

**FILED**

**AUG - 6 2008**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF TRINITY  
BY: DONNA HANOVER, DEPUTY CLERK**

*DH*

**TRINITY COUNTY GRAND JURY  
2007-2008**

**JUDICIAL COMMITTEE  
FINAL REPORT**

**TRINITY COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY**

**This Report was Approved  
On June 10, 2008**

**2007-2008 TRINITY COUNTY GRAND JURY  
JUDICIAL COMMITTEE  
FINAL REPORT**

**TRINITY COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY**

**PURPOSE:**

California Penal Code Section 919 (b) mandates that the Grand Jury will annually inquire into the conditions and management of all public prisons within the county, which includes the Trinity County Detention Facility.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Corrections Standards Authority classifies the Trinity County Detention Facility as a Type II facility. It is used to detain persons who are awaiting or undergoing trial proceedings. This includes convicted persons sentenced to serve time of up to one year. The maximum capacity of the facility is 53. There are 40 to 50 inmates on a daily basis.

**METHOD OF INVESTIGATION:**

The Judicial Committee interviewed the Sheriff. The Judicial Committee and several Grand Jury members met with the Jail Commander at the Trinity County Detention Facility for an interview and a tour of the facility.

The inspection included the dispatch center, dorms, inmate telephones, inmate visiting area, library, kitchen and exercise area.

**FINDING #1:**

The repeater radio that is in the dispatch center needs to be updated for more efficient use.

**RECOMMENDATION #1:**

Start the required process for the writing of available grants.

**FINDING #2:**

At this time the jail is greatly understaffed. The County's general fund has resulted in a "soft" hiring freeze against back filling funded vacancies and is in a "hard" freeze of hiring any new employees. This creates problems complying with safety and procedures set forth by the California Code of Regulations.

**RECOMMENDATION #2:**

Increase staffing levels in compliance with the California Code of Regulations.

**FINDING #3:**

The exercise yard is a security risk. There are up to 14 inmates allowed in the exercise yard with no supervision. The stucco walls are being gouged by the inmates, giving the inmates thick pieces of stucco to throw over the wall.

**RECOMMENDATION #3:**

The top of the exercise yard needs to have fencing, in order to prevent any stucco pieces from being thrown over, potentially hitting cars and people.

**FINDING #4:**

The kitchen was clean and efficient. They are served two cold meals and one hot meal daily. The Trinity County Detention Center kitchen provides the meals for the Juvenile Detention Center.

**RECOMMENDATION #4:**

No recommendation on this finding.

**CONCLUSION:**

The County and the Sheriff's Department are mandated to provide law enforcement for the citizens of Trinity County. The lack of Deputies and Correctional Officers is of great concern.

**RESPONSES REQUIRED:**

<b><u>Entity</u></b>	<b><u>Finding</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>	<b><u>Respond in</u></b>
Trinity County Sheriff	1,2,3	1,2,3	60 Days
Board of Supervisors	1,2,3	1,2,3	90 Days
CAO	1,2,3	1,2,3	60 Days



**TRINITY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

P.O. BOX 1228, WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093 Phone: (530) 623-2611

**RECEIVED**

LORRAC CRAIG, Sheriff/Coroner

SEP 24 2008

TRINITY COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT

Date: September 23, 2008

To: James P. Woodward  
Presiding Judge of Trinity Superior Court

From: Lorrac Craig  
Trinity County Sheriff

Re: Response to Grand Jury Report  
"Trinity County Detention Facility"

Finding #1:

The repeater radio that is in the dispatch center needs to be updated for more efficient use.

Response #1:

The repeater mentioned above is somewhat misleading. The dispatching computer needs to have a software upgrade to make it more efficient *if* we add additional repeaters to the system. At this time, the additional repeater that was being discussed has not been installed and the software upgrade is not immediately necessary. As funds develop, the software will be purchased in preparation for future repeaters.

Finding #2:

Jail staffing does not meet comply with California Code of Regulations.

Response #2:

The County's allocation of funds for the fiscal year 2008/2009, again does not allow for replacing anticipated losses in the jail. To meet the staffing mandates, Deputies will need to be removed from patrol and placed in the jail.

Finding #3:

The jail exercise yard should be covered to prevent items from being thrown out of the yard.

Response #3:

There has been discussion about placing a chain link “ceiling” over the yard. The type of snow in the Weaverville area tends to stick to chain link fencing. The ceiling would have to be engineered, as well as the walls, to handle the weight of the snow. Title 15 requires that inmates be exposed to sunlight so many hours a week which would rule out a traditional roof. Again, County funds are insufficient to pay for the research of any options at this time.

Finding #4:

No response required

Conclusion:

Funding continues to be a primary shortcoming of this Agency. The priority for funding law enforcement in the county remains on par with all the other general fund departments. This has resulted in a continuing decline in the services that law enforcement can provide. Unfortunately, the County and the Sheriff’s Office are *not* mandated to provide law enforcement to its citizens. They are required to incarcerate those who commit crimes and are sentenced to some form of confinement and the Sheriff’s Office is required to investigate crimes when they are committed. The public would like to have, and deserves to have, an active patrol force that moves throughout the county.



**TRINITY COUNTY**  
Office of the County Administrator  
DERO B. FORSLUND  
County Administrative Officer  
P.O. BOX 1613, WEAVERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96093-1613  
PHONE (530) 623-1382 FAX (530) 623-8365


**RECEIVED**

**OCT 10 2008**

**TRINITY COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT**

Date: October 3, 2008

To: Anthony Edwards  
Presiding Judge of the Trinity County Superior Court

From Dero Forslund   
Trinity County Administrative Officer

Re: Response Trinity County Grand Jury, Judicial Committee Final Report  
Trinity County Detention Facility

Finding #1: The repeater radio that is in the dispatch center needs to be updated for more efficient use.

Response: The repeater radio meets the current needs. Any grants requesting additional repeaters will include a request for funds for the necessary upgrades to the dispatch software.

Finding #2: At this time the jail is greatly understaffed...

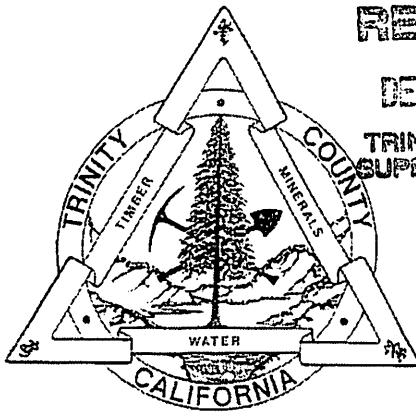
Response: The staffing level requirements at the jail are met with correction officers and sworn deputies. The result is adequate staffing at the jail and a reduction in patrol deputies.

Finding #3: The jail exercise yard should be covered to prevent items from being thrown out of the yard.

Response: While the exercise yard cannot be covered as suggested other solutions to the problems identified by the report will be investigated.

Finding #4: The kitchen was clean and efficient...

Response: The County concurs with the finding.



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DEC 29 2008

TRINITY COUNTY  
SUPERIOR COURT

# TRINITY COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

P.O. BOX 1613, WEAVERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96093  
PHONE (530) 623-1217 FAX (530) 623-8365

TO: The Honorable James P. Woodward,  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

FROM: Trinity County Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: Response to Recommendations of 2007-2008  
Grand Jury Judicial Committee Final Report  
Trinity County Detention Facility

DATE: November 4, 2008

The Grand Jury Judicial Committee has requested response to their final report on the Trinity County Detention Facility. The response of the Board is as follows:

**FINDING # 1:** The repeater radio that is in the dispatch center needs to be updated for more efficient use.

**RESPONSE # 1:** Agree and disagree in part. The current repeater meets current needs. But agree now is the time to pursue grants to acquire new radio and console software upgrades to make the system ready and more efficient as new repeaters are added.

**FINDING # 2:** At this time the jail is greatly understaffed. The County's general fund has resulted in a "soft" hiring freeze against back filling funded vacancies and is in a "hard" freeze of hiring any new employees. This creates problems complying with safety and procedures set forth by the California Code of Regulations.

**RESPONSE # 2:** Disagree in part. The jail is not adequately filled by corrections officers but is being supplemented by sworn deputies who are also qualified to fill the positions. Therefore the jail is manned, but there is a shortage in the number of desired field deputies.

**FINDING # 3:** The exercise yard is a security risk. There are up to 14 inmates allowed in the exercise yard with no supervision. The stucco walls are being gouged by the inmates, giving the inmates thick pieces of stucco to throw over the wall.

**RESPONSE # 3:** Options for the exercise yard are under review but with the extreme budget shortages the type and timing of the enclosure adjustments are not known at this time.

JUDY PFLUEGER  
DISTRICT 1

JEFF MORRIS  
DISTRICT 2


ROGER JAEGEL  
DISTRICT 3

HOWARD FREEMAN  
DISTRICT 4

WENDY REISS  
DISTRICT 5

**FINDING # 4:** The kitchen was clean and efficient. They are served two cold meals and one hot meal daily. The Trinity County Detention Center kitchen provides the meals for the Juvenile Detention Center.

**RESPONSE # 4:** The County agrees.



ANTON R. JAEGEL, Chairman