



September 9, 2015

The Honorable Marie Sovey Silveira, Presiding Judge
Stanislaus County Superior Court
Post Office Box 3488
Modesto, California 95353

Re: Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury Case No. 15-16GJ

Your Honor:

The Newman City Council submits to you the following responses to the findings and recommendations received from the Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury on June 17, 2015, regarding the above-reference case number:

**LOCAL EFFECTS OF PRISON REALIGNMENT AND
CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 109**

FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL RESPONSES TO FINDINGS

F1: AB 109 has affected County Sheriff and Probation Departments most, and there have been some effects to other County departments.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F2: The State provides funding for the implementation of AB 109 through a formula that has been developed and amended several times since AB 109 passed.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F3: The Community Corrections Partnership, particularly the CCP Executive Committee, is responsible to allocate the funds provided by the State for the implementation of AB 109.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F4: The CCP meetings are public, but are not widely publicized, and the current location of the CCP meetings would not be able to accommodate a large number of public participants.

The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with finding and shall include an explanation.

Explanation: In consultation and review with the CCP we find that the CCP has been established in accordance with California Penal Code 1230. All meetings are open to the public and in compliance with the Brown Act. Additionally on a yearly basis the CCP plan is presented to Board of Supervisors for approval.

F5: AB 109 may have some effects to local public safety in the County, which may be compounded by budget cuts that have occurred to local law enforcement agencies.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

*Read by
J. Silveira*

RECOMMENDATIONS AND POTENTIAL RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: None

R2: The Stanislaus County Sheriff and Chief Probation Officer should continue to be active, both individually and through their statewide organizations, to ensure that Stanislaus County receives its fair share of funding for the implementation of AB 109.

The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

The CCP, consisting of the Chief probation Officer as the Chair, along with Sheriff Christianson are actively involved in securing the fair share of funding for Stanislaus County.

R3: None.

R4: The CCP should develop strategies to increase public awareness of its mission and to encourage more public participation at meetings.

As noted prior, we have reviewed the CCP chair response and agree, and defer to their response.

R5: The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of all nine incorporated cities within the County should take action to restore budgets and expand police services, particularly community-oriented and problem-oriented policing, to respond to the potential challenges of AB 109.

The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.

The Newman City Council has begun a three phase approach to restoring staffing as budgetary constraints allow. The reimplementation of a Street Crimes Unit with the focus of being proactive towards repeat offenders and also a focus on quality of life issues such as loitering, public nuisances, graffiti, gangs, drug uses and sales.

LOCAL EFFECTS OF PRISON REALIGNMENT AND CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 47

FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL RESPONSES TO FINDINGS

F6: Proposition 47 has resulted in impacts to all levels of the County's criminal justice system, but it is difficult to quantify these impacts in the short term, and the long term impacts are unknown.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F7: Proposition 47, combined with the budget reductions to local law enforcement agencies, may result in an increase in property crimes throughout the county.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F8: The passage of Proposition 47 has resulted in significant unintended consequences. These include crippling Drug Court, creating holes in the state DNA database, and the reclassifying of some gun crimes.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

F9: There have been attempts to create legislative solutions to some of the consequences of Proposition 47, but they are yet to be successful.

The Respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND POTENTIAL RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

R6: None

R7. The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of all nine incorporated cities within the County should take action to restore budgets and expand police services, particularly community-oriented and problem-oriented policing, to respond to the potential challenges of Proposition 47.

The recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.

The Newman City Council has begun a three phase approach to restoring staffing for the Police Department as budgetary constraints allow. The reimplementation of a Street Crimes Unit with the focus of being proactive towards repeat offenders and probationary persons and also a focus on quality of life issues such as loitering, public nuisances, graffiti, gangs, drug uses and sales along the lines of incorporating the community involvement to provide the necessary concepts outlined in Community Orientated Policing.

R8: See R9

R9: The criminal justice leaders of Stanislaus County should continue to be active, both individually and through their professional organizations, in California's legislative challenges to salvage the unintended consequences of Proposition 47.

The recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation as recommended from the CCP.

Sincerely,

Robert Martina, Mayor
Nicolas Candea, Council Member
Roberta Davis, Council Member
Casey Graham, Council Member