

Tuolumne County
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Heather Ryan
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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE**

Michael Holland, *First District*
Stephen A. Grier, *Fourth District*

Ryan Campbell, *Second District*

Daniel Anaiah Kirk, *Third District*
Jaron E. Brandon, *Fifth District*

July 11, 2025

Presiding Judge of Superior Court
Honorable Kevin M. Seibert
c/o Court Executive Office
Tuolumne County Superior Court
12855 Justice Center Drive
Sonora, CA 95370

Re: Response to Grand Jury Report – **2023 – 2024 Compliance Report dated April 21, 2025**

The following is submitted in response to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Report as it pertains to the 2023 – 2024 Compliance Report. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors wish to extend their gratitude to the Grand Jury members for their time in preparing the final Grand Jury reports. Please accept this as our response to your carefully prepared report.

Findings

Finding 1. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors and the Tuolumne County Sheriff issued a joint response to the report entitled “Dambacher Detention Center and Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility” within the 60-day timeframe mandated for elected officials (Sheriff), however the response was improperly addressed and not delivered to the court in accordance with the instructions given to each of the entities when they were given the Grand Jury report naming them as required respondents. Although the responses have since been delivered to the court, they were not received within 60 days (Sheriff), nor within 90 days (Board of Supervisors), of receiving the Grand Jury report, thus violating Penal Code section 933.

F1. Response: Partially disagree. Clerk of the Board of Supervisors staff (Clerk staff) were following the instructions as they were understood at that time and hand-delivered the joint responses on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff, and Probation Offices in advance of the 60-day response deadline. The signed Grand Jury Responses for Tuolumne County Dambacher Detention Center and Mother Lode Regional Juvenile Detention Facility were hand-delivered to the Superior Court at Clerk Window #1 on August 22, 2024, by Clerk staff who believed that the Honorable Laura L. Krieg was the Presiding Judge and the correct recipient. Upon email notification from the Tuolumne County Superior Court, letters with amended addressees to correct the error were immediately hand-delivered on October 17, 2024, by Clerk staff to the attention of the Honorable Kevin M. Seibert and Honorable Hallie Gorman Campbell. Clerk staff do not dispute that the instructions as provided in Penal Code section 933 (c) are clear and should be followed without error.

Finding 2. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors and the Tuolumne County Sheriff issued a joint response to the report entitled “Tuolumne County 911: Sheriff’s Dispatch Center” within the 60-day timeframe mandated for elected officials (Sheriff), however the response was improperly addressed and not delivered to the court in accordance with the instructions given to each of the entities when they were given the Grand Jury report naming them as required respondents. Although the responses have since been delivered to the court, they were not received within 60 days (Sheriff), nor within 90 days (Board of Supervisors), of receiving the Grand Jury report, thus violating Penal Code section 933.

F2. Response: *Partially disagree.* Clerk of the Board of Supervisors staff (Clerk staff) were following the instructions as they were understood at that time, hand-delivering the joint responses on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff’s Offices in advance of the 60-day response deadline. The signed Grand Jury Responses for Tuolumne County Sheriff’s Dispatch Center were hand-delivered to the Superior Court at Clerk Window #1 on August 22, 2024, by Clerk staff who believed that the Honorable Laura L. Krieg was the Presiding Judge and the correct recipient. Upon email notification from the Tuolumne County Superior Court, letters with amended addressees to correct the error were immediately hand-delivered on October 17, 2024, by Clerk staff to the attention of the Honorable Kevin M. Seibert and Honorable Hallie Gorman Campbell. Clerk staff do not dispute that the instructions as provided in Penal Code section 933 (c) are clear and should be followed without error.

Finding 3. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors issued a response to the report entitled “Tuolumne County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)” within the 90-day timeframe mandated for a governing body, however the response was not delivered to the court in accordance with the instructions given when the Board of Supervisors was given the Grand Jury report naming them as a required respondent. Although the response has since been delivered to the court, it was not received within 90 days of receiving the Grand Jury report, thus violating Penal Code section 933.

F3. Response: *Partially disagree.* Clerk of the Board of Supervisors staff (Clerk staff) were following the new instructions they had received regarding the Honorable Hallie Gorman Campbell as the assigned Supervising Judge for the 2023-2024 Grand Jury and hand-delivered the response addressed to her Honor on behalf of the Board of Supervisors Offices in advance of the 90-day response deadline. The signed Grand Jury Responses for Tuolumne County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) were hand-delivered to the Superior Court on September 20, 2024, by Clerk staff. No email notification from the Tuolumne County Superior Courts for corrected letters with amended addresses was received, so we believed this delivery was successful despite our inadvertent omission of including the Honorable Kevin M. Seibert in the addressees. Clerk staff do not dispute that the instructions as provided in Penal Code section 933 (c) are clear and should be followed without error.

Finding 4. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors issued a response to the report entitled “County Services Areas (CSAs)” within the 90-day timeframe mandated for a governing body, however the response was not delivered to the court in accordance with the instructions given when the Board of Supervisors was given the Grand Jury report naming them as a required respondent. Although the response has since been delivered to the court, it was not received within 90 days of receiving the Grand Jury report, thus violating Penal Code section 933.

F4. Response: *Partially disagree.* Clerk of the Board of Supervisors staff (Clerk staff) were following the new instructions they had received regarding the Honorable Hallie Gorman Campbell as the assigned Supervising Judge for the 2023-2024 Grand Jury and hand-delivered the response addressed to her Honor on behalf of the Board of Supervisors Offices in advance of the 90-day response deadline. The signed Grand Jury Responses for County Services Areas (CSAs) were hand-delivered to the Superior Court on September 20, 2024, by Clerk staff. No email notification from the

Tuolumne County Superior Courts for corrected letters with amended addresses was received, so we believed this delivery was successful despite our inadvertent omission of including the Honorable Kevin M. Seibert in the addressees. Clerk staff do not dispute that the instructions as provided in Penal Code section 933 (c) are clear and should be followed without error.

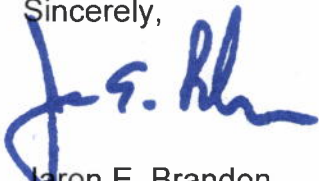
Recommendation

Recommendation 1. By September 30, 2025, the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors should establish a protocol confirming that their responses to Grand Jury reports are received by the presiding judge and accepted by the court as compliant with Penal Code section 933.

R1. Response: This Recommendation has been implemented. Clerk of the Board of Supervisors staff (Clerk staff), upon receiving the 2023-2024 Compliance Report, took time to review Penal Code section 933, with a focus on subsection (c). Clerk staff concluded that the best way to ensure a compliant delivery of the Board of Supervisors' responses to current and future Grand Jury Reports is to improve our communication and coordination with the Court Executive Office staff. Clerk staff contacted the Court Executive Office on May 02, 2025, to collaborate on a new delivery procedure to ensure compliance with PC 933 and the timely receipt of all Board of Supervisors Grand Jury Report responses. It was agreed that upon receipt of the Annual Grand Jury Reports, Clerk staff will contact the Court Executive Office to confirm the current year's Presiding Judge, and then complete the addressee portion of the response letter template(s) for the Board, with a 'care of' line for Court Executive Staff. Subsequently, upon Board approval of a written response, Clerk staff will contact the Court Executive Office and coordinate a delivery time with the Court Executive Officer and/or their Executive Assistant. The Court Executive Office will officially receive the document(s), assume responsibility for delivery to the Presiding Judge, and make any necessary copies for internal delivery per the Presiding Judge's direction. Clerk staff will obtain an original wet signature on a prepared delivery receipt at the time of delivery. This delivery receipt will be retained as an official record for no less than 2 years, to be filed in the corresponding Board meeting file in the Clerk of the Board's Office. Clerk staff appreciate the understanding and partnership extended by the Court Executive Office staff to support us in the successful delivery of these documents going forward.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the above findings and recommendations.

Sincerely,



Jaron E. Brandon,
Chair, County of Tuolumne Board of Supervisors

I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

HEATHER D. RYAN
Board Clerk

By: _____

