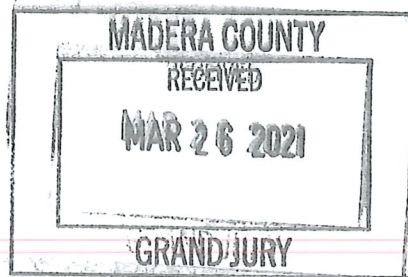


DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS
Central California Women's Facility
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March 22, 2021

Presiding Judge Michael Jurkovich
Madera County Superior Court
300 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 the 2019-2020 Madera County Grand Jury report, dated December 21, 2020, regarding Central California Women's Facility (CCWF).

Findings:

1. The MCGJ finds that access was severely limited during the tour
I agree with this finding.
2. The MCGJ finds the inmate population exceeds state mandates
I disagree with this finding.
3. The MCGJ finds Firehouse 5 to be a valuable opportunity for inmates to learn marketable post incarceration skills and to serve the public while incarcerated.
I agree with this finding.
4. The MCGJ finds administrators attending job fairs on behalf of inmates is a questionable practice.
I disagree with this finding.

Recommendations:

1. The MCGJ recommends that during the fiscal year 21-22, the CCWF provide the Grand Jury with access to all areas on the checklist and those frequented by inmates.
CCWF agrees with this recommendation.
2. The MCGJ recommends that the CDCR continue to work at the state level, specifically California State Legislative Analyst Office (LAO), to assist in resolving overcrowding issues.

This recommendation has been implemented in 2019. With the implementation of Propositions 47, 57 and AB 109 the population has continued to reduce the number at CCWF to 2147 inmates.

3. The MCGJ recommends that immediately, CCWF provide equitable compensation for on-call services provided by firefighter inmates working from Firehouse 5.

CCWF follows California Code of Regulations Title 15 Section 3041.2; Inmate Pay Rates, Schedule and Exceptions. Pay rates can only be revised by the Secretary pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

4. The MCGJ recommends that immediately, the CCWF provide onsite job fairs for inmates nearing parole, enabling the inmate to personally participate and interact with potential employers.

Job Fairs have been provided in the past for the inmate population which was organized with the Department of Rehabilitation Program (DRP). CCWF continues to offer job fairs for the inmate population and work with the Fresno Regional Workforce Connection to encourage a successful transition back into society.

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



M. PALLARES
Warden (A)
Central California Women's Facility