

# FINAL REPORT

## Del Norte County Grand Jury 2013-2014 Final Report



### Table of Contents

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
FOREPERSON'S REPORT .....	2
Alder Camp .....	
Bar-O Boys Ranch .....	
City of Crescent City Building Height Requirements .....	
City of Crescent City Follow Up Recommendations .....	
Del Norte County Animal Control .....	
Del Norte County District Attorney's Office .....	
Del Norte County Follow Up on MOU with City of Crescent City .....	
Del Norte County Jail .....	
Del Norte County Juvenile Hall .....	
Klamath Fire Protection District .....	
Pelican Bay State Prison .....	
Signature Page .....	

# Foreperson's Report

*Honorable William H. Follett*

*Judge of the Superior Court of Del Norte County*

On behalf of the 2013-2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury, we submit our final report to you, the citizens of Del Norte County, the Del Norte Board of Supervisors, and to the City Council of Crescent City.

The Grand Jury starts its jury year in June and is made up of 19 citizens of Del Norte County who serve for one year on one or more committees, performing investigations and interviews of government agencies within Del Norte County. With the exception of Pelican Bay State Prison and Alder Camp detention facility, we do not investigate any State or Federal organizations.

The committee make-up of your jury is:

**The County Committee** – Performs routine investigations of the operations of County government and investigates any citizen complaint filed against county operations. This is the only mandated agency that requires investigations and a written report.

**The City Committee** – Performs routine investigations of City government and investigates any citizen complaints.

**The Detention Committee** – This committee inspects all detention facilities in Del Norte County: Pelican Bay State Prison, Del Norte County Jail, Bar-O Boys Ranch, Juvenile Hall, and Alder Camp.

**The Complaints Committee** – Reviews all citizen complaints and presents them to the Grand Jury with recommendations whether or not to go forward with an investigation, pending on whether the complaint falls outside the Grand Jury's responsibilities. The matter is then brought to the entire Jury for a supermajority vote to further the investigation or to notify the complainant that there will be no action taken and the reason(s).

**Local Districts and Agencies Committee** – Responds to approved complaints and routinely inspects agencies including Fire Districts, Water Districts, Park Districts, Recreation Districts, as well as some private, not for profit, publicly funded agencies.

**Final Report and Editorial Committee** – This group of jurors provides ongoing advice and support throughout the year during the creation of each committee's final report. They also review and make editorial suggestions prior to the release of the Final Report at the end of the Jury year.

**Continuity Committee** – This committee acts as continuity from last year’s Jury to the current Jury. The Committee reviews the past year’s Grand Jury Final Report as well as the mandated responses from the agencies that had recommendations for improvement. This committee then presents their findings to the entire Grand Jury for a supermajority vote to approve following up on deficiencies.

I am proud to have served with this group of citizens, who, with little or no prior knowledge of how a Grand Jury functions, came together to produce this document. Recognition should also be given to a volunteer group known as the California Grand Juror’s Association, who yearly provide a two-day complete training seminar, including a manual that is used throughout the year for reference.

I would encourage anyone to let the Superior Court know you would be willing to serve as a Grand Juror.

This Final Report reflects not only the required investigations mandated by law, but also areas of concern brought to the Grand Jury’s attention by the citizens of Del Norte County, and selected by the members of the Grand Jury.

Respectfully Submitted,

*David Dornaus, Foreperson*

2013-2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury

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## **2013/2014 DEL NORTE COUNTY GRAND JURY**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION CAMP 20 – ALDER CAMP**

#### **SUMMARY**

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014, two members of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury made a scheduled visit to California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Camp 20, Alder Camp, in accordance with the California Grand Jury's mandate to conduct annual visits to detention facilities located in Del Norte County.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Alder camp was established in 1961 and is currently operated under the directions of CDCR and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal-Fire). It is one of the most northern camps out of thirty-nine camps in the CDCR camp system.

The primary mission of Alder Camp is to provide crews for wildland fire suppression throughout the state of California. During non-fire season, crews work to improve and maintain Del Norte County's wildland areas, roads sides, and help in rescue work and community service projects.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

An introductory meeting with a newly assigned Correctional Lieutenant, and an outgoing Correctional Lieutenant, the Warden, Associate Warden of the California Correctional Center which is the hub of the Northern region camp system, and a Cal-Fire Captain was conducted prior to the tour of the camp to provide information about the camp and inter-agency processes.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The tour of the camp was lead by the Lieutenant of CDCR Camp 20 and the Captain of Cal-Fire. The overall impression of the camp, because everything was self contained, was that it was its own city. Everything from plumbing to milling lumber for repairs is done on site.

The facility consists of two office buildings, three dorms, a kitchen, food storage areas, gardens, workshops, vehicle barns, a fuel station and inmate day areas.

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Inmates assigned to the camp must complete a thorough screening process. To qualify, they must have no history of any violent or sexual crimes and must be at a minimum security risk. They must also be physically fit and have no more than five years left on their sentence.

Inmates who are accepted for firefighting and camp placement will undergo a two week training program at the California Correction Center in Susanville in which they are trained in fire suppression and safety and evaluated for overall suitability. Other inmates are chosen for the special skills they possess needed for the day to day operations of the camp such as construction and food service.

- The camp averages 100 inmates and can house up to 110. At the time of the tour, the total count was at 96. There are five ready fire crews between 12-16 inmates per crew. Other inmates perform food service, janitorial and maintenance duties in the camp.
- Crews are assigned to state and local agencies when not on fires. One inmate crew is assigned to California Department of Transportation, two crews are assigned to the local State Parks and one crew is assigned to Redwood National Park and the local county roads. Other nonprofit organizations utilizing the crews when not on assignment include Fish and Game, Del Norte County School District, Elk Valley Rancheria, the Yurok Tribe, and the Del Norte County Fairgrounds.
- Camp inmates make approximately \$1.45 -\$2.50 per day and fire crew members can make an additional \$1.00 per hour for time away from camp during fires or other emergencies.
- Educational programs for inmates include GED programs from the educational department at the California Correctional Center, college courses through Lassen College, and several certificate programs such as a tree faller, water treatment, electrician, and plumbing.
- There is a hobby program where inmates make various things such as boxes, clocks and tables. Supplies are purchased by the inmates and the use of the hobby room is a privilege.
- Their recreational program includes soccer, baseball, and handball. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) are also available along with religious services for most denominations.
- Alder Camp also donates manpower, time and supplies for nonprofit organizations throughout the year. Last year, they made 300 wooden toys for Toys for Tots, participated in search and rescue operations, and the Relay for Life.

## FINDINGS

- F1. Staff indicated that Assembly Bill 109 did not have any impact on the placement of level-one inmates in Alder Camp. Inmates feel it is a privilege to go to camp and therefore are more likely to perform to the standard needed for safe and effective camp operation.

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F2. Alder Camp is a well run facility whose primary function is to maintain and provide inmate crews for wildland fire suppression. This they appear to do well. In addition, the various skills the inmates take away upon parole can allow their re-entry into general society to be smoother. Any program that includes that as a goal can be considered to be positive.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Alder Camp's staff is to be commended for the efficient and effective operations of this state funded facility. The only recommendations we can offer at this time is to keep up the good work.

## DISCLAIMER

A member of the Grand Jury did not participate in this investigation.

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**BAR-O BOYS RANCH**  
**2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year.

On behalf of Bar-O Boys Ranch, Acting Chief Probation Officer Linda Sanford sent a response dated August 29, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

Bar-O Boys Ranch complied, where possible, with the suggested recommendations and is commended for doing so. The grand jury recommended that the Detention Committee follow up on one item.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

R1. The grand jury asks the Detention Committee to follow up on progress made to repair and replace the existing septic system.

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## 2013/2014 DEL NORTE COUNTY GRAND JURY

### BAR-O BOYS RANCH

#### SUMMARY

The Del Norte County Grand Jury is mandated by California State law to annually “inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons within Del Norte County [California Penal Code §919(b)].” In compliance with this requirement, the 2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury Detention Committee participated in a tour of Bar-O Boys Ranch.

#### BACKGROUND

Bar-O Boys Ranch is a male residential treatment center located in Del Norte County. This facility is available to court-committed boys between 14 and 18 years of age. In addition to accepting wards from the court system, the ranch can also contract directly with parents for the placement of their children who are currently in the juvenile justice system.

Originally known as Bar-None-Camp, this rehabilitation camp has been in operation since 1955. John Ostrum and his wife, the founders of Bar-O Boys Ranch, purchased an old dude ranch on sixty acres of land for the express purpose of opening a rehabilitation camp where boys would be helped to **develop their own good character traits**.

The Del Norte County Probation Department currently oversees the operation of Bar-O Boys Ranch. Although 59 years have come and gone, the purpose of the ranch remains the same.

#### METHODOLOGY

On Wednesday, October 13, 2013, members of the Grand Jury Detention Committee interviewed the Deputy Director of Bar-O Boys Ranch. He enthusiastically provided us with background information regarding Bar-O. We discussed statistics concerning staff to student ratio, overall philosophy regarding day to day living, and facility adequacy for the current wards. After we took in the information presented to us, we had a time whereby the Deputy Director answered our questions, both general and specific. This question/answer session included discussion regarding the two recommendations made by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury. At the end of our meeting with the Deputy Director, he shared contact information with us and gave directions on how to reach Bar-O Boys Ranch. We set our tour date for Thursday, October 24, 2013.

#### DISCUSSION

At 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 24, 2013, the Detention Committee of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury arrived for our tour of Bar-O Boys Ranch located just over 30 miles north of Crescent City, California, on Hwy 199.



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## Welcome

We were greeted in the student/staff-landscaped area just off the parking lot. The Deputy Director talked with us about the pride involved in student/staff landscaping, maintenance, and other utilitarian efforts that enhance the surrounding natural beauty of the ranch. It was, indeed, heartwarming to see the garden which aids in self sufficiency, to enjoy the rock walkways which were beautiful and practical at the same time; as well as to hear the sounds of both the small spring rivulet within the courtyard and the Smith River just a short distance from camp. This initial conversation created a sense of a “Home away from Home” rather than that of a “detention” facility.

## Administration

Our tour began with the administrative facility where daily business is conducted and all records are kept current. The staff adeptly handles parents, governmental agencies, educational expectations, facility dilemmas, and the million and one requests and disputes affecting the lives of some 30+ teenage boys.

## Barracks

The barracks were of special interest to us because it was highlighted by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury as in need of remodeling or replacement. No positive changes have taken place in the barracks. One additional dilemma was obvious. There was a fire issue as a result of the bricks in the back of the barracks’ stove having collapsed without awareness of the fact that the heat barrier that the bricks provided was gone. The radiant heat kindled the wall to the point where embers began to form inside the wall. The fire was dealt with quickly and effectively.

Another issue concerning the barracks was a carryover from a 2012-2013 Grand Jury Recommendation. It dealt with “the continual backup of the septic system, even, at times, backing up into the shower.” Seeing as how this was “a sanitary as well as a health issue,” the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Recommendation to “immediately correct the septic system” was a point of review for this year’s Grand Jury.

## Kitchen/Dining

The kitchen and dining area were well organized and neatly maintained. Food storage is overseen by the cook, but directly handled by students. Students are taught all aspects of culinary skills and can receive certification for future employment opportunities.

## Education

The Del Norte County Office of Education provides the educational component of Bar-O Boys Ranch. Instructional staff is provided to the school and emphasis is placed on improving each student’s basic reading, writing, speaking, spelling, mathematics and problem solving skills. In addition to regular academic classes, the school at Bar-O offers certification in the Culinary Arts, Construction Technology, Computer Science, and Landscape Maintenance. Additional life experience classes can be enjoyed, such as, photography, kayaking, small engine repair, pottery, woodshop, welding, screen-printing and stained glass.

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## Management

“Bar-O Boys Ranch provides a structured environment wherein each boy works on self image, rule following, work habits, and values clarification. As each boy progresses through the three-step program he is equipped to accept more responsibilities. Excuses are not heard and accomplishments are rewarded. The individual’s personal issues are stressed and focus is placed on those behaviors that led to his incarceration. Through this intense living experience, the boys are continually forced to look at their personal weaknesses and strengths and encouraged to take responsibility for them. The boys are inspired to begin to develop the self-image of being “contributors rather than “takers”.” (County of Del Norte Bar-O Boys Ranch – Pride in Work....Pride in Self - web page: <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/bar-o-boys-ranch>)

## FINDINGS

- F1. There are a multitude of finished and in progress examples of both student and student/staff projects. A garden, an orchard, a fountain, a stone decorative garden bridge, pottery, stained glass, and delicious, warm, homemade banana bread are only a few of the pieces of handiwork we enjoyed on our tour.
- F2. The 2013-2014 Del Norte County Budget funds a staff of twelve for Bar-O Boys Ranch as follows:
- \* 1 Deputy Director
  - 1 Youth Program Coordinator (under funded)
  - 2 Senior Youth Group Counselors
  - \* 7 Youth Group Counselors
  - 1 Supervising Cook
  - 1 Cook
- \* 5 positions designated as ranch resident positions
- F3. There is one clerical employee on staff. This individual is responsible for the boys’ accounts and also serves as the laundry room supervisor. There is also one maintenance man who works 24 hours per week.
- F4. Bar-O Boys Ranch is a 43-bed facility and there are currently twenty boys in residence.
- F5. Last year’s Grand Jury made a point of recommending immediate correction to the unsanitary and unhealthy conditions regarding a failing septic system. We found that the septic tank issue has been resolved. They had a new holding tank installed and all is clean and working well.
- F6. This year’s fire, due to an aged heat system, provides another serious hint that time is taking its toll on all structures and systems within the barracks. The firebrick in the stove was replaced, and a new heat shield barrier was put behind the stove; thus solving this latest barracks issue.
- F7. The barracks were maintained in a neat and orderly manner, but the physical conditions of the barracks itself remain as per last year’s Grand Jury’s Finding, “outdated and in dire need of remodeling or replacement.” Every facility has a maximum lifespan. The barracks

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at Bar-O is reaching its “end times.” Being “outdated” can be dismissed, to a point, as merely an issue of decor or the trappings of style; but last year’s failing septic service issue and this year’s fire dilemma, are serious hints that time has taken its toll. Fortunately, no one was ill, injured, or worse.

- F8. We visited the school while it was in session. The students were transitioning from one activity to another and did so with neither fuss nor muss. It appeared to be a friendly atmosphere, and the boys conversed with us as we made our slow procession through their classrooms. It was evident that the boys had been schooled in “visitor etiquette”.
- F9. We saw evidence of the step program wherein each boy was wearing either a white, blue, or green shirt. Advancement in this three step program is considered once each month. Boys in this program do not receive a release date until they reach the last step of the program.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

F1 – F6 there are no Recommendations

R7. For the second year in a row, the Grand Jury Detention Committee recommends “funds to be allocated for repair or replacement of the barracks at the Bar-O Boys Ranch.”

F8 – F9 there are no Recommendations.

## COMMENDATIONS

C1. The Detention Committee, representative of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury, appreciates all individuals involved in the operation of Bar-O Boys Ranch. Having the opportunity to observe first-hand the heart and mind at work together for the benefit of the next generation of our society is a heart-warming and poignant experience. We thank you for the work you do with these young men.

**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
BUILDING HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS  
IN THE TSUNAMI ZONE**

**SUMMARY**

The 2013-2014 County Grand Jury received a letter from a concerned citizen and local businessman who raised a question about the building foundation height requirements required in the Crescent City Tsunami zone along the 101 corridor, south of the city beginning at the “Big Curve” and running south to South Beach.

The 2013-2014 Grand Jury made inquiries to the City Planning Commission and the Crescent City Public Works Director. Building codes and Federal Regulations were researched regarding restrictions to buildings in flood zones and Tsunami zones in coastal areas of the United States and Crescent City in particular.

The Grand Jury found all recent construction projects along the 101 corridor south of Crescent City met all legal requirements.

**BACKGROUND**

After receiving a complaint regarding building foundation height requirements along the South 101 corridor the area in question was reviewed. The Grand Jury began an investigation to assure all recent construction met the necessary requirements.

**METHODOLOGY**

The investigation was completed by researching building codes and Federal regulations; and interviews with City of Crescent City officials.

A list of questions was prepared to focus the interview(s) on the building requirements for new construction along the South 101 corridor.

1. Describe the role and responsibility of the Director of Public Works.
2. What are the documentary steps taken to start a new construction on the South 101 corridor?

3. What are the building height requirements and foundation heights for new construction along the Tsunami zone?
4. What is the inspection process and who is responsible?
5. Are records kept of completed inspections and projects?
6. What is the relationship between the City Planning Commission and the Public Works Department?

## DISCUSSION

The Crescent City Public Works Director presented a paper copy of a power point presentation describing the scope of work done by the Public Works Department in its mandate to maintain the physical and mechanical infrastructure of Crescent City. Any new development that occurs in Crescent City proceeds through a regulated process beginning with the Community Development Officer. The Community Development Officer also functions as the specific project coordinator through all phases of a project. The project proposal then goes to the Planning Department, Building Department, and finally the Fire Department to assure all code specifications meeting building, fire and infrastructure needs and connectivity are met; i.e. electrical, water and sewer requirements specific to each project.

All documentation of any project is held in files at City Hall, filed by parcel number. A FEMA flood insurance map based on a projected 100 year flood occurring is used to set insurance rates as well as building foundation requirements. The current foundation height limits for the City of Crescent City were set by the 1964 Tsunami flood zone map. The minimum height of a foundation must be 17 feet above the current Crescent City Harbor waterline. All new construction on the 101 corridor has elevation certificates on file at City Hall.

All new construction is inspected in regular phases as the work on the project is completed. Currently the City has its own building inspector as does the County. In the past the Public Works Department would hire an independent expert to do its inspections.

## FINDINGS

F1. The Grand Jury finds that all recent construction projects along the 101 corridor south of Crescent City meets all legal requirements.

**CITY OF CRESCENT CITY**  
**2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year.

On behalf of the City of Crescent City, then Mayor Richard Enea sent a response dated September 17, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

The City of Crescent City complied, where possible, with the suggested recommendations and is commended for doing so. The grand jury recommended that the City Committee follow up on several items.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- R1. The grand jury asks the City Committee to follow up on progress made by the City Manager in taking a list of policies and procedures to the City Council and scheduling priorities and completion, as well as implementing an annual review by the Department Directors.
- R2. The grand jury recommends that the City Committee follow up on the progress made by City Staff in addressing the possible reuse of the Cultural Center.
- R3. The Grand Jury recommends that the City Committee follow up on progress made by City Staff in researching the idea of using the waste water treatment plant as a training center.

**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
CITY OF CRESCENT CITY  
FOLLOW UP ON 2012-2013 JURY RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **SUMMARY**

The 2013-2014 County Grand Jury at the recommendation of the Continuity Committee, conducted a follow up to the specific recommendations made by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Final Report to the City of Crescent City and to assess the City's progress in implementing the recommendations and what specific future actions would be taken, if any, in implementing these recommendations.

The 2012-2013 Grand Jury Final Report and the specific recommendations regarding the City of Crescent were reviewed. The City Manager was contacted and he agreed to be interviewed. He was interviewed by two Grand Jury Committee members on January 28, 2014.

## **BACKGROUND**

The 2012-2013 Grand Jury recommended that the City of Crescent City include a list of policies and procedures in its next Strategic Plan Review with a list of priorities and a schedule of completion for those priorities (Page 3-R-3-Second paragraph).

The Grand Jury was interested in any progress that has been made to the Strategic Plan Review's evaluation of the Cultural Center's transition to a City Hall facility (Page 4-R4-Last paragraph).

The Grand Jury was also interested in any progress being made by the City in reviewing a proposal to create a training center in the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) facility to insure and attract trained personnel.

## **METHODOLOGY**

A list of questions was prepared ahead of time to focus the discussion on the identified recommendations selected for follow-up.

1. Have the City's Policies and Procedures (P&P) been updated?
2. Is there a procedure to review and update the P&P every six months?
3. What is the current status of the review and updating of the P&P?

## FINDINGS

F1. The City of Crescent is continuing to upgrade its Policies and Procedures and it appears to be an ongoing process influenced by personnel shortages. There is a plan to contract out the review and updating of the P&P.

F2. The recommendation of the 2012-2013 Grand Jury to establish a schedule for reviewing and updating the P&P has not been done.

F3. The conversion of the Cultural Center to a City Hall or an Interagency Visitor Center is in limbo; hampered by renovation costs and limited revenue sources that could be allocated for the renovation. The City did not follow through on investigating alternate uses for the Cultural Center.

F4. The WWTP training center is an excellent idea, but lacking sufficiently trained personnel to implement a training center. No plan has been developed as to how the plant can operate as a training center and meet its current and future staff and infrastructure needs.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Department Directors should be utilized to review and update Policies & Procedures.

R2. The City Manager still needs to establish a schedule for reviewing and updating the P&P as well as implementing an annual review by the Department Directors.

R3. The City should review the suggestions made by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury regarding alternate uses for the Cultural Center. It is suggested a Citizen's Advisory Committee be established to investigate alternate uses, fee schedule, and creative ways of re-energizing and moving toward sustainability of the facility. The Cultural Center should be a hub of activity within the community.

R4. The City should explore alternate avenues of implementing a training center at the WWTP. It is suggested that contacts be made with College of the Redwoods, Rural Human Services and ROP to pursue possible partnerships. Establish recruitment and retention incentives. Utilize Pelican Bay State Prison as a model for training and operation.



**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
ANIMAL CONTROL'S  
RELATIONSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITH KLAMATH**

**SUMMARY**

The Grand Jury received a written complaint regarding the disparity of animal control service in the Klamath area. Many examples were submitted by complainant. These cases ranged from continuous problematic dog barking, animal neglect, animal cruelty and loss of livestock and pets. The complaint detailed specific instances of the violations with dates, locations and official documentation showing correspondence with Animal Control and the Yurok Police Department.

There were warning notices issued to the offending parties by Animal Control and/or the Yurok Police. According to the Yurok Tribal Animal Ordinance, the Yurok Police Department is the sole authority responsible for animal control on tribal land. Del Norte County Department of Animal Control is responsible for enforcement on non tribal land. This creates a dilemma as to the responsible entity. A loose dog may be reported to either the Yurok Tribal Police or to County Animal Control, but may be traveling in and out of Tribal land. The very nature of the problem creates confusion among the residents of Klamath as to which agency enforces the animal control ordinances at the time of the reported violation. There is concern by both jurisdictions of undermining the other's authority.

**BACKGROUND**

The complaint derives from the lack of animal control service in the Klamath area and the repeated violations of animal control ordinances without any response from County Animal Control as well as Yurok Tribal Police. The complaint asserts that Klamath is being underserved and there is no follow through when a complaint is reported and a citation is issued. The complaint states the loose enforcement has put the residents of Klamath at risk.

**METHODOLOGY**

The Grand Jury committee reviewed the following documents:

1. The cases submitted by the complainant
2. The Animal Control Log Book

The Grand Jury committee conducted the following interviews:

1. Complainant
2. Interim Del Norte County Animal Control Officer.

NOTE: There were attempts to interview the Yurok Tribal Chief of Police. He did not respond to the Grand Jury request.

## DISCUSSION

The Grand Jury's investigation found the boundaries between the Yurok jurisdiction and County jurisdiction is problematic. Residents are unsure who to call with animal control issues. Additionally, the record keeping of complaints reported versus those that are being logged is spotty at best. This deficiency could be a potential liability to both the County and the Yurok Tribal Police.

## FINDINGS

F1. Unless steps are taken to mitigate the lack of animal control ordinance in Klamath, the situation will remain ripe for the residents of Klamath to be exposed to bodily injury, loss of property and exposure to disease.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should immediately be established between Del Norte County Animal Control and the Yurok Tribal Police. The MOU should address the enforcement of boundaries between the County of Del Norte and the Yurok Tribe to eliminate the existing confusion of jurisdiction. Ideally, one agency should be responsible for animal control enforcement of the entire Klamath area. This would eliminate the current confusion to residents about which agency to call for reporting issues involving animals.

**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
LENIENT SENTENCING**

**SUMMARY**

The Grand Jury received a written complaint regarding the District Attorney's office. The letter was an assertion of the District Attorney's office pleading out cases and disregarding the severity of the crimes. The complaint stemmed from several high profile arrests as reported in the "Del Norte Triplicate" newspaper. The complainant questioned the District Attorney's reported lenient pleas in proportion to an expected sentence from the public perspective. Example cases indicative of such leniencies were introduced as Exhibits 1 thru 12. The Exhibits illustrated cases involving a myriad of crimes such as drugs, assault, and child molestation.

In the course of the Grand Jury's investigation, the Exhibits are reviewed and vetted. The complainant was interviewed and the cases were studied. The District Attorney was interviewed about the specific cases. Plea agreements were discussed and evaluated.

The Grand Jury determined the assertions were lacking complete and up to date information. Initially, the plea bargaining appeared lenient; however, upon thorough investigation, the sentencing was a sensible course of action. Justice was meted out in the public's interest.

**BACKGROUND**

During the past year several high profile cases were reported in the "Del Norte Triplicate" newspaper and had become an issue of concern to the community. This concern prompted a complaint letter from a private citizen. The complaint stated the concern was a shared sentiment felt by other citizens. It was asserted justice was not served and criminals were getting away with lenient pleas. It also claimed the District Attorney's office was not following through with cases and was simply dismissing them to clear out their calendar.

**METHODOLOGY**

The Grand Jury reviewed the following documents:

1. The cases from the complainant's Exhibits 1 thru 12
2. District Attorney's Case Log

The Grand Jury conducted the following interviews:

1. Complainant
2. Interim District Attorney

## DISCUSSION

The Grand Jury has found the information was not complete and/or up to date regarding the specific cases outlined in Exhibit 1 thru 12 of the complaint. There was no evidence of plea agreements and/or case dismissals by the District Attorney' office to clear their calendar. There was no indication any cases were pled out with undue leniency.

The Grand Jury did find two factors contributing to the prosecution and sentencing of cases:

1. AB 109 (California Department of Corrections Realignment Legislation)
2. Conflicting marijuana laws, which open the possibility of cases to be appealed.

## FINDINGS

F1. The Grand Jury did not find any dereliction of duty in the District Attorney's office.

**COUNTY OF DEL NORTE ADMINISTRATION  
2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year.

On behalf of the County of Del Norte, Supervisor Michael Sullivan and County Administrative Officer Jay Sarina sent a response dated August 20, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

The County of Del Norte complied, where possible, with the suggested recommendations and is commended for doing so. The grand jury recommended that the City Committee follow up on one item.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

R1. The grand jury asks the County Committee to follow up on whether a 2x2 was scheduled to address the Memo of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the City of Crescent City and whether there are any plans to revisit and possibly expand the MOU to increase cooperation and cost savings.

**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
COUNTY OF DEL NORTE  
FOLLOW UP ON 2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **SUMMARY**

The 2013-2014 County Grand Jury at the recommendation of the Continuity Committee, conducted a follow up to the specific recommendations made by the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Final Report to the County of Del Norte. It was recommended the County Administration address the possibility of expanding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the City of Crescent City.

## **BACKGROUND**

The 2012-2013 Grand Jury recommended the County of Del Norte revisit the possibility of expanding the MOU with the City of Crescent to share services. It was suggested the MOU should outline any duplicate services and find ways to consolidate services where possible.

## **METHODOLOGY**

In the course of the follow-up investigation, the Grand Jury interviewed two County Supervisors, the County Chief Administrative Officer, two City Council members and the City Manager. These individuals were each familiar with the study, the development and the implementation of the MOU between the County and the City.

## **FINDINGS**

F1. There has been little movement to explore the possibility of consolidating duplicated services between the County of Del Norte and the City of Crescent City.

F2. The autonomy of both the County and City operations are such that any merger to the extent suggested by 2012-2013 Grand Jury would require more than an MOU. It may require a ballot measure.

F3. There is an amiable relationship and a good line of communication toward a sharing of services whenever possible.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. In the best interest of the community and in an effort to be prudent with the limited resources of both the County and the City, the Grand Jury recommends there continue to be serious communication and investigation regarding the possibility of consolidating duplicated services.

**DEL NORTE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF-CORONER  
2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year.

On behalf of the Del Norte County Office of the Sheriff-Coroner, Sheriff Dean Wilson sent a response dated October 24, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

The Office of the Sheriff-Coroner complied, where possible, with the suggested recommendations and is commended for doing so. The grand jury recommended that the County Committee follow up on one item.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

R1. The grand jury asks the County Committee to follow up on the status of SB 1022 state funding which would help address some of the 2012-2013 recommendations



**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury**  
**DEL NORTE COUNTY JAIL**

**SUMMARY**

Four members of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury made a scheduled visit to the Del Norte County Jail on November 21, 2013, in accordance with the California Grand Jury mandates to conduct annual visits to all of the detention facilities within Del Norte County. In addition to the tour, the same four Grand Jury members held a scheduled interview with the Commander of the Del Norte County Jail.

**BACKGROUND**

The original jail was constructed in 1960. A remodel of the facility was completed in 1993/1994. The remodel included a new wing with a more modern design. The jail has a design capacity of 159 inmates and operates currently at about 55% of that capacity due to a self imposed cap of 85 to 90 inmates.

**METHODOLOGY**

The interview with the Commander was held before the tour of the facility in order to allow Grand Jury members to become more familiar with the facility and its operation prior to the tour. As no complaints were received by the Grand Jury regarding this facility, no other interviews were deemed necessary.

**DISCUSSION**

The tour of the Del Norte County Jail was led by the Commander. The jail appeared well kept and in good repair. As previously stated, the population was at approximately 55% of design capacity due to a self imposed cap. The Commander explained that the cap had been established based on the number of inmates that he felt could be safely housed in the facility at current staffing levels. He stated the jail has space to safely house more inmates, but the jail is not currently authorized sufficient staff to do so safely. The facility provides programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and family unification; as well as, GED and parenting classes. There are currently plans to remodel the booking area which will make it safer and more efficient; however, the project is contingent upon funding. The funding for the project was being sought through grant funds that were established by Senate Bill 1022, but were not approved.

## FINDINGS

F1. The self imposed cap of 85 to 90 inmates is based on the determination that housing more inmates than this, with current staffing levels, would jeopardize the safety of staff and inmates.

F2. A request for funding through Senate Bill 1022 was pursued to accomplish the planned remodel creating a new booking and holding area. The request was not approved.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Del Norte County Board of Supervisors shall review the budget to determine if allocation of additional staff positions, which would allow more inmates to be safely housed in the jail, would be the best use of public funds in order to improve public safety.

R2. Continue to pursue State Funds to complete the planned remodel and other efforts to modernize and improve the facility.

## DISCLAIMER

A member of the Grand Jury did not participate in this investigation.

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**JUVENILE HALL**  
**2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year. On behalf of Juvenile Hall, Acting Chief Probation Officer Linda Sanford sent a response dated August 29, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

Juvenile Hall complied, where possible, with the suggested recommendations and is commended for doing so. The grand jury had no recommendations for follow up.

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## **2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury JUVENILE HALL**

### **SUMMARY**

In compliance with the California Grand Jury's mandate to do a yearly review of the condition and management of public detention facilities, the 2013-2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury Detention Committee participated in a tour of the Del Norte County Juvenile Hall.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Del Norte County Juvenile Hall consists of a stand alone, full service detention facility consisting of 44 beds and necessary support space. The current facility replaced a 40-year-old, eight-bed, concrete block facility originally built to house juvenile truants and runaways. The 24,000 square foot facility is located on an eleven-acre parcel in Crescent City, California. Del Norte County celebrated the opening of its new juvenile hall in June 2001. An additional indoor recreation area was constructed to fulfill program exercise requirements due to the abundance of rainfall in our region.

### **METHODOLOGY**

On Tuesday, September 10, members of the Grand Jury Detention Committee interviewed the Supervising Juvenile Correctional Officer in charge of the Del Norte County Juvenile Hall. All members of the Detention Committee were encouraged to ask questions and make requests for additional data. The Supervising Juvenile Correctional Officer appeared straightforward in answering all questions and did provide back-up data requested in a timely fashion. We returned to the Juvenile Hall a week later, September 17, 2013 and had a complete tour of the facility.

### **DISCUSSION**

During our tour of Del Norte County Juvenile Hall, we saw the intake area, housing accommodations, kitchen facilities, medical provisions, educational arrangements and recreational facilities. Every area appeared clean and appropriately supervised.

The Juvenile Hall of Del Norte County is a facility providing options for many and diverse needs. Whether it is anger management, mental health issues, substance abuse, family reconciliation, pregnancy, or any of the myriads of other youth related issues, there is someone available to offer encouragement and direction.

Although the Juvenile Hall capacity is forty-four wards, it is currently staffed for approximately twelve individuals meeting the current needs.

All in all, the facilities are modern and up-to-date, the staff is well trained and engaged, and the ancillary personnel, whether educational or medical, are qualified and competent.

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## FINDINGS

- F1. Regarding a recommendation from the 2012-2013 Grand Jury, funding for more staff has not changed and neither has the Juvenile Hall required more staff.
- F2. The capacity for the Del Norte County Juvenile Hall is forty-four wards. It is currently staffed for twelve wards.
- F3. The Juvenile Hall has a full service kitchen facility. Food is prepared on site and then transferred to the individual housing unit dining area. The kitchen space was designed to incorporate youth work within the facility.
- F4. The facility provides efficient housing and supervision of minors within the facility.
- F5. The facility has room to accommodate “time out” for individuals who have difficulty dealing with other wards or their own personal issues.
- F6. Supervising juvenile officers can visually observe the housing units and classrooms from the control room.
- F7. The thirteen-year-old physical property, designated as the Juvenile Hall, is being effectively utilized and is well maintained.
- F8. The section of land directly adjacent to the north side of Juvenile Hall is filled with older, dilapidated county vehicles that appear to be parked there for the duration. Although this unsightly graveyard has no direct connection with the condition and management of the Del Norte County Juvenile Hall, it is more than just an ugly eyesore. This blight-ridden junkyard provides a gloomy entrance to Juvenile Hall. The wards, staff, family members, and visitors, including the members of this Grand Jury committee, are greeted each and every day by a picture of neglect and a lack of regard for the physical and visual environment.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. – R2. The Grand Jury Detention Committee recommends that the purpose and availability of the Juvenile Hall be brought to the attention of the general public. This facility is an underutilized asset in Del Norte County. The Grand Jury recommends exploring additional utilization of the facility to service at-risk youth in our community.
- F3. –F7. There are no recommendations.
- R8. The Grand Jury Detention Committee recommends a cleanup and removal project take place with regard to the county property adjacent to Juvenile Hall. Whoever has authority over the specific portion of land described in (F8) above should be called to account for the discredit and dishonor being brought upon an otherwise admirable institution. This is an opportunity for the County to provide an example for cleaning up blight in the community.

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## COMMENDATIONS

- C1. The Detention Committee, representative of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury, is grateful to all the entities and individuals involved in the process of intervening in the lives of young people. You have an opportunity, daily, to encourage and assist in helping individuals move on to a positive life experience. Whether your skills are teaching, counseling, healing, cooking, cleaning, or any other helping skill, your time and efforts are valued and appreciated. Thank you for your service.

**KLAMATH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
2012-2013 GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW UP**

**SUMMARY**

Each newly appointed grand jury is responsible for monitoring the responses legally required to the recommendations made in the grand jury report from the previous year.

On behalf of the Klamath Fire Protection District, Board President Eloisa Gaboni and Fire Chief Lonnie Levi sent a response dated June 22, 2013 to the Del Norte County Grand Jury regarding the 2012-2013 Recommendations. The full text of the response can be found on the grand jury website at <http://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/grand-jury>.

**DISCUSSION**

The Klamath Fire Protection District response was incomplete and did not adequately address the issues. The grand jury recommended that the Local Districts and Agencies Committee follow up on several items.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

R1. The grand jury asks the Local Districts and Agencies Committee to follow up on progress the Klamath Fire Board has made with instruction in and implementation of the Brown Act.

R2. The grand jury recommends that the Local Districts and Agencies Committee follow up on the progress the Klamath Fire Board is making in improving relations with volunteer firefighters, the Yurok tribe, the auxiliary, and the community.

R3. The Grand Jury recommends that the Local Districts and Agencies Committee follow up with the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors about assuming responsibility for assisting the Klamath Fire Protection District in becoming more functional and providing adequate administration and protection for the Klamath community.

**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury**  
**THE KLAMATH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**Klamath Revisited**

**SUMMARY**

An effective Fire Fighting Force is critical to this community. The 2012/2013 Grand Jury made recommendations to the Klamath Fire Protection District. As a result the 2013/2014 Grand Jury decided to investigate the progress of the Klamath Fire Protection District in carrying out the recommendations of the 2012/2013 Grand Jury, and to suggest some resources for guidance in approaching the problems the district faces.

During our investigations we found some of the recommendations have been accomplished. For example, a newly purchased used water tanker has been acquired and the Klamath Fire Protection Board is now conducting meetings in accordance with the Brown Act. Also, new radios and medical supplies have been obtained. These are positive improvements made by the Klamath Fire Protection District.

We found there is still one unfilled vacancy on the Board of Directors. The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is the agency responsible for stepping in to facilitate community participation and teamwork building in filling that position and creating an effective Fire Department. Indeed, LAFCO is due to conduct a Municipal Service Review of the Klamath Fire Protection District for this year.

The most important issues remaining unresolved are finding and retaining qualified volunteer Fire Fighters who are in the area and improving relations within the community. The Fire Chief has developed a set of Standard Operating Guidelines. This may carry the training of the volunteer firefighters to a higher level, and should provide consistency in training and firefighter qualifications. The Grand Jury recommends involvement of the LAFCO in facilitating team and community building.

The Grand Jury also learned that the Yurok tribe has offered the Klamath Fire Protection District a Service Proposal. We recommend that the Klamath Fire Protection District use this as a tool to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Yurok tribe to provide Fire Protection services.

Lastly, the Grand Jury learned that the Klamath Fire Protection is at risk of overspending allocated funds. These funds should be closely monitored with the Del Norte County Auditor, so that services are not lost prior to end of the fiscal year.



## BACKGROUND

Since 2012, a Board of Directors and a returning Fire Chief have been working to turn a dysfunctional department around. The Grand Jury has serious concerns about the ability of the Klamath Fire Protection District to provide adequate response to emergencies. This concern is particularly evident during the week days when many of the current volunteers are working outside the Klamath area. Emergency response often comes from Crescent City. The 2012/2013 Grand Jury made the following recommendations:

- Recruit additional local Volunteer Firefighters who would be able to respond to emergency calls during regular weekday work hours. Establish a reliable communications system to allow Klamath citizens to easily contact Klamath Fire Protection District.
- The current Klamath Fire Board needs to be instructed in all aspects of the Brown Act, how to conduct a meeting, and how to work openly with the Klamath Volunteer Fire Fighters, The Yurok Tribe, the Klamath Fire Auxiliary and the greater Klamath Community. If the above fails to accomplish satisfactory results, the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors must take over as the Board of the Klamath Fire Protection District until such a time that a suitable Klamath Fire District Board can be installed. The citizens of Klamath deserve nothing less.
- Replace or repair unreliable vehicles. Develop budgeting priorities that place basic vehicle, material repair and purchases as a top priority.
- All Klamath Fire District Board members must be included in discussions about spending and given enough time in an open forum discussion to make a fair and informed majority decision.
- Repair or replace the existing water tanker. Once it is in service, it should be operated at least weekly to ensure it is operational. The vehicles should be parked under a roof to be kept out of weather.
- The Klamath Fire Protection District Board is to make reestablishing a good relationship with the Citizens of Klamath, the Klamath Fire Auxiliary, and the Yurok Tribe a priority.

The 2013-2014 Grand Jury recognizes the importance of these issues to the citizens of Klamath as well as visitors passing through the area and have investigated the efforts made by the Klamath Board of Directors and the Fire Chief to follow through on recommendations.

## METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury reviewed the following documents concerning the Klamath Protection Fire District:

- The Klamath Fire Protection District By-Laws
- The Department Budget Reports
- County Recorder lists of Fire Protection Districts
- An Incident Report for the Klamath Fire District No.5
- Klamath Fire Protection District Standard Operating Guide
- Yurok Tribe Service Proposal, dated December, 2013
- Government Code 1780(b)
- The Brown Act
- Resolution 09-06, Resolution of the Del Norte Local Agency Formation Commission

We made the following visits:

- The Klamath Fire Protection District: Site tour of Klamath Command Center, Redwood Fire Station, Klamath Glen Fire Station and Hunter Creek Fire Station.
- The Crescent Fire District
- Yurok Tribal Administration Office
- The Annual Meeting of the Klamath Fire Protection District in the Command Center

The Grand Jury conducted these interviews:

- Klamath Fire Protection Fire Chief
- Klamath Fire Protection Board President
- Klamath Auxiliary member
- Former Board member
- Crescent City Protection Fire Chief
- Yurok Tribe Executive Director
- Del Norte County Supervisor
- Del Norte County Counsel
- Del Norte County Auditor

## DISCUSSION

We gathered the following information:

A new (used) 2008 water tender has been acquired. Money from the sale of the old one was used towards purchasing the new tender. Other vehicles are 1970 and 1980 vintage and are in need of

replacement. The stations housing these vehicles are old and in need of restoration and more consistent cleaning efforts inside and out. In all buildings, a better system of organization for equipment and supplies is needed.

The Board meeting we attended was well conducted in accordance with the Brown Act. Present were four Board members of the Klamath Fire Board, the Fire Chief and Captain. There were no other attendees. According to the County Recorder list of Fire Protection Districts, the Klamath Fire Protection had a vacant position on the Board of Directors. We noted at the meeting that there was still a vacant position which needed to be filled.

New radios and medical supplies have been provided through an \$8,000 grant from the Emergency Service Grants Del Norte County from State and Federal money.

There remains a breach between the Klamath Fire Protection District and the Klamath Fire Auxiliary. In interviews, we were informed that funds raised by the Klamath Fire Auxiliary for use by the Klamath Fire Protection District are in the bank but are unavailable because of strained relations between the two groups.

The Yurok tribe through the Executive Director, has expressed willingness to work with the Klamath Fire Protection District. In December 2013, the Klamath Fire Protection District received a Service Proposal from the Yurok tribe which “looks for ways to stabilize and strengthen the Klamath Fire Protection District, both at a staffing level and budgetary level.”

Good steady volunteers are needed and difficult to enlist. The Fire Chief has developed a Standard Operations Guide to set higher standards of professionalism and safety in training of volunteer firefighters. Because of the shortage of volunteers, fire protection is often not available during the week days. Many volunteers work outside Klamath during work hours. As a result emergency response often comes from the Crescent City area.

Like many departments, the Klamath Fire Protection District has a small budget that does not meet all needs. The Del Norte County Auditor said he would meet with the Klamath Fire Chief and the Board Chairperson on a regular basis to develop and monitor a balanced budget.

## **FINDINGS**

F1. A water tender has been acquired. Other vehicles are in need of repair or replacement, and the stations housed and are in need of better organization and cleaning.

F2. The Board of Directors to the Klamath Fire Protection District has been instructed in all aspects of, and is conducting meetings in accordance with, the Brown Act.

F3. The relationships among the Klamath Fire District, the Klamath Fire Board, the Klamath Fire Auxiliary, the Yurok Tribe and the greater Klamath Community continue to remain strained and adversarial.

F4. The Yurok tribe has expressed a willingness to work with the Klamath Fire Board.

F5. The Klamath Fire Protection District continues to have difficulty recruiting local volunteer firefighters to support the few that now give their time to the Klamath Community.

F6. Based on the current budget, the Klamath Fire Protection District is at risk of overspending their allocated funds, which could lead to cessation of operations prior to the end of their fiscal year.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Continue to plan to upgrade equipment as funds become available.

R2. Continue to implement the Brown Act at meetings and encourage more public participation.

R3. Good relationships between the Klamath Fire Protection District and the Klamath Community are essential. The President of the Klamath Fire Protection District and the Chief need to make this a priority. County resources should be made available for facilitating team and community building. LAFCO should take a lead in supporting this effort.

R4. The Yurok tribe and Klamath Fire Protection District should enter into a Memorandum of Understanding using the Yurok Service Proposal as a starting point.

R5. Klamath Fire Protection District needs to start an aggressive campaign to recruit volunteers. The Yurok tribe could be an excellent resource to assist in this effort.

R6. The Klamath Fire Protection District needs to meet regularly with the County Auditor to establish a balanced budget.

## COMMENDATIONS

- Klamath Fire Protection District Fire Chief developing a Standard Operations Guide.
- Klamath Fire Protection District acquiring new water tender.
- Klamath Fire Protection District implementing the Brown Act at meetings.
- The volunteers who recently painted Redwood Fire Station #34, Klamath.
- Yurok tribe for the Yurok Service Proposal dated December, 2013.

## DISCLAIMER

A member of the Grand Jury did not participate in this investigation.

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**2013/2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury  
PELICAN BAY STATE PRISON**

**SUMMARY**

On February 20, 2014, four members of the 2013-2014 Grand Jury made a scheduled visit to Pelican Bay State Prison, in accordance with California Grand Jury mandates to conduct annual visits to all of the detention facilities within Del Norte County.

Jury members met with the Acting Warden, the Chief Deputy Warden, the Community Resource Manager, and the Public Information Officer. When finished with the interview, the Grand Jury members were given a thorough tour of the prison by the Public Information Officer.

**BACKGROUND**

Pelican Bay State Prison opened in December, 1989. The prison currently has 2,694 inmates. The prison capacity is 3,191 inmates. Pelican Bay State Prison is a maximum-security state prison housing some of the highest-security inmates in the California State Prison System.

Pelican Bay has a separate facility that houses non-violent, minimum-security prisoners.

**METHODOLOGY**

The interview with the Acting Warden, the Chief Deputy Warden, the Community Resource Manager, and the Public Information Officer was held before the tour of the facility in order to allow the Grand Jury members time to ask questions and become familiar with the operation of the facility.

**DISCUSSION**

The tour of Pelican Bay State Prison highlighted many aspects of a very well run institution. Security is taken very seriously. All staff members are well trained and do an excellent job maintaining security.

**FINDINGS**

- F1. The Staff at Pelican Bay State Prison are working with Del Norte County officials on a disaster plan. They are also reviewing procedures should a breach of security occur that could impact the community at large.

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- F2. Inmates are afforded a variety of educational opportunities for their personal growth. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings are also available for the inmates.
  - F3. Visitation occurs every weekend and on holidays. Five hours are provided for the general population and three hours for inmates in the SHU (Security Housing Unit). Comprehensive background checks are completed on all visitors.
  - F4. There are jobs done by Level One (minimum-security) inmates on the prison grounds. No inmate work crews, other than mutual aid request firefighters, work off of the prison grounds.
  - F5. Pelican Bay operates an efficient infirmary. It also has its own psychiatric unit, dental facility, pharmacy and fire department.
  - F6. There has never been an escape from Pelican Bay's Maximum Security Prison.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. Finalize the disaster plans with the county and the security procedure review with the school district, ensuring Redwood School is at the top of the notification list.

#### COMMENDATIONS

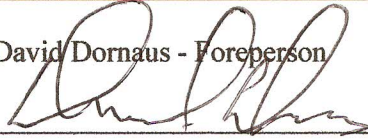
- C1. The California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), the California Correctional Supervisors Organization (CCSO), and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) sponsor a variety of city and county events throughout the year. Many individuals are involved and their time and efforts are very much appreciated.

#### DISCLAIMER

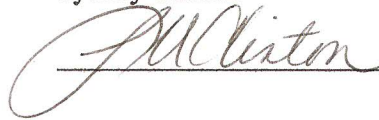
A member of the Grand Jury did not participate in this investigation.

2013-2014 Del Norte County Grand Jury Signature Page

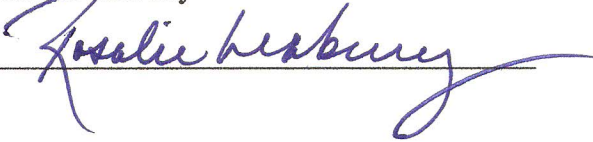
David Dornaus - Foreperson



Sydney Clinton



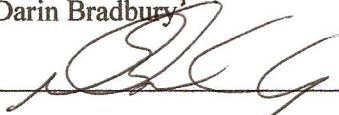
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Annabelle Walkley



Darin Bradbury



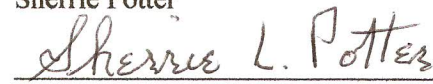
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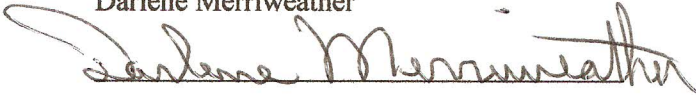
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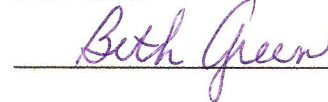
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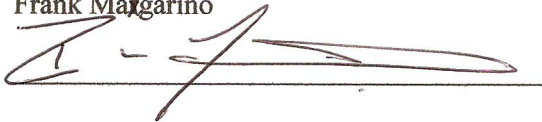
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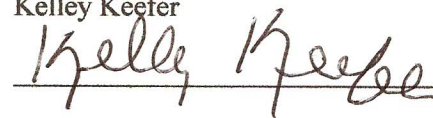
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Frank Margarino



Kelley Keefe



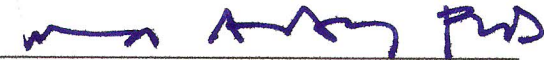
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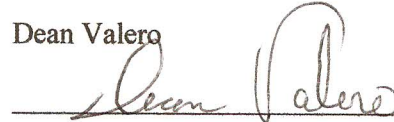
Edwin Fleshman



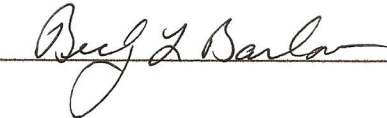
Tom Roy



Dean Valero



Becky Barlow



David Webb

