



FERNDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bret A. Smith, Chief of Police

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June 28, 2016

The Honorable Judge Joyce D. Hinrichs, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of the County of Humboldt
825 Fifth Street
Eureka, CA 95501-1153

Re: Grand Jury Report

On behalf of the City of Ferndale and the Ferndale Police Department, I take this opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations regarding **"Booking Report."**

The Ferndale Police Department respectfully disagrees with the Findings F1-F3. The administration of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, on several occasions, has communicated booking process procedures during interagency meetings such as Law Enforcement Chief's Association Humboldt (LECAH). This information was communicated to me as Chief of Police of the Ferndale Police Department. I subsequently provided this information to my patrol staff. My patrol staff was and is knowledgeable regarding their role in the booking process.

Recommendations R1-R3 require the Ferndale Police Department, as well as other local law enforcement agencies, respond to recommendations requiring the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department to pursue certain courses of action. The Ferndale Police Department asserts the Sheriff's Department administration is in the best position to determine their agency's policies and procedures. It would not be in our purview to dictate policy and procedure to another law enforcement agency. If the Sheriff's Department requests input from allied agencies, which is often the case among law enforcement executives and managers, the Ferndale Police Department would be willing to participate.

The City of Ferndale and the Ferndale Police Department appreciate the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's recommendations regarding the booking process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should need further information.

Sincerely,

Bret A. Smith
Chief of Police