2016/2017 DEL NORTE COUNTY GRAND JURY

FINAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreperson Report</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klamath Fire Protection District</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code Enforcement</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing for the Homeless</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Corrections – Alder Camp</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar-O-Boys Ranch</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Del Norte County Jail</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Detention Facility</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelican Bay State Prison</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signatures</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The honorable Darren McElfresh  
Judge of the Superior Court of Del Norte County  
450 H Street  
Crescent City, Ca 95531

Re: Del Norte County 2016-2017 Grand Jury Final Report

Your honor:

On behalf of the 2016-2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury, we submit our final Report to you, the citizens of Del Norte County, the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors, and the Crescent City-City Council.

This Grand Jury started its year June 2016 and served thru June 30, 2017. Our jury is made up of 19 citizens of Del Norte County. They organize into committees of their interest to perform investigations and interviews and finally report. The committees reflect the types of agencies we investigate. The committees are organized in to city, county, detentions and special districts committees. The committees select the investigation they are interested in and seek approval from the Grand Jury to investigate. Thru training the jurors are instructed to recuse themselves if a conflict or bias exists. I feel this Grand Jury did not have any conflicts of interest or bias. You will probably have the same conclusion after reading the reports.

The jurors worked many hours organizing, training, investigating, writing reports, attending both general meetings and committee meetings. Their hard work and dedication is reflected in the reports. I very much appreciated their effort and applaud them. All jurors at various times made significant contributions. Together they made a great team. Not all jurors selected were able to perform. We had in the beginning many resignations and replacements. We also had jurors who could not make meetings as they were dealing with personal matters. It happens and is a part of life. I still appreciate the contributions they made.

Please recognize in regards to investigations is that we start them at some point in the year and finish them many months later. During our investigation other agencies may issue statements regarding the areas we are investigating. We had no input or impact in regards to their studies. Our reports are independent and unbiased.

Our reporting and investigations this year included detentions, fire districts, homelessness and blight. The reports are informative. Please read the reports to see the Jurors findings and recommendations.

This grand Jury had many stars. When change occurred, this jury filled the positions. It was refreshing to serve with such a dedicated team. I present the names of the Jurors. I can assure you that any of these Jurors would be an asset in your organization.
I wish to thank Judge Darren McElfresh for believing in me to be foreman. I wish to thank the Jurors for their participation. I want to thank the California Grand Juror’s association for their training and consultation. I have had a year of fulfillment. I also wish to encourage any member of our community who is eligible to serve the Grand Jury to embrace the opportunity. I am glad I did. Thank you

Sincerely,

Jeffery A Corning
Foreman Grand Jury 2016-2017
Methodology

The Del Norte County Grand Jury is mandated by California law to inquire into the condition and management of Special Districts. We began our investigation of the Del Norte County Klamath Fire Protection District (KFPD) in July 2016. By the time we finished our investigation, changes were already being implemented.

In order to obtain a greater understanding of the KFPD, we traveled to all of the Del Norte County Fire Districts and received complete tours. We also went to two Fire District Board Meetings, met with a past and a present Del Norte County Supervisor, interviewed multiple Fire District Board Members and Fire District Chiefs plus met with Cal Fire twice. In addition, we met with the Del Norte County Auditor’s Office, reviewed the Del Norte Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) reports, researched the Del Norte County Triplicate articles, and viewed Del Norte County Board of Supervisor meetings pertaining to KFPD.

Discussion / Facts

Fire Districts respond to many kinds of emergencies. The smallest percentage of their calls is to fight structure fires. The highest volume of their responses is for medical emergencies, which includes home medical emergencies and vehicle accidents. When an ambulance is called, the fire personnel is usually the first on the scene to help.

Each Fire District is manned by a dedicated Fire Chief, volunteers, and a Board of Directors. The districts help each other through mutual and automatic aid agreements. Cal Fire supports them when available as well as outlying County Fire Districts.

The Klamath Fire Protection District (KFPD) faces two main challenges: recruiting volunteers and lack of adequate funding. Klamath is considered a “bedroom community,” where a good portion of the population work in Crescent City during daylight hours and are not available in Klamath. Klamath has lost businesses that contribute to the loss of both manpower for recruiting fire volunteers in the area and revenue for the district. Also, there is land in the Klamath area that is not on the Del Norte County Property Tax Roll. The Klamath Fire District does not generate revenue from the tax-exempt properties. These properties include Tribal land and Federal/State Park lands.

Findings

F1) The KFPD Fire Chief and Board Chair appear competent and hard working. Without many active volunteers, the burden of the maintenance and emergency calls fall on the Fire Chief. Without a secretary, many duties fall on the Board Chair. One example is recruiting volunteers, which is very time consuming.

F2) KFPD has a problem with not having enough volunteers, especially during the day. There are not a lot of businesses in Klamath to pull volunteers from.
F3) Cal Fire may be available in the area as back up at times but they are seasonal. It would cost approximately $250,000 per year to guarantee Cal Fire’s yearlong presence to be at the Klamath Station (Amador Program).

F4) It is commendable that the KFPD equipment is in working order with their limited number of volunteers.

F5) KFPD receives minimal funds from Del Norte County to run their District. The amount they receive is based on the growth rate of their district and is from the Del Norte County Property Tax Roll. The growth rate in Klamath has declined the past several years. Therefore, they receive a low share. This rate is computed by a state formula and doesn’t vary much year to year.

F6) KFPD receives a Fire Assessment from properties on the Del Norte County Tax Roll. This was voted on by the property owners in Klamath. It would take another vote by the property owners to increase this fee.

F7) KFPD has no current grants.

F8) KFPD receives very limited donations. They currently have no fund raising events.

F9) In October 2015 the LAFCO staff initiated an outreach with the Yurok Tribe to look for coordination opportunities to improve fire protection and emergency response services in the Klamath area. Unfortunately, the Tribal Executive Director at that time passed away and the efforts ceased.

F10) In January 2017 the LAFCO Executive Officer stated at the KFPD Board Meeting that they have a contact for a possible temporary Assistant Fire Chief. He specializes in recruitment and training.

F11) In March 2017 the KFPD Board, a member of LAFCO and the Yurok Tribe met to try to find solutions to some of these issues. The Yurok Tribe agreed to honor any service agreements and MOUs with KFPD. They will also encourage their employees to volunteer with KFPD by allowing them paid time off.

F12) In April 2017 the Yurok Tribe is again meeting with the KFPD Board and LAFCO as a continuation of these discussions.

**Recommendations**

R1) Hire a part-time secretary to help the KFPD recruit volunteers.

R2) Have a temporary Assistant Chief to help KFPD with recruiting and training volunteers.

R3) Have a KFPD recruitment campaign using the fliers, brochures, and posters provided by LAFCO.

R4) Try to get an understanding from local businesses to recruit employees as volunteers without having them take a cut in pay.

R5) Try to encourage KFPD team building through sponsored activities.

R6) Contact the Triplicate to help recruit KFPD volunteers.

R7) Apply for KFPD grants and try to utilize the full-time grant writers in the Yurok Office to assist with increased funding sources.

R8) Seek KFPD donations from the tax-exempt properties.

R9) Hold some KFPD fund raising activities.

R10) Try to get the KFPD Fire Auxiliary active again to help host events which could increase community comradery.
R11) Attempt raising enough money for KFPD to procure the Amador Program. In order for this to happen, there would need to be a proven income stream 3 years prior to the program starting. The $250,000 would be a yearly fee to keep this program going.

Conclusion

Fire Districts have an effect on everyone that is anywhere in the county. Wherever you are, if there is an emergency, whether it is a fire, a medical event or flooding they respond. This includes being at a home, outside, in a car, or at a public place-anywhere.

It was an honor to meet the people we talked to in our investigation. The volunteers, Board Members, and all the fire staff put so much selfless time and energy into helping with emergencies for everyone in Del Norte County. It is hard to put into words the respect we feel for them and the work they do. Without them, peoples’ safety in Del Norte County would be put in jeopardy. We cannot thank them enough. They are all heroes. They have helped make a difference in so many people’s lives.

We would like to thank all of the people who gave us their time to answer our questions. This report would not be possible without them.
Code Enforcement

Summary

Del Norte County boasts a tremendous variety of natural beauty. Rugged coastal vistas, towering redwoods, remote mountain trails, and pristine rivers and streams attract visitors from around the globe. Unfortunately, Del Norte County experiences blight in both the city and surrounding rural areas. A drive through town or outlying areas frequently reveals household yards littered with trash, broken down cars, and other refuse. Illegal dump sites are frequent in rural areas where pick-up truck loads of household trash and old appliances spill over roadside embankments into ravines. Our county will be well served when community pride and education are nurtured such that blight is at least reduced if not eliminated.

The Grand Jury of 2016-2017 has chosen to investigate the Code Enforcement Department, especially as it relates to Blight/Nuisance/Safety in Del Norte County because it closely relates to both the health and welfare of the area, tourism, and negatively effects the decisions of people looking to visit and/or relocate to this area, as well as the families living here.

Methodology

A Grand Jury Subcommittee investigated Code Enforcement Department in the following ways:

> Interviews of several Community Development Department employees.

> Interview of a community organizer involved in blight awareness & volunteer cleanups.

> Work-flow processes via County documents.

> Interview of a representative of the Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority (DNSWMA).

Discussion-Facts

1. Code Enforcement in Del Norte County has an annual abatement budget of $14,500, which is allocated by the Board of Supervisors.

2. The Abandoned Vehicle Fund, obtained via a $1 per vehicle registration fee from DMV contributes quarterly payments totaling approximately $23,000 annually. Money from the abandoned vehicle fund is used to remove abandoned vehicles from county roads.

3. Complaints are registered, sorted, and prioritized by County Code Enforcement. (see Exhibits 1A & 1B)

4. There are currently 60-70 active Code Enforcement cases and approximately 160-170 total open cases as of January 2017.
5. Del Norte Community Development Department is currently revising the nuisance code. Some of the revisions include defining terms such as blight, and abandoned vehicles.
6. The average case takes 2 years to complete, though the length of time varies widely.
7. Monies collected through fines and liens are deposited into the county general fund.
8. Del Norte County has received grants in the past for clean-up projects.

Findings

F1. The Abatement budget is insufficient to accomplish the goal of eliminating blight in Del Norte County.

F2. Processing of cases by Code Enforcement requires time & judicious discretion concerning the pace and expectation of compliance.

F3. Education is lacking in proper means of trash disposal and creating a culture of community pride.

F4. There is no set dollar amount for Code Enforcement in the DNSWMA budget though it is included as a line item in their budget.

F5. Code Enforcement investigates only complaints received from citizens of the county.

Recommendations

R1. Increase the budget allocation for Code Enforcement abatement.

R2. Continue judicious prioritizing & processing of Code Enforcement nuisance/blight abatement complaints.

R3. Increase community education about proper trash disposal through radio, newspaper, and outreach.

R4. Continue seeking grants through Calrecycle.

R5. Complete revision of County Nuisance Code with clear definitions, and a mission statement.

R6. If additional funds are secured, create an account that could be used to fund abatements. Monies collected from fines and liens would be deposited into this account also rather than depositing them into the county general fund, so that the account is replenished and would result in a zero net loss over time.

R7. Establish an agreement between DNSWMA and Code Enforcement for a set amount of financial assistance.

R8. There are many violations that are not reported by citizens that Code Enforcement could be the complainant on. Violations that relate to public safety issues should be acted upon promptly.
EXHIBIT 1A
Flow Chart Public vs. Private Land

Complaint received or Conditions observed

Identify Property Owner

Private Property Use Standard Enforcement Process

Public Property, Identify Agency Responsible for Maintenance

County Property
Identify the Division responsible for maintenance and send notification of issue to that division

County Controlled or other

Non-County Property
The other agency notified of issue, case closed. Major issues may be brought to the County BOS for a formal request to the other agency to take action.

County Maintained Roads and County Drainage System

CDD-Code Enforcement
Non-maintained Roads and Paper Streets Unimproved Parcels

Parks & Building Maintenance
Public Recreational Facilities County Buildings

Prioritize and review by Department Head

High Priority Use existing funds or apply to BOS for additional funds

Normal Priority Address in rotation using existing funding

Low Priority Address when time and resources are available
EXHIBIT 1B
Flow Chart Enforcement on Private Land

Complaint received or Conditions observed

Identify and Prioritize

Cases outside of jurisdiction of County Code Enforcement are referred to the appropriate agency

Inspection and research

Written Notice of conditions constituting violations, and the corrective measures required

Written or Verbal Notification

Verbal Warnings and immediate compliance, case closed

Compliance within the established time frame, case closed

Non-compliance, Case scheduled for Public Nuisance Hearing before the County Hearing Officer

Substantial compliance, time frame extended

Nuisance Abatement Hearing

Nuisance not confirmed, case dismissed

Nuisance Confirmed, responsible parties given more time to comply

Nuisance Confirmed, and Enforcement Officer authorized to proceed with Abatement as funding is available
BACKGROUND

A question was presented to the Grand Jury concerning housing for the homeless in Del Norte County. The committee for the city addressed the question with two agencies, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Rural Human Services (RHS). HUD is a public entity and RHS is a non-profit private entity.

METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury committee for City Services met at separate times with representatives of the HUD office and RHS in Crescent City to discuss options presently offered for housing homeless persons.

DISCUSSION

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is affordable housing assistance and housing vouchers for those in need. The money is Federal and is restricted by the rules and regulations of the Federal Government and monitored by the California State Government. The money is budgeted in terms of housing support for families that are monetarily challenged. The waiting list is first come, first served. This list is addressed as family units, composed of single persons, single parent with children, couples with children, and the homeless; there must be a mailing address connected to the family unit and the ability to pay rent and utilities. The question was asked concerning homeless assistance and housing availability. It was stressed by HUD staff that HUD is not the entity that has the answer for this demographic. HUD is a long-term
housing plan. It was mentioned there may be plans for emergency housing by a coalition of organizations and private individuals. HUD is strictly limited to its role of long-term housing and recommended visiting RHS.

RHS manages programs offers low income and homeless persons in Del Norte County assistance as grants occur. Presently the Food Bank, monthly food boxes, and temporary jobs are available. The only housing offered is Harrington House, a temporary shelter for persons who are in flight from domestic violence. Although all who come to shelter can be considered homeless, the housing consists of very specific parameters. The representative said there is planning and ongoing communication with other agencies concerning housing assistance for the homeless and potential monies in the form of grants from the State of California but no monies have been released for homeless assistance.

FINDING

As of this time there is no formal emergency housing for the homeless in the County of Del Norte.
Alder Conservation Camp

BACKGROUND

“Alder Conservation Camp was activated March 18, 1961, the 20th conservation camp operating under a cooperative agreement between the then California Division of Forestry and California Department of Corrections. Alder Camp over the years has been home to two other conservation programs, the Ecology Corps Program, October 1, 1972 (conscientious objectors from the Vietnam War era) and California Conservation Corps, in 1976 (operated by the Del Norte Fire Center). June 1, 1986 CC#20 was again reopened by Cal Fire and CDCR as a Conservation Camp” as noted in the Alder Conservation Camp CC#20 handbook presented to the Grand Jurors.

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).” Three members of the 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury participated in a tour of Alder Conservation Camp.

METHODOLOGY

On May 12, 2017 three members of the Del Norte County Grand Jury traveled to Alder Conservation Camp in Klamath. The jurors convened in a conference room with staff for a question and answer session. Afterwards, a complete tour of the facility was provided.
DISCUSSION

Alder Conservation Camp trains and then provides inmate firefighters in cooperation with Cal Fire and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations (CDCR). The crews have been assigned Statewide to fires, floods, and other emergencies as needed. Fire fuel reduction, invasive species abatement, water erosion control, trail construction, and the maintenance of high tourist areas are just a few of the community service projects with which the inmate crews have been involved.

Alder Camp is located approximately seven miles southwest of Klamath near the mouth of the Klamath River and within Redwood National and State Parks.

Jurors toured the visiting areas, passed by the water and sewage plant, and toured the Cal Fire building and bays where firefighting gear is housed. They also toured the mill, hobby room, drying rooms for the wood, woodworking room, library and game room, kitchen, dining room, and automotive repair shop. Both the indoor and outdoor exercise areas were observed. Inmate housing facilities were also visited. Jurors were given the opportunity to board and view the mobile kitchen unit and inmate fire crew transportation unit as well.

Inmates have access to religious clergy, mental health (through teleconference), medical, and dental care. They also have access to alcoholic and narcotics anonymous programs. A variety of recreational activities are afforded the inmates.

FINDINGS

F1. At the time of the tour the 110 bed facility housed 78 inmates.

F2. The facility was neat, clean, and orderly.
F3. Repairs are needed for the kitchen ventilation system. At the time of the tour, necessary parts had been ordered.

F4. The kitchen was found to be clean and well utilized.

F5. Two inmates escaped from the facility on January 24, 2017. They were apprehended within 24 hours, held at Pelican Bay, and returned back to Susanville for reclassification.

F6. CDCR takes eligible offenders from the County Jail through a program called County Borders and relocates them to Alder Camp. While inmates are being trained in firefighting, the cost is $80/day/inmate. Once their training is completed, the cost is $10/day/inmate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Grand Jury recommends that the County investigate the possibility of offsetting the jail population and cost by taking advantage of the County Borders program.

COMMENDATIONS

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury found Alder Camp to be a very tranquil facility where the residents are giving back to the community in a myriad of ways. It commends the cooperative working environment established between both staff and inmates of CDCR and Cal Fire.
BACKGROUND

“Bar-O-Boys Ranch is a residential treatment center located in Del Norte County. This facility is available to court committed males between 14-19 years of age. Several Northern California counties send their youth offenders to Bar-O-Boys Ranch. 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 1956. John Ostrum and his wife, Mary, purchased an old dude ranch on sixty acres of land, situated within the Six Rivers National Forest, for the express purpose of opening a rehabilitation camp. Boys who were committed to the state would be given the opportunity to develop positive character traits in this unique environment.” as noted in the 2015-2016 Grand Jury report.

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)).” Several members of the 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury participated in a tour of Bar-o-Boys Ranch.

METHODOLOGY

On November 10, 2016 three members of the Del Norte County Grand Jury traveled to Bar-O-Boys Ranch for a tour. The jurors were given an overview of the history and philosophy of the facility by staff followed by a question and answer session. A thorough tour of the facility was provided.
DISCUSSION

The tour began in the centrally located administrative building where daily business is conducted and records are kept current. Bar-O-Boys Ranch is setback in a tranquil wooded area. The barracks were clean and maintained but are in need of modernization due to the age of the facility. On the grounds there’s facilities for academic instruction, pottery, woodworking, physical education, culinary, gardening, and recreation.

Religious services are provided. The students are encouraged to seek a high school diploma as opposed to a GED. Teachers from Del Norte County Schools conduct the classes. CERT training, culinary art, and fire academy are among the services offered. Opportunities are also available for the boys to learn carpentry skills through volunteering with Habitat for Humanity.

The Ranch’s motto is “Contributors rather than takers.” This is evidenced by the progression through the 3-step program for the boys. Advancement in the 3-step program is considered once a month. Release is contingent upon completion of the program criteria where boys have accepted responsibility for their choices, participated in their personal growth, and committed to making a change in their personal lives.

FINDINGS

F1. The staff was very helpful, informative, and accommodated all inquiries.

F2. Bar O Boys Ranch is a 42-bed facility with seven boys currently in residence.
F3. Staff is continually looking for avenues for the residents to better themselves physically, educationally, and vocationally.

F4. A part-time maintenance person along with staff and residents maintains the facilities. The facilities were found to be neat and orderly although outdated.

F5. Two credentialed teachers share adjoining classrooms. Hands on and textbook materials were evident. A Resource Specialist from Del Norte County Schools works with students who have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).

F6. Tiles were broken or missing on the bathroom floor, showerheads were leaking or missing, and the alarm system in the barracks is old.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Grand Jury feels the facilities are under utilized. It recommends that other juvenile courts both within and outside the State are made aware of the facilities and the opportunities offered there.

R2. The Grand Jury recommends to the Board of Supervisors that the barracks be professionally inspected and that any and all necessary repairs be made.

R3. A roofing inspection is recommended for the main hall to include the lower gym and pottery area.

COMMENDATIONS

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury commends the hard work and dedication of the staff and resilience of the young adults who complete the 3-step program. Our community is enriched
through the volunteer work these young men do while learning skills to become productive members of society.
Background

The original jail was built in the 1960s and constructed primarily out of brick. In approximately 1993/1994, the jail received a remodel as well as an addition to the facility. Along with structural reinforcements, an entire new wing was added to the jail to house more inmates. The new wing consisted of five “blocks” or housing units, a second recreation facility, and a control booth.

Officers and staff on duty are kept busy daily with medical care and transport, recreational time for inmates, bookings, jail disturbances, and hourly bed/cell checks.

While housed in the Del Norte County Jail, inmates are offered resources such as: Narcotics and Alcoholics Anonymous programs, medical services, recreational privileges, visits with attorneys/family/friends (through a window and on the telephone), as well as work programs within the facility itself. On site classes through College of the Redwoods are also available. Breakfast is served each morning, and inmates are provided a sack lunch to be consumed sometime during the day. Dinner is served in the evening. Meals/menus are regulated by the State, with a yearly visit from an auditor to observe the cleanliness and overall operation of the kitchen.

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).” Two members of the 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury participated in a tour of the Del Norte County Jail.

Methodology

On May 9th, 2017 two members of the Del Norte County Grand Jury convened in the Commander’s office for information on jail procedures and staffing functions prior to the tour. Afterwards, a tour of the facility was provided.

Findings

F1. Jail capacity is 165 beds made up of eight male housing units and two female housing units.
F2. Four teams of three correctional officers and two technicians working twelve-hour shifts (two day and two night) occur daily unless there are staffing absences.

F3. A self-imposed cap is in place of 105 inmates due to lack of adequate staffing.

F4. Inmates are housed based on compatibility to mitigate violence within the jail.

F5. The kitchen and kitchen equipment were clean, and food storage areas were sanitary and vermin free.

F6. A strip of baseboard was peeled back from the wall in one of the hallways. The Commander stated that this was on the list to be fixed within the next few weeks.

F7. In the Commander’s office a leak through the window has caused damage to the windowsill and stained the carpet. This has been a recurring issue for years until recently when a maintenance worker came up with a solution. The window has not leaked during the last several storms.

F8. Nonviolent offenders are sometimes released early to make room for incoming inmates due to the self-imposed population cap of 105. This cap provides a 35:1 inmate to officer ratio. In a full jail of 165, the ratio would be 55:1.

**Recommendations**

R1. The Grand Jury recommends that the County Border program be utilized between the County Jail and Alder Camp.

R2. In order to maintain a safe and compliant detention facility, it is recommended that an additional correctional officer be hired for each shift.

R3. Continued monitoring is recommended for the leaky window in the Commander’s office and any and all necessary repairs be completed.

**Commendations**

The 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury wants to commend the jail Commander and staff for their dedication in running a well maintained correctional facility and accommodating the jurors schedules for the tour. The Commander’s leadership of and commitment to the facility is recognized and valued by this Grand Jury.
BACKGROUND

The Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility is a twenty-four hour coed facility with the capability to house 44 wards. The Del Norte County Court System places wards at the facility that is located on an 11-acre parcel in Crescent City.

There is a large gymnasium, yoga room, dual classroom, kitchen, laundry room, and art room. A large outside fenced in area is available for the wards to get physical exercise and fresh air. Restricted Internet access is also available to the wards.

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)).” Several members of the 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury participated in a tour of the Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility.

METHODOLOGY

On December 7, 2016 six members of the Del Norte County Grand Jury traveled to the Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility for a tour. The jurors were given information about the operation of the facility by staff followed by a question and answer session. A tour of the facility was provided.

DISCUSSION

The Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility is setback off of Highway 101 at 1115 Williams Drive on an 11-acre parcel. The tour began in the lobby of the facility.
The Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility provides a variety of services to its wards including anger management, religious services, mental health assistance, educational, and other youth related services. The facility is clean, modern, and well run.

FINDINGS

F1. At the time of the tour the 44 bed facility housed ten wards – seven male and three female.

F2. The facility was found to be clean and orderly.

F3. Food is prepared at the County Jail and delivered to the detention facility.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Grand Jury feels this facility is under utilized. It recommends exploring additional utilization of this facility.

R2. The facility has a large, professional kitchen. It is recommended that food preparation for the facility be prepared on site.

COMMENDATIONS

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury commends the hard work and dedication of the staff and leadership of the Del Norte Juvenile Detention facility and their commitment to the youth of our community.
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, several members of the 2016/2017 Del Norte County Grand Jury participated in a tour of Pelican Bay State Prison on May 16, 2017. The Grand Jury would like to thank the staff for their time and dedication in affording us the tour. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to the institution and our community.
Eva J. Lopez
Debbie Bruschi
Robert Rodriguez
Carol Byers
Wayne A. Cooke
Laurie Speaker
Dale McDonald
Misti Bischoff
Tammy Swiderski
Susan Humphreys

Victoria Schaub
Robert T. Buckles
Jerry L. Carrick
Jesse J. Nolan
Jeffrey A. Corning

Victoria Schaub
Robert T. Buckles
Jerry L. Carrick
Jesse J. Nolan
Jeffrey A. Corning