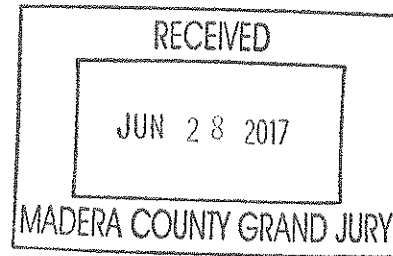


OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

P.O. Box 942883
Sacramento, CA 94283-0001



June 21, 2017



2016-17-03

Madera County Grand Jury
Ms. Jan Peirsol, Foreperson
Madera County Superior Court
P.O. Box 534
Madera, CA 93639

Dear Ms. Peirsol:

This is in response to your findings and recommendations contained in the 2016-2017 Madera County Grand Jury Final Report (1617-03), dated May 8, 2017, regarding the Central California Women's Facility (CCWF).

FINDINGS

- 1. The color of inmate clothing indicates program status: orange for reception/orientation, blue for general population, green for outside work detail, and pink for program failure (e.g., refusal to work).**

I agree this finding is consistent with the current operational procedure at CCWF. Using different color clothing helps staff to readily identify the program status and privileges of an inmate and ensures inmate access to certain areas and/or programs is limited only to those with prior approval.

- 2. Procedural inconsistencies can result when a guard is reassigned to a different location.**

I agree with this finding; however, correctional officers are provided a daily activity schedule to assist in maintaining consistency throughout the institution, as well as post orders in every assignment for reference if unclear about job duties. Correctional officers may also address questions to their facility supervisor. Furthermore, all correctional officers attend mandatory annual training to strengthen consistency among the facilities.

- 3. Guard staff shortages and the resulting high overtime negatively impacted both staff and inmates. The increased staffing as of February 8, 2017 has reduced overtime.**

I agree with this finding: an increase of correctional officers has reduced the need for overtime and lowered the occurrence of inmate program modification.

- 4. Building maintenance and repairs are needed. Prison staff stated lack of funding was responsible for the current state of roof disrepair.**

I agree with this finding: the roof project is anticipated to be completed by late June 2017.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Guard staffing levels be maintained at the authorized strength.**

This recommendation has been implemented. CCWF will continue to strive to fill authorized positions with new hires and employee transfers.

- 2. Management and supervision ensure that policies and procedures are consistently enforced by guard staff.**

This recommendation has been implemented. The Warden at CCWF has set clear expectations for his management team and supervisory staff, which includes ongoing monitoring of operations throughout the institution to ensure policies and procedures are being followed and enforced by all staff.

- 3. CCWF pursue additional funding for facility repair.**

This recommendation has been implemented. CCWF has submitted several Special Repair Project requests that are pending review and approval. Additionally, CCWF has submitted the 2017-2018 Annual Work Plan, which includes the estimated funding necessary to address needed repairs.

- 4. The Warden and staff should be commended for their efforts to effect positive changes in the prison operations.**

Thank you!

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Michael Dunn, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer (AA/PIO), CCWF, at (559) 665-5531, extension 5012.

Sincerely,



SCOTT KERNAN
Secretary

cc: Ralph M. Diaz, Undersecretary, Operations
Kathleen Allison, Director, Division of Adult Institutions (DAI)
Connie Gipson, Deputy Director, Facility Operations, DAI
Amy Miller, Associate Director, Female Offender Programs and Services, DAI
Derral Adams, Warden, CCWF
Michael Dunn, AA/PIO, CCWF