



## PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

# Annual Inspection of the Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility

Report Date: March 15, 2011

# **Annual Inspection of the Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility**

## **Summary**

The 2010-2011 Grand Jury inspected the Juvenile Detention Facility on September 22, 2010, and found it to be clean, well maintained, and appropriately staffed. The web-based security cameras are installed and fully functional. The medical service provided to the minors, by California Forensics Medical Group (CFMG) is efficient and trusted by the staff and minors. There is concern the educational program has only two certificated teachers for three classrooms.

## **Background**

The Grand Jury is responsible for inspecting all jails, and in Placer County that includes the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF). The JDF is defined as a county facility designed for the reception and temporary care of minors detained in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Section 5; Welfare and Institutions Code Section 210 and Juvenile Court Law.

The Grand Jury is charged with investigating and reporting on the welfare, safety and security of the minors detained and employees working in the JDF. The Placer County Grand Juries, from 2007 through 2010, have recommended security cameras be installed throughout the facility, including the classrooms, recreational area, and the dining room. As of this inspection the necessary cameras have been installed and are fully functional.

## **Investigation Methods**

Members of the Grand jury inspected the JDF on September 22, 2010. Superintendent Greg Chinn and Deputy Superintendent Don Hazen led jury members on a tour of the facility and provided time for questions and answers.

## **Facts**

- The facility was clean, well maintained, and there is an appropriately trained staff.
- The State-recommended ratio of Probation Officers to minors is in place.

- The web-based security cameras have been installed in all necessary areas of the facility, per prior Grand Jury recommendations.
- The JDF has a capacity of 58 minors; 36 were detained on the day of the inspection.
- There is a fire safety plan in place and fire inspections are required annually. The last one was completed in September 2010. Fire drills occur quarterly.
- California Forensics Medical Group (CFMG) provides medical care for the minors. There are medical personnel on site 12 hours per day; the contact hospital is Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital.
- Placer County Office of Education provides the education program for the minors. There are three classrooms; two staffed by certificated teachers and the third by instructional assistants.
- The kitchen area is clean and well maintained. Meals are transported from the Placer County Main Jail kitchen and served to the minors on disposable plates, with disposable utensils.
- There is a suicide prevention plan in place, with a Children’s Systems of Care counselor assigned to the facility for support.
- Community volunteers offer faith-based services to the minors. Alcohol and drug counseling is also available.
- A behavior point system is in place for the minors, who earn privileges for good behavior.

## **Findings**

- F1. The Grand Jury found the facility to be clean, organized, and well maintained.
- F2. The security cameras are installed and fully functional.
- F3. There are only two certificated teachers for three classrooms.
- F4. The medical personnel provided by CFMG are efficient, caring, and trusted by the staff and minors.

## **Conclusion**

The facility was clean, well maintained, and has appropriately trained staff. The Placer County Grand Jury acknowledges the security cameras have been installed.

## **Recommendation**

R1. The Grand Jury recommends staffing the third classroom with a certificated teacher, with relevant credentials.

## **Request For Responses**

Steve Pecor, Chief Probation Officer, #R1  
Placer County Probation Department  
2929 Richardson Drive  
Auburn, CA. 95603

**Due by June 15, 2011**

Gayle Garbolino-Mojica, #R1  
County Superintendent of Schools  
Placer County Office of Education  
360 Nevada Street  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Due May 15, 2011**

## **Copies Sent To**

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