



February 2, 2021

Judge Michael Jurkovich
Madera County Supervising Judge
300 South G Street
Madera, CA 93637

Foreperson
Madera County Grand Jury
PO Box 534
Madera, CA 93639

Subject: Response to the Findings of the City of Madera Police Department Unveiling Truths of Local Law Enforcement Madera County Grand Jury Final Report 1920-05 Published December 21, 2020.

Honorable Judge Jurkovich:

Pursuant to California Penal Code 933.05 the Department of Behavioral Health Services (BHS) has complied its responses to the findings and recommendations in the Grand Jury Final Report 1920-05 "City of Madera Police Department Unveiling Truths of Local Law Enforcement" published on December 21, 2020.

BHS appreciates all the efforts that the Grand Jury Team has put into this report and that we were invited to submit a response. Please contact me if you have any additional questions about our responses.

Respectfully,

Julie Morgan
Acting Director
Madera County Behavioral Health





RESPONSES TO FINDINGS IN REPORT:

Finding 3:

The Madera County Grand Jury (MCGJ) finds that Madera County is not effectively handling the individuals Madera Police Department identifies as having a mental health crisis (5150).

Response:

Disagree with the finding per California Penal Code 933.05. BHS has a long history of working as a collaborative community partner with Madera Police Department and other local Law Enforcement. Madera County has a Community Wide Collaborative that includes BHS, all local law enforcement, both local hospitals, Madera County Department of Corrections, and other community stakeholders. This collaborative has developed the Madera County 5150 Response Protocol. The 5150-response protocol was updated in 2019 and outlines all stakeholders agreed upon roles in addressing our community members in crisis.

Response to Recommendations in Report:

Recommendation 3:

MCGJ recommends that the Madera Police Department immediately work with the Madera County Board of Supervisors to provide adequate mental health services.

Response:

This recommendation is already in effect. Madera County has a Community Wide Collaborative that includes BHS, all local law enforcement, both local hospitals, Madera County Department of Corrections, and other community stakeholders. This collaborative has developed the Madera County 5150 Response Protocol. The 5150-response protocol was updated in 2019 and outlines all stakeholders agreed upon roles in addressing our community members in crisis. The collaborative meets quarterly to address any issues or breakdowns within the system of crisis care. BHS is currently in collaboration with Madera County Administration, Madera Police Department, Madera Sheriff's Department and the Department of Corrections are working to apply for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) grant that would provide law enforcement partners with additional training on mental health issues that qualify as POST training, will enhance knowledge and reduce training costs. BHS in collaboration with Madera Police Department and Madera Sheriff's Department were able to establish a mobile crisis response team in 2017 that is still in effect.