

DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS
 Central California Women's Facility
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April 12, 2016

Presiding Judge
 Madera County Superior Court
 200 S. G. Street
 Madera, CA 93637

Madera County Grand Jury
 P.O. Box 534
 Madera, CA 93639

This is in response to your Findings and Recommendations contained in 2015-2016 Madera County Grand Jury report, dated March 2, 2016, regarding the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF). Also included, is pertinent information regarding the Facts provided in the beginning of the report.

Facts:

2. In 2014, the inmate population was 3614. Implementation of Proposition 47 reduced the number to 2644.

CCWF's inmate population did decrease during this period by approximately 950 inmates; however, this was based on Proposition 47, AB 109, Folsom Women's Facility increase in inmate population from 350-500 inmates and the activation of two additional Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Programs (CCTRP) in Santé Fe and San Diego, CA.

4. *There have been no suicide attempts within the last two years.*

In the year 2014, CCWF had five suicide attempts and during the year 2015, CCWF had eleven suicide attempts.

Findings:

1. The condition of the building's interior and exterior grounds was clean and well maintained.

I agree with this finding

2. Individual inmate's cells were clean and required to be kept clean at all times.

I agree with this finding

3. Shower doors were modified by inmates for additional privacy.

I disagree with this finding. Inmates are not allowed to modify shower doors or alter the shower doors in any means and inmates are subject to disciplinary action if such modification is discovered.

4. Recreational equipment was sparse outdoors, but inside the facilities provided televisions, reading materials and games.

I disagree partially with this finding. CCWF has a large selection of recreational equipment available for inmate use.

5. For qualified inmates, family visits are allowed in special units Thursday through Sunday on a rotating basis.

I agree with this finding.

6. All of the inmates who interacted with the grand jury were cordial and polite.

I agree with this finding.

7. The custody staff was professional, approachable and informative providing documentation as requested.

I agree with this finding.

8. Qualified inmates may work in one of the prison's industrial facilities. These positions are highly sought and have waiting lists.

I agree with this finding.

9. CCWF has various opportunities for qualified inmates. These include assembling wiring harnesses (for All-Wire Inc., Chowchilla, CA), agricultural training, manufacturing flags, working on the fire crews and attending cosmetology school.

I agree with this finding.

10. Inmates participating in industrial programs are paid wages.

I agree with this finding.

11. Inmates are offered vocational training that will enable a head start toward employment when released. Employers often seek out and hire selected inmates immediately upon their release.

I agree with this finding.

12. As part of the agricultural training, inmates work in adjacent almond orchards and alfalfa fields.

I agree with this finding.

13. CCWF Fire Crew inmates staff Fire Station No. 5. They respond to fires and emergency calls within 250 mile radius of the prison. They also work with Cal Fire as mutual aid. They conduct 10 fire drills per year and an annual evacuation drill.

I agree with this finding.

14. Since 2013, there have been 48 high school diplomas, 210 GED's and 70 AA degrees earned by inmates.

I agree with this finding.

Recommendations:

1. Inmates should not be allowed to alter shower doors.

This recommendation has been implemented with the activation of the institution in October of 1990. Based on the information provided in this report, custody staff shall inspect the shower doors to ensure no altering or modification has taken place.

2. Prison Warden and staff should be commended for emphasizing rehabilitation.

Thank you.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Brian Davi, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer, at (559) 665-5531, extension 5012 or via the mail.


D. K. JOHNSON
Warden