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June 20, 2011

The Honorable Ricardo Cordova, Presiding Judge
Stanislaus County Superior Court
Post Office Box 3488
Modesto, California 95353

Re: Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury Case #11-30GJ: County Jail and Temporary Detention Facilities Inspection

Your Honor:

The Turlock City Council and I submit to you the following responses to the findings and recommendations received from the Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury on May 24, 2011, regarding the above-reference case number:

FINDINGS

The Respondent has reviewed the findings which are based upon the grand jury's investigation. The grand jury report identifies the method of investigation to include the following:

- Conducted unannounced visits at all facilities listed within the report
- Toured and inspected facilities with guidance of supervisory and command staff officials
- Interviewed a variety of people including those responsible for oversight of detention facilities
- Interviewed Incarcerated persons where/when possible.
- Received copies of accreditation from CSA, Stanislaus County Health Services, and reports of interest. Reviewed policy manuals, fire inspections, and intake logs for data.

The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the following finding:

F-1: *There were no toiletries or towels in the areas that require such items.*

Explanation - During the SCCGJ inspection of the jail and interview of Turlock PD staff, no inquiry was made into this matter. Toiletries and towels are secured on site, within the facility, and made available as needed to persons detained. Supervised distribution of these items serves to maintain safety within the facility. Toiletries and towels can be manufactured into weapons and/or used to disable facility mechanical equipment.

The Respondent agrees with the following findings:

F-2: *Presumptive narcotic testing is completed in this facility. The latest edition of the Physician Desk Reference (PDR) was 1996.*

F-3: *Turlock Police Department maintains comprehensive department policies regulating operation and use of the Temporary Holding Facility.*

F-4: *Turlock Police Department is "100%" compliant with CCR Title 15 § 1024 for all officers.*

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESPONSES

The Respondent has reviewed the recommendations of the SCCGJ and responds as follows:

R-1: *Personal toiletries are provided in the areas of the toilets and sinks.*

Response - In compliance with Title 15 Regulations, toiletries and towels are available on site to persons detained within the Turlock Police Temporary Detention Facility. The toiletries and towels are stored in a secured supply cabinet within the facility and made available upon request. All Turlock Police Department employees have access to these supplies. Availing the items in an unsupervised fashion creates an unnecessary safety risk to staff and those detained. Toiletries are commonly fashioned into weapons within the detention environment and towels can easily be fashioned into ligatures and/or devices to hang oneself.

R-2: *The outdated PDR be replaced with a current edition.*

Response - The recommendation has been implemented. Turlock Police Department employees rely on electronic access to a Physician's Desk Reference (PDR), thus the printed resource is rarely utilized, unless electronic access is unavailable. To avoid potential conflicts between the electronic accessed information and printed version (book), the printed version has been updated with the latest edition.

Respectfully submitted,

GARY R. HAMPTON
Chief of Police