



**2011-2012
Madera County Grand Jury
Final Report
Madera County Injury & Illness Prevention Program**

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Introduction:

Madera County utilizes a safety program for employees known as the Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP). The Grand Jury reviewed the IIPP to determine its adequacy and effectiveness. The Grand Jury believed it appropriate to inquire into this program based on information obtained during interviews and site visits of multiple County departments. The County's Risk Manager has overall responsibility and authority for the implementation and maintenance of the IIPP within all County departments.

Findings:

1. The Grand Jury found that Risk Management is in the process of revitalizing the IIPP, which complies with Cal/OSHA standards and requirements.
2. The Grand Jury found that the County has documented 100 to 115 worker's compensation claims per year.
3. The Grand Jury found that, as stated in the OSHA guidelines, there is a direct correlation between an effective IIPP and the reduction of worker's compensation claims and County liability exposure.
4. The Grand Jury found that the County does not have a full-time designated safety coordinator.
5. The Grand Jury found that Department heads are responsible for the implementation of the IIPP within their department, including the development/management of the program tailored to their individual department.
6. The Grand Jury found that there is disparity among departments with regard to the IIPP implementation, and some departments are not in full compliance.
7. The Grand Jury found that the IIPP is currently available in hard copy only.
8. The Grand Jury found that safety and health inspections, with follow-up procedures to ensure necessary corrective actions, are not consistently being accomplished.
9. The Grand Jury found that safety training is not consistently conducted and not properly documented.
10. The Grand Jury found that the County does not provide basic First Aid/CPR training to employees.

11. The Grand Jury found that the County does not have Automatic Emergency Defibrillators (AEDs) available in appropriate locations.
12. The Grand Jury found that the application of AEDs is associated with the doubling of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival rates per studies reported in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Conclusions:

1. The Grand Jury concluded that although some departments have individually tailored programs, they do not fully comply with the IIPP.
2. The Grand Jury concluded that accessibility to the IIPP document and forms is limited by having only hard copy.
3. The Grand Jury concluded that the results of AED usage studies reinforce the importance of expanding the availability of AEDs.
4. The Grand Jury concluded that more safety-related training for employees is needed.
5. The Grand Jury concluded that an effective IIPP could reduce worker's compensation claims and County exposure to liabilities.

Recommendations:

1. The Grand Jury recommends that the Board of Supervisors acquire AEDs to be placed in appropriate locations.
2. The Grand Jury recommends that all County departments fully implement and comply with the IIPP.
3. The Grand Jury recommends that the current IIPP be maintained on the County website with the ability for each department to manage its unique safety requirements.
4. The Grand Jury recommends that basic First Aid/CPR training be made available to all employees.
5. The Grand Jury recommends that a designated County Safety Coordinator position be implemented.

Respondent: written response required pursuant to PC 933(c)

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Informational: response optional

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