



PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

Auburn Police Department and Holding Facility

Annual Inspection



June 26, 2015

Auburn Police Department and Holding Facility Annual Inspection

Summary

This Grand Jury Report details the annual inspection conducted at the City of Auburn Police Department (APD), 1215 Lincoln Way, on September 2, 2014. The APD has a temporary holding area which consists of a bench and restraints. The Grand Jury finds that generally the operations are satisfactory with the exception of some health and cleanliness issues. The Grand Jury recommends that funds be allocated to procure an epi-pen and defibrillator. It is also recommends that staff more closely monitor cleanliness of the facility.

Background

“The Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management of public prisons within the county” as mandated in §919(b) of the California Penal Code.

Investigation Methods

On September 2, 2014, Placer County Grand Jury conducted an inspection of the APD, which was led by Police Department Lieutenant Victor Pecoraro. Lt. Pecoraro provided information regarding daily operations and the impacts of newly implemented laws.

Facts

- The APD includes dispatch, officer work stations, interviewing rooms, evidence storage, and officers’ personal gym.
- No detainees were present during the inspection. Seldom are the premises used for holding detainees. Booking is normally done at the Auburn Main Jail.

- Efforts to reunite juvenile detainees with a parent or caretaker are first preference when possible.
- The holding area has procedural binders and drug-identifying posters available as quick reference guides.
- The jail has no epi-pen or defibrillator on the premises.

Findings

The Grand Jury found that:

- F1. The interview room known as the “soft room”, while having a comfortable appearance, was uncomfortably chilly.
- F2. On the day of the inspection, cleanliness issues were noted that included fecal matter on the toilet seat in the men’s lobby restroom.
- F3. Notable stains and scratches on the door trim in the hallway were observed.
- F4. On the day of the inspection, what appeared to be blood stains were noted on the exterior stairway entrance/exit to the building. The jurors also observed bodily fluids on the exterior stairway entrance/exit to the building.
- F5. The lack of an epi-pen and defibrillator puts the detainees at risk in case of a medical emergency.

Conclusion

The Grand Jury was generally satisfied with the operation of the Auburn Police Department facility, although there were some health and cleanliness concerns.

Recommendations

The Grand Jury recommends that:

- R1. Funds be allocated for the purchase of at least one epi-pen and defibrillator for the premises, including the training of personnel.
- R2. The APD monitor the temperature in the “soft room” to ensure comfort during interviews.
- R3. The APD monitor the public restrooms to alleviate health hazards.
- R4. A fresh coat of paint be applied over stains and scratches on the door trim in the hallway.
- R5. Staff more closely monitor cleanliness of the exterior stairway entrance/exit to the building.

Request For Responses:

	<u>Recommendations Requiring Response</u>	<u>Response Due Date</u>
Mr. John Ruffcorn Police Chief, City of Auburn 1215 Lincoln Way Auburn, CA 95603	R1- R5	August 24, 2015

Copies sent to:

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