

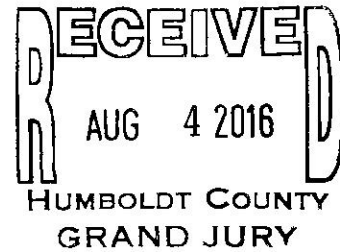


Arcata Police Department

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July 20, 2016

Honorable Joyce D. Hinrichs, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501



Foreperson
Humboldt County Grand Jury
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: 2015-2016 Grand Jury Report: To Hold or Not to Hold

On behalf of the Arcata Police Department, the City Council and the Police Chief provide the following responses to findings F1, F2, and F3 as well as recommendations R1, R2 and R3 of the 2015-2016 Civil Grand Jury report "To Hold or Not to Hold."

F1: Changes made to the booking process of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility have not been adequately communicated to the arresting officers from the many law enforcement agencies within Humboldt County.

Respondent disagrees with this finding. The Arcata Police Department (APD) has no direct knowledge of what communications have been made with other law enforcement agencies and therefore is not in a position to agree or disagree with this finding. However, statutorily we are obligated to agree or disagree, wholly or in part. Specific to the communication with the APD, the Humboldt County Correctional Facility adequately communicated with the APD the changes made in the booking process.

F2: Law enforcement officers in Humboldt County are not sufficiently knowledgeable about their role in determining the release or hold of potential arrested felons, based on the current use of ORAT, during the booking process of the HCCF.

Respondent disagrees with this finding. The Arcata Police Department has no direct knowledge of how knowledgeable other law enforcement officers are about their role in determining the release or hold of an arrestee; therefore, is not in a position to agree or disagree with this finding. However, statutorily we are obligated to agree or disagree, wholly or in part. Specific to Arcata police officers, all officers have been adequately instructed in their role in determining the release or non-release of an arrestee.

F3: The current "Misdemeanor Incarceration Form" re-title "Request for Non Release" form is, and was, an ineffective way to address the issues associated with the release of felons based on an ORAT score.

Respondent partially disagrees with this finding. Aside from the incorrect Penal Code section being cited, the Request for Non-Release is sufficient to have an arrestee held in-custody.

R1: The Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury recommends that the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department create and initiate a formal process of communication with law enforcement agencies in Humboldt County regarding any and all changes to the booking process of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. (F1)

Recommendation will not be implemented: The Arcata Police Department has no authority to implement this recommendation. However, this process already exists.

R2: The Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury recommends that the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, in collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, develop a new holding form that arresting officers can use to ensure that felons who should not be released will not be released. (F3)

Recommendation will not be implemented: The Arcata Police Department has no authority to implement this recommendation. However, this matter will be discussed amongst the Sheriff and Chiefs of Police.

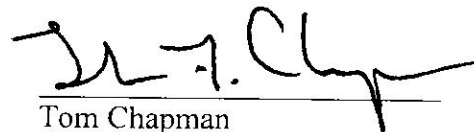
R3: The Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury recommends that the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department and all local law enforcement agencies instruct their officers on the existence and proper use of the new Humboldt County Correctional Facilities holding form. (F2)

Recommendation will not be implemented: The Arcata Police Department has no authority to implement this recommendation. However, all Arcata police officers have been instructed on the use of the current "request for non-release" form.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Pitino
Mayor
City of Arcata



Tom Chapman
Chief of Police
Arcata Police Department