

RESPONSE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

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RESPONSE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

Introduction

The Grand Jury formed the Response Accountability Committee to review responses to previous Grand Jury recommendations and determine whether compliance was achieved. The committee focused only on responses that the entities agreed to implement.

The results of these inquiries are contained in the attached report.

RESPONSE ACCOUNTABILITY

BACKGROUND

Each year Grand Juries are required by law to submit a Final Report to the presiding judge of the Superior Court. These reports, with appropriate recommendations, result from the investigations conducted by the Grand Jury. Each investigated entity must respond to the recommendations within the time period enumerated in California Penal Code, Section 933(c). Moreover, there is no statutory requirement that an entity actually implement a Grand Jury recommendation.

The 2010-2011 Grand Jury researched the last five years of responses and either met with the appropriate entity, or sent letters, asking if compliance was achieved. About 70% responded to the letters. In one incident, a department head disagreed with the response submitted on behalf of that department. It was determined that the response submitted for this department was actually finalized and submitted by the Public Information Officer for the County.

FINDINGS

1. Not all entities responded to the Grand Jury letters.
2. There is no statutory requirement or any policy or procedure that mandates that Grand Jury recommendations be implemented.
3. A response from a department was submitted by someone not from that department.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11-36 Establish a policy requiring implementation of any recommendation that was agreed to by a department. (Finding 2)

11-37 All responses be approved by the appropriate department head. (Finding 3)

<u>Responding Agency</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
Board of Supervisors	11-36, 11-37	August 30, 2011