



## PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

# Auburn Police Department and Holding Facility

Annual Inspection

June 23, 2016



# **Auburn Police Department and Holding Facility**

## **Annual Inspection**

### **Summary**

The Placer County Grand Jury conducted its annual inspection and tour of the City of Auburn Police Department (APD) and holding facility on September 11, 2015. This facility is located at 1215 Lincoln Way, Auburn. The Grand Jury was generally satisfied with the conditions and operations that were observed, except for the recommendations noted.

### **Background**

Section 919(b) of the California Penal Code mandates that “The Grand Jury shall inquire into the condition and management of public prisons within the county.”

### **Investigation Methods**

Chief of Police, John Ruffcorn and Lieutenant Victor Pecoraro led members of the Grand Jury through the facility as they conducted their mandated inspection.

### **Facts**

- The APD includes dispatch, officer work stations, interviewing rooms, a sally port (sally port is a secure, controlled entryway to a prison), and evidence storage.
- No detainees were present during the inspection. The premises are seldom used for holding detainees. Booking is done at the Placer County Main Jail in Auburn.
- When juveniles are detained as a result of minor infractions, parents or caretakers are contacted and the juvenile briefly remains at the facility pending release to the parent or caretaker. When a juvenile is detained for a more serious offense they are transported to the county juvenile detention facility.
- The detention area is monitored by either the presence of a police officer or via camera from another area of the building.

- The holding area has procedural binders and drug-identifying posters available as quick reference guides.
- On the day of the inspection an electrical extension cord was observed hanging on a make-shift holder on the fire extinguisher door in the sally port. This partially blocked access to the extinguisher and the cord is accessible to detainees.
- On the day of the inspection the exterior of the building including sidewalks, and the public reception area and restrooms were clean and well maintained.
- The Auburn Police Department (APD) currently has a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system that is more than 15 years old. This system does not track law enforcement or emergency vehicle locations, and it does not contain a Records Management System (RMS).
  - Modern law enforcement software is available which contains Global Position Satellite (GPS) systems to allow agencies to track not only their own vehicles, but also those of other law enforcement and emergency response agencies. This allows one agency, when supplying mutual aid, to see what vehicles from another agency have already arrived on a scene. The computer system APD currently has does not have this technology.
  - Modern law enforcement software also integrates RMS so law enforcement records can be more accurately stored, retrieved, and managed. Auburn Police Department's current system does not have this technology. Auburn Police Department's RMS is currently maintained in a separate computer system that does not communicate with their CAD system.
  - The APD is currently working with the Placer County Sheriff's Office, and other districts for which it dispatches, to explore options for a more modern software program. The goal is to identify a system that integrates CAD and RMS and will communicate successfully with those of other local agencies.

## Findings

The Grand Jury found that:

- F1. The combination of a police officer and/or a camera provides adequate monitoring of the detention area.
- F2. An updated Computer Aided Dispatch Software could improve records management, crime mapping, GPS officer location, and various other department functions.

## Conclusion

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

## Recommendations

The Grand Jury recommends that:

- R1. The make-shift electrical extension cord holder be removed from the fire extinguisher door in the sally port.
- R2. The APD research and implement a more comprehensive Computer Aided Dispatch System.

## Request For Responses:

	<u>Recommendations Requiring Response</u>	<u>Response Due Date</u>
<b>Mr. John Ruffcorn</b> Public Safety Director, City of Auburn 1215 Lincoln Way Auburn, CA 95603	<b>R1- R2</b>	<b>August 31, 2016</b>

## Copies sent to:

**Mr. Tim Rundel**  
Auburn City Manager  
1225 Lincoln Way  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Dr. Bill Kirby**  
Auburn City Mayor  
1225 Lincoln Way  
Auburn CA 95603