

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

The governance of responses to Grand Jury Final Report is contained in Penal Code § 933 and § 933.05. Responses must be submitted within 60 or 90 days. Elected officials must respond within sixty (60) days. Governing bodies (for example: the Board of Supervisors) must respond within ninety (90) days. Please submit all responses in writing and digital format to the Presiding Judge, the Grand jury Foreperson and the CEO's office.

Report Title: EXCELLENCE PERSONIFIED **Report Date:** May 18, 2009

Response by: Jane Chambers Title : City of Ukiah, City Manager

Findings

I (we) agree with the findings numbered:

1 – 3, 5 – 10, 13, 15 – 19, 21

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered:

4, 11, 12, 14, 20

(attach a statement specifying any portions of the Findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefore.)

Recommendations

Recommendations numbered:

1, 2, 4, 5, 6

have been implemented. (attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)

Recommendations numbered: _____
have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. (attach a time frame for implementation)

Recommendations numbered: _____
require further analysis. (attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer and/or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed; including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury Report)

Recommendations numbered: **3** _____

will not be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not reasonable. (attach an explanation.)

Date: 8/7/09 Signed: Jane Chan
Total number of pages attached: 4

Mendocino County Grand Jury Report

'EXCELLENCE PERSONIFIED – Ukiah Police Chief and His Finest Are To Be Commended”

Ukiah Police Department Response

Narrative Summary of Required Responses to Grand Jury Findings:

#4 – Although the current School Resource Officer (September 2008) had not received specialized school training, the department only assigns seasoned, veteran officers to this important duty assignment. In addition, although the current SRO had not yet attended specialized training, SRO's are sent to a variety of specialized training to help them in their assignment. This training includes POST approved School Resource Officer courses, Active Shooter on School Campus Training, Homeland Security courses in emergency management, planning and school safety topics, and teacher in-service training courses.

#11 and 12 – Both the Ukiah Police Department and the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office received homeland security grant funding to create a bomb detection dog program. Although the initial grant provided funding for the dogs, vehicles and initial training, both UPD and MCSO could not afford the on-going costs associated with the dog program in light of the current fiscal crisis. Early this year, both agencies began to work with the Office of Homeland Security to have the funds reprogrammed. These funds will now be expended to develop a 5 year plan to protect Mendocino County from bombs, and train the areas SWAT team members in basic swat tactics, and bomb detection tactics.

#14 – Since having the Grand Jury visit the Ukiah Police Department, the department has eliminated the parking resource officer positions due to fiscal restraints. Parking enforcement duties have been reassigned to Community Service Officers who can be hired at a reduced cost, creating a saving in salaries for the City of Ukiah.

#20 – As a result of the current budget crisis, the 4 open officer positions were eliminated for Fiscal Year 2009 / 2010.

Mendocino County Grand Jury Report

'EXCELLENCE PERSONIFIED – Ukiah Police Chief and His Finest Are To Be Commended”

Ukiah Police Department Response

Narrative Summary of Required Responses to Grand Jury Recommendations:

#1 – The department only assigns seasoned, veteran officers to this important duty assignment. In addition, SRO's are sent to a variety of specialized training to help them in their assignment. This training includes POST approved School Resource Officer courses, Active Shooter on School Campus Training, Homeland Security courses in emergency management, planning and school safety topics, and teacher in-service training courses.

#2 – Since completing construction, the School Resource Officer has a new highly visible parking space at Ukiah High School.

#3 – Because of funding limitations, the department did not pursue creating a dog program. Until additional funding can be found in grants or other resources, the department will be unable to use its limited fiscal resources for dog programs.

#4 – The department is continuing it's efforts to increase emphasis on bicycle enforcement as time allows. New department members have received additional training in this area, and patrol staff has the expectation to work both vehicles code and bicycle related violations.

#5 – The department's Explorer program has recently seen an increase in participation, and has doubled the number of involved youth from a year ago. In addition, the department now has both girls and boys participating, and many of the Explorers are bi-lingual speaking. The Explorers are currently getting ready to attend a 10 day Explorer Academy in the San Diego area this August.

#6 – Currently, the State of California has not yet decided on how forensic services will be provided. The Department is currently researching cost alternatives if the State decides to charge for these services, and policy changes to determine what evidence will be sent to forensic laboratories.