

TUOLUMNE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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AUG 0 8 2017

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August 4, 2017

Superior Court of California County of Tuolumne

RE: Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility (MLRJDF) Response to 2016-2017 Grand Jury Findings & Recommendations

Dear Judge Powell Segerstrom:

The following is the response related to the Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility's (MLRJDF) section of the 2016-2017 Grand Jury Report, as requested and required pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05. There were no findings for the Facility to respond to. Below you will find the Grand Jury recommendation followed by my response.

Recommendation:

R22. Create, maintain and observe a policy and procedure for HIPAA compliance. Each affected Department should be aware of their obligations and actively participate and pursue full compliance.

Response: The recommendation is already in place for the Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility (MLRJDF), as we are under the umbrella of the Probation Department, in addition to having a policy manual specific to the Facility which addresses HIPAA compliance requirements. Whereas the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) requires data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information, the MLRJDF has a number of current policies that direct staff regarding the unauthorized and inappropriate intentional release of confidential or protected information, materials, data, forms or reports obtained as a result of the employee's position with the Department. In addition, employees of the MLRJDF attend regular confidentiality training provided by County Counsel. Still further, the MLRJDF contracts with California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG) to provide medical services, and CFMG maintains an independent policy and procedural manual with specific policies safeguarding confidential and protected health information with explicit policies regarding confidentiality of medical records, access to medical records, and release of protected health information.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Arndt, Superintendent Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility