

Thank you for your diligence in the development of this report and all the time and effort you and your staff have put into it.

July 6, 2016

*[Handwritten signature]*

The Honorable Judge Joyce D. Hinrichs, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of Humboldt County  
825 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Invited Response to Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury Police Training Report (R4)

Dear Honorable Judge Hinrichs:

Law enforcement interaction and response to individuals with mental health issues has been at the forefront of public concern, both within California and nationwide. Police officers are increasingly called upon to serve persons impacted by mental illness, drug abuse issues, and/or homelessness.

The California Commission on POST has been involved in the development and certification of peace officer and dispatcher mental health training since 1994. There are over 50 mental health and CIT courses currently presented throughout California including a 29-hour CIT course certified to College of the Redwoods.

Of interest, POST has a website dedicated to mental health training and resources for agencies including contact information for networking with different disciplines within the communities to collaborate with team training. This is a public website available to law enforcement, advocates, and professional mental health or medical personnel. The website can be accessed at <https://www.post.ca.gov/mental-health-training-in-law-enforcement.aspx>.

The POST regional consultant will be happy to work with the Eureka Police Department to review their de-escalation training course and the requirements for course certification. We will ensure that the consultant contacts them within the next few weeks to ascertain if there is anything POST can do to help expedite the certification of this training for the Humboldt County.



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

KAMALA D. HARRIS  
ATTORNEY GENERAL