors regarding County Fire/CAL FIRE performance. Other fire districts in the County are similarly remiss in reporting to their governing bodies. Appropriate goals would include progress on response times, vegetation management, and code inspection progress, all of which are necessary to properly quantify the budget and resources required for full-time, volunteer, and prison inmate workforces, in appropriate, affordable proportions.

AGREE	
PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed	portion
X DISAGREE – explain why	

**Response explanation** (required for a response other than **Agree**):

While we cannot speak to the relationship between the county and CAL Fire, Boulder Creek Fire District uses NFPA 1201 (Standard for Providing Fire and Emergency Services to the Public), The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and our records management system to monitor and set goals for the fire chief in regards to response times, training, staffing, and public education annually. We will look into accreditation process for Center for Public Safety Excellence and what benefits can be offered if any to measure performance more efficiently.

#### Recommendations

R1.	Santa Cruz County, under the auspices of the Emergency Management Council (EMC) with LAFCO support, should study a governing structure that would tie all fire agencies in the County together with common leadership, objectives, sharing of data, and maximized use of resources. (F23, F25)
	HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
_	HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
	REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
X	WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

### Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

All fire agencies already participate in monthly joint meetings under the authority of the Santa Cruz Fire Chiefs association for the purpose of aligning priorities, information sharing, and preventing the duplication of efforts. Fire Prevention, Fire Investigation, Training, Operations, EMS, and Administration all have separate groups made up of the department leadership tor each topic

<b>R4.</b> The fire districts of Santa Cruz County should establish a plan by January 2021, to develop actionable Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) that follow the framework established by the 2018 Santa Cruz County - San Mateo County CWPP. (F2, F5, F22)
HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
X HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE
FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe
(not to exceed six months)
WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why
senonee evaluation, summary, and timeframe:

#### Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's have identified the need for this and will complete this goal in the future.

Mitigation Plans by July 1, 2021. Any new or existing plans should be updated a minimum of every three years. All plans should address wildfire risk, evacuation and shelter in place plans, emergency alerts, vegetation management, and confirm compliance with California SB 821. (F1, F2, F10, F11, F14–F16, F29)
HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
X HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE
FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe
(not to exceed six months)
WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why
Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

R10. Santa Cruz County and Cities should create and/or update Hazard

Efforts to identify wildfire risk and evacuation plans remain as one of the top priorities. We are committed to getting this information as soon as it has been vetted as correct and effective.

	<b>R11.</b> The CAL FIRE Ready for Wildfire website should be actively promoted and shared within the community via all available means, including printed descriptive materials inserted into utility and property tax bills, by December 31 2020. (F19–F21)
	HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
	HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
Χ	_ REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe
	(not to exceed six months)
	WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

# Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

We continue to push information out via social media, print media, and public education events. We will look into providing information through utility bills.

	companies to provide information to residents, via information inserted in utility bill mailings, describing how to sign up for emergency notifications by December 31, 2020. (F19)
	HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
	HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
X	_ REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
	WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why
	and analyzation announces and time-frame.

# Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

We continue to push information out via social media, print media, and public education events. We will look into providing information through utility bills.

**R16.** Fire departments throughout the County should take an active role in encouraging communities and neighborhoods to sign up for FireWise, and be measured on their success by their respective governing boards on an annual basis. (F19–F22)

Χ	_ HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
	HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE
	FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
	REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe
	(not to exceed six months)
	WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

#### Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

We continue to take an advisory role with public education to the fire wise program. We will continue to give assistance to any group that shows interest in the Fire Wise program.

	whether purchase of Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRADs) would be beneficial in helping notify residents to evacuate in an emergency by December 31, 2020. (F12, F15, F17, F18)
	HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
	HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
	REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
X	_ WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

# Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

Due to the terrain and cost to properly cover the San Lorenzo Valley, additional LRADs would not be the best option for alerting. Other options will be investigated for mass notifications.

evacuation routes and/or shelter-in-place options by March 31, 2021. Notification plans should be provided for when power is out and dissemination of information by wireless or internet is difficult or impossible. (F11, F14, F15, F17, F18, F27)
HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done
X HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

#### Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

This is an ongoing priority project and information will be released as soon as it can be verified as an effective plan that gives the resident all the tools they need to make an informed decision. We continue to educate residents to identify 2 ways out of their home and office for not only fire but flooding, and earthquake as well. Again the information is on our website for review and in print for pick up in the District office.

Surveillance system. Cameras should be purchased, installed, and tested to achieve full coverage of the County by the beginning of the 2021 fire season. (F4)

X HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done

HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

R23. Santa Cruz County and Cities should invest in an ALERTWildfire Imaging

#### Response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

Currently there are 3 cameras set up to overwatch the San Lorenzo Valley. This is an ongoing project with new locations currently being identified by county agencies, and upgrades planned for current cameras.

# Penal Code §933.05

- 1. For Purposes of subdivision (b) of §933, as to each Grand Jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
  - a. the respondent agrees with the finding,
  - b. the respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.
- 2. For purpose of subdivision (b) of §933, as to each Grand Jury recommendation, the responding person shall report one of the following actions:
  - a. the recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action,
  - b. the recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation,
  - c. the recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of the publication of the Grand Jury report, or
  - d. the recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.
- 3. However, if a finding or recommendation of the Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a County department headed by an elected officer, both the department head and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Grand Jury, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision-making authority. The response of the elected department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her department.
- 4. A Grand Jury may request a subject person or entity to come before the Grand Jury for the purpose of reading and discussing the findings of the Grand Jury report that relates to that person or entity in order to verify the accuracy of the findings prior to their release.
- 5. During an investigation, the Grand Jury shall meet with the subject of that investigation regarding that investigation unless the court, either on its own determination or upon request of the foreperson of the Grand Jury, determines that such a meeting would be detrimental.
- 6. A Grand Jury shall provide to the affected agency a copy of the portion of the Grand Jury report relating to that person or entity two working days prior to its public release and after the approval of the presiding judge. No officer, agency, department, or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to the public release of the final report.