

**DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS  
VALLEY STATE PRISON**

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(559) 665-6100

**NOV 13 2013**

Presiding Judge  
Madera County Superior Court  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

Presiding Judge,

I am writing in regards to a requested response submitted by the Madera County Grand Jury on November 6, 2013. In accordance with California Penal Code 933.05(a) and (b), Valley State Prison (VSP) must respond to any Findings and Recommendation noting in the 2013-2014 Madera County Grand Jury Report.

**Findings:**

“VSP does not have a fire truck located on the VSP grounds, nor are their male inmates trained as firefighters. This situation presents potential inmate safety/security issues for the female CCWF inmates when they enter VSP for emergencies”.

**Recommendations:**

“A Firefighter Training Program for the VSP inmates should be implemented. These firefighters will support and supplement Madera Fire Station 5”.

**Valley State Prison Response:**

VSP is in agreement with the Grand Jury’s recommendations. Currently, VSP provides custodial coverage of any emergency involving the Central California Women’s Facility (CCWF) female firefighters. Male inmates are escorted away from the emergency area and direct and constant supervision is provided by uniformed staff. Male inmates are moved far enough away from the emergency scene to provide a safe and secure area for the female firefighters to work in.

VSP is working with the CCWF Fire Chief to develop a trained male firefighter crew at VSP. Although the male inmates will be trained as first responders to institutional emergencies, they will not be fully trained firefighters due to the lack of access to the CCWF Fire Station. Although a training component is being developed, funding for inmate firefighting equipment is being sought.

I would like to emphasize the valuable service that the CCWF fire department provides to VSP. We will continue to go to great lengths to assure a safe and secure environment for the female firefighters when they respond to VSP emergencies while we develop our inmate emergency response crew.

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If you have any questions, or require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me at (559) 665-6100 extension 6169.



RON DAVIS  
Warden  
Valley State Prison

cc:  
Madera County Grand Jury  
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