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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO: ALPINE COUNTY ~~GRAND JURY~~  
FROM: SHERIFF JOHN M. CRAWFORD *[Signature]*  
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO VARIOUS ITEMS 2006 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT  
DATE: 9/26/2006  
CC: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND PUBLIC AT LARGE

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FILED  
BARBARA K. JONES  
ALPINE COUNTY CLERK

SEP 26 2006

BY *Barbara K Jones*

FORMAL RESPONSE TO THE ALPINE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
2006 GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Grand Jury:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your time and hard work in reviewing the operations of our Sheriff's Office. As an elected official I have always insisted on a transparent and open Sheriff's Office in regards to our daily operations, policies and commitment to the citizens of Alpine County.

I have reviewed your report in great detail and have given careful thought as to your recommendations in improving our operations. I will detail below each concern and the corrective actions we are currently undertaking or are proposing.

Snowmobile Enforcement:

I have noted that there were no specific incidents to investigate and that the Bear Valley staff participated in discussions locally and that the participation was "exemplary". I am concerned about the continued controversy regarding snowmobile operations in Bear Valley and have implemented the following:

Response to Recommendation 1: I have personally met with the staff in Bear Valley and have been assured that during the winter, snowmobile enforcement and safety is a top priority. Further, I will have directed our OHV deputy to make sure that all Sheriff's Office staff are in possession of the OHV enforcement pamphlet.

Response to Recommendation 2: I have personally inspected the Bear Valley equipment and I am assured by the supervisor that the officers have sufficient equipment to enforce winter OHV regulations. Unfortunately, the OHV commission has not funded the replacement of snowmobiles for several years in a row. Our Bear Valley snowmobiles will need replacing shortly and possibly at county expense.

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SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ALPINE COUNTY

Response to Recommendation 3: As your Sheriff, I am always concerned about deputies having a receptive and positive attitude towards the public. I have impressed upon all of our staff my expectations regarding professionalism. I am currently implementing a new policy and procedures manual which will be available to all staff both on paper and electronically. Further, staff will be tested on the new policy manual. I believe that this will continue to raise our professionalism standards significantly over the coming year.

#### Sheriff's Office Time Cards

I have noted that the time cards examined by the Grand Jury reflected the time that the Deputy actually worked.

Response to Recommendation 1: The agency is currently working on a county wide communication system which will eventually put mobile data terminals (MTD's) in all patrol vehicles. These MDT's will not only track what an officer is doing but will allow him/her to check suspect against a computer data base, increasing their safety. This project will be very costly and is currently being planned and implemented with the assistance of the Board of Supervisors.

Additionally, the agency is currently recruiting a sergeant for patrol supervision on the East side of Alpine County. This position will provide for greater accountability and assure that Deputies are working in an appropriate manner.