



Santa Cruz County
Civil Grand Jury

Grand Jury <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

City of Scotts Valley Chief of Police Response

1 message

Stephen D. Walpole <swalpole@scottsvally.org>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 2:56 PM

To: "grandjury@scgrandjury.org" <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

To Whom it may concern,

I have attached the "Response to the Findings and Recommendations" to the report titled "Homelessness: Big Problem, Little Progress

It's Time To Think Outside The Box" as a Word document. A hard copy was sent to the Honorable Judge John Gallagher today.

Chief Steve Walpole

Scotts Valley Police Department

831-440-5670



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**The 2019–2020 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury
Requests that the
City of Scotts Valley Chief of Police
Respond to the Findings and Recommendations
Specified in the Report Titled
Homelessness: Big Problem, Little Progress
It's Time To Think Outside The Box
by August 31, 2020**

When the response is complete, please

1. Email the completed Response Packet as a file attachment to grandjury@scgrandjury.org, 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 [below](#)) 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
 - b. **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.

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

F13. Santa Cruz County law enforcement response to homeless, addiction, and mental health issues has the potential to criminalize social, medical, and psychological conditions. This requires law enforcement to perform the role of social worker; a role for which they lack the resources and mental health training.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE – explain the disputed portion

DISAGREE – explain why

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

Recommendations

R18. Santa Cruz County should create a 24-hour mobile crisis response unit that includes medical staff and an experienced crisis worker to respond to emergency 911 calls and non-emergency police calls that do not involve legal issues or threats of violence. The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors should work with the County’s law enforcement agencies to identify funds in their budgets that could be allocated to this program. The Grand Jury recommends the County consider using CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets) in Eugene, Oregon as a model. (F13)

- 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:

The Scotts Valley Police Department agrees that Santa Cruz County should consider creating a 24-hour mobile crisis response unit that includes medical staff and an experienced crisis worker to respond to emergency 911 calls and non-emergency police calls that do not involve legal issues and violence, which require specific training and expertise not possessed by law enforcement.

The 24-hour mobile crisis response unit should also be available when requested by law enforcement, to respond and assist at 911 calls and non-emergency police calls involving legal issues and the threat of violence once law enforcement on scene have mitigated the legal issues and threat of violence. The City of Scotts Valley looks forward to working with the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to identify county-wide funding in support of this program.

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.**