

December 23, 2020  
Judge Michael Jurkovich  
Madera County Supervising Judge  
300 South G street  
Madera Ca 93637

Dear Judge Michael Jurkovich:

This is the written response per Penal Code 933.05, Requires that I, Manuel L. Perez Director of Corrections respond separately to specified Findings and Recommendations contained in the Madera County's Department of Corrections' Facility / Grand Jury Final Report 1920-1 December 21, 2020.

**Findings:** Madera County jail

- F1.MCGJ finds there are unfilled and unfunded Correctional Officer positions. (I concur)
- F2.MCGJ finds that the booking area and intake area is small. (I concur)
- F3.MCGJ finds a lack of Mental Health treatment options available in Madera County. (I concur)
- F4.MCGJ finds there is limited conduit for release inmates to find employment. (I concur)
- F5.MCGJ finds MCDC works well with individual inmates with limited financial support. (I concur)
- F6.MCGJ finds MCDC was very accommodating and open to taking questions. (I concur)

**Recommendations:** Madera County Jail

R1. MCGJ recommends that, by the beginning of the fiscal year 21-22, the Department of Corrections secure funding to fill vacant positions.

**Response:** BOS and HR Department in Madera County have been excellent to work with. The jail currently has Ten Vacancies and fiscal year 2020-21 provided funding to hire all ten with qualified candidates. Madera County has a continuous testing on meeting the need and commitment of the department. The department does have unfunded positions and in my ten years of being the director, I've never had the opportunity to ask for the opportunity to fill because of no vacancies. I hope with the start of the new SB1022 Construction Project, We will have an opportunity to address unfunded frozen positions.

R2. The MCGJ recommends that, by the beginning of the fiscal year 21-22, MCDC redesign the workflow of the booking/Intake area.

**Response:** In August of 2020, Madera County jail started SB1022 Pre-Design Review that includes the redesign of the Intake area in include widening the work area and adding two safety cells. Madera jail working with Dewberry: Architects/ Kitchell: Engineering + Architectural Services





**R3:** The MCGJ recommends that, by the beginning of the fiscal year 21-22, Madera County Probation and Department of Corrections investigate an outsourcing option for mental Health services.

**Response:** Madera County Department of Corrections received an award of 19 million for Behavioral Health Treatment Facility to address the Mentally ill in Madera County that are incarcerated. We are currently in the pre-design review, being nearly completed. January 08, 2021 with Probation and law enforcement partners. A meeting was initiated in regards to applying for SAMHSA Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) Grant.

**R4:** The MCGJ recommends that, by the beginning of fiscal year 21-22 MCDC and Madera County Probation Department work cooperatively to seek employment opportunities in the local area.


**Response:** Madera County Department of Corrections with cooperation with our food vendor Aramark, provide a Food preparation and food service certificate to address employment opportunities when out of custody. Madera County Department of Corrections also with cooperation with Grid Solar Company provide training for inmates in the field of solar to assist when they leave the jail. We also work closely with Workforce Development Agencies to help address recidivism. Probation has been a great partner with Community Corrections Partnership and I will continue to work closely on this issue to address future opportunities for the jail population.

**R5:** The MCGJ recommends that the MCDC continue to work cooperatively with inmates to provide work opportunities to increase a financial support system for released inmates.

**Response:** Madera County Department of Corrections also provides educational tablets that have a large sort of subjects and learning topics that can assist the inmate population if they chose to. For example: section in the automotive repair, teaches the students how to service and repair carburetors. MCDC will continue to be innovative and seek out more resources to assist the jail population.

**R6:** The MCGJ recommends that the MCDC continue their working in providing open communication to the MCGJ.

**Response:** I will always do my best to be available for any questions or tours, and to be transparent on my direction to staff on how the facility stays affected in providing the highest level of service and keeping Public Safety a priority.

Director of Corrections  
Madera County  
  
Manuel L. Perez