



Office of the Sheriff-Coroner Public Administrator

Jeremy R. Briese
Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

Sterling S. Cramer
Undersheriff

July 22, 2021

The Honorable Michael A. Fagalde
Presiding Judge
Mariposa County Superior Court
P.O. Box 28
Mariposa, CA 95338

Re: Response to Mariposa County 2020-2021 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Fagalde:

I am in receipt of the 2020-2021 Mariposa County Grand Jury Final Report. Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933(c), this correspondence shall serve as a response to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations regarding the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office Adult Detention Facility.

I appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in touring the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office Adult Detention Facility, and their interest in learning more about the mission and many functions of the Correctional Facility. As mentioned in the report, this staff works extremely hard to maintain a safe and well functioning facility.

Regarding the Grand Jury's Finding F-1 and the Grand Jury's Recommendation R-1, Yes, I agree with the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations. Recognizing the staffing requirements and complexities of the Custodial Deputies' duties, it has been challenging through this year during the Covid-19 Pandemic and budget reductions. The Mariposa Sheriff's Office has worked quickly to address the staffing issues, working with the Board of Supervisors. The Mariposa Sheriff's Office has been re-allocated two of the three "frozen" positions, implementing one immediate hire and two additional in the background process. The Mariposa Sheriff's Office has also been granted two additional over hire positions from the Board of Supervisors, due to two anticipated vacancies. This proactive approach will relieve the impact felt when a vacancy occurs.

Regarding the Grand Jury's Finding F-2 and the Grand Jury's Recommendations R-2 and R-3, The Sheriff's Office continues to seek grant opportunities; our most recent SB-844 grant award was intended to address many of the facilities aging needs.

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Unfortunately after receiving the grant, the decision to discontinue the grant award was made by the Governor's Office. The Sheriff's Office will continue to search grant opportunities, to address needed modernization to the facility. In the meantime, the Sheriff's Office is reviewing additional options and modifications to the existing footprint. Some immediate changes include new office furniture to better fit the space needs in the administration offices (F2). The Sheriff's Office has purchased Title 15 approved exercise equipment for inmate use (F2) (R3).

I would like to take this opportunity to publically recognize the many fine members of the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office for their continued dedication and professional work.

I also wish to thank the members of the 2020-2021 Grand Jury for their willingness to serve and I appreciate their sincere interest, comments and support.

Respectfully submitted,

A blue ink signature of Jeremy Briese, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

Jeremy Briese

CC: Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

Reviewed by:

A blue ink signature of Michael A. Fagalde, written in a cursive style.

Honorable Michael A Fagalde, Per PC933