

PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

RESPONSES TO THE 2024-2025 FINAL REPORT



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 2025

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PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY

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December 15, 2025

The Honorable Jeffrey Penney
Presiding Judge, Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

The Honorable Trisha Hirashima
Advising Grand Jury Judge, Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

and Citizens of Placer County

Subject: Responses to 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Penney, Judge Hirashima, and Citizens of Placer County:

The 2025-2026 Placer County Grand Jury has received and reviewed all the responses to the 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report.

All of the responses received by the grand jury, between the final report's release date of June 2025 and October 2025 have been assembled and published in this response report. The final report contained 11 individual reports. This report contains responses received by the statutory deadline as applicable. While some responses may not adhere to the legal requirements of California Penal Code § 933.05, they are published as received by the current Placer County Grand Jury. The grand jury does not comment on the responses received.

The report is being published primarily in electronic format and is available on the Superior Court's website at www.PlacerGrandJury.org. Hard copies are being distributed only if requested. If you desire a hard copy, please email your request to the Placer County Grand Jury at info@placergrandjury.org. Include your contact name and complete mailing address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Allen".

Karen Allen, Foreperson
2025-2026 Placer County Grand Jury

INTRODUCTION

On July 9, 2025, the Placer County Grand Jury released its amended Final Report for the 2024- 2025 term. A copy of the report can be found on the Superior Court’s website at: <https://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/general-information/grand-jury/grand-jury-reports-resolutions/grand-jury-reports-2024-2025>. Penal Code § 933.05 spells out the State law regarding responses to the grand jury including the timeframe in which a recommendation will be implemented and if the respondent agrees with the findings. Government offices, agencies, and local entities cited in the Final Report for a response are required to respond to the Final Report within 60 days (elected officials who head county agencies) or 90 days (governing bodies of public agencies).

CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE § 933.05

(Emphasis added)

- (a) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Penal Code § 933, as to each grand jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
- (1) The respondent agrees with the finding.
 - (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding; in which case **the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.**
- (b) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Penal Code § 933, as to each grand jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:
- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
 - (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, **with a timeframe for implementation.**
 - (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, **with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe** for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. **This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.**
 - (4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, **with an explanation, therefore.**
- (c) However, if a finding or recommendation of the grand jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the board of supervisors shall respond if requested by the grand jury, but the response of the board of supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision-making authority. The response of the elected agency or department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.
- (d) A grand jury may request a subject person or entity to come before the grand jury for the purpose of reading and discussing the findings of the grand jury report that relates to that person or entity in order to verify the accuracy of the findings prior to their release.
- (e) During an investigation, the grand jury shall meet with the subject of that investigation regarding the investigation, unless the court, either on its own determination or upon request of the foreperson of the grand jury, determines that such a meeting would be detrimental.
- (f) A grand jury shall provide to the affected agency a copy of the portion of the grand jury report relating to that person or entity two working days prior to its public release and after the approval of the presiding judge. No officer, agency, department, or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to the public release of the final report.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Placer County Public Assistance	2
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Health and Human Services Director Dr. Robert Oldham	
Securing Our Community	11
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Board of Supervisors	
Placer County Sheriff Wayne Woo	
Human Trafficking in Placer County	25
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Sheriff Wayne Woo	
Placer County Board of Supervisors	
Placer County District Attorney Morgan Gire	
Placer County Office of Education Superintendent Gayle Garbolino-Mojica	
Placer County Health and Human Services Director Dr. Robert Oldham	
Roseville Police Department	
Auburn Police Department	
Lincoln Police Department	
Rocklin Police Department	
Placer County Code Enforcement Services	51
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Board of Supervisors	
Placer County Community Development Resource Agency Director Paul Hellman	
Auburn Union School District	64
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
AUSD Board of Trustees	
AUSD Superintendent Dr. Brittaney Meyer	
AUSD Chief Business Officer Jeremy McReynolds	

Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance	73
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Sandy Amara, Mayor, Auburn City Council	
Sean Lomen, Mayor, Colfax City Council	
Holly Andreatta, Mayor, Lincoln City Council	
David Ring, Mayor, Loomis City Council	
Jill Gayaldo, Mayor, Rocklin City Council	
Krista Bernasconi, Mayor, Roseville City Council	
Community Schools	97
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Office of Education Superintendent Gayle Garbolino-Mojica	
Foresthill Public Utility District	105
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors	
Transient Occupancy Tax	114
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector Tristan Butcher	
Placer County Jails, Holding Facilities, Coroner’s Office, and District Attorney’s Office Annual Inspection 2024-2025	119
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Sheriff Wayne Woo	
Placer County Board of Supervisors	
Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility Annual Inspection 2024-2025	127
Summary of Findings and Recommendations	
Respondents:	
Placer County Probation Department Chief Probation Officer Brian Passenheim	



Placer County Public Assistance: Does Fraud or Abuse Exist?

Placer County Health & Human Services Department is charged with administering public assistance through various benefit programs, which it manages on behalf of the federal, state, and local governments within the county.

The Placer County Grand Jury sought to determine if there are any issues of fraud or abuse within the system which would have an impact on the effectiveness, efficiency, or transparency of these various programs.

The grand jury found Health & Human Services is adequately providing public assistance to individuals and families in need within Placer County through the various programs they administer. The large increasing volume of applications and claims, including an increase in electronic benefits transfer (EBT) fraudulent activity, necessitates additional staff to support current operations and to create a more streamlined process of tracking recipients and better visibility of fund allocations and distribution. The grand jury also found that efforts to detect fraud and prevent fraudulent activities need to be improved to ensure public funds are awarded only to needy and qualified recipients.

Findings

- F1.** The number of applications for public benefits administered by Health & Human Services has increased.
- F2.** Human Services Division staffing levels are insufficient to handle the increase in applications, denials, and requests for hearing.
- F3.** Current software, California Statewide Automated Welfare System, is not fully capable of determining actual overpayments or losses due to its inability to accurately identify violators.
- F4.** There is an increase in EBT fraudulent activity which requires new technology to identify and prevent violators using the “debit cards.”
- F5.** Revenue Services is not fully able to recover all known or potential overpayments with existing procedures and ineffective software.

Recommendations

- R1.** Health & Human Services should direct staff from the Human Services Division to develop a plan increasing staffing within the Program Integrity Unit by November 1, 2025.
- R2.** Health & Human Services should coordinate with California Department of Social Services to re-evaluate the current software California Statewide Automated Welfare

System to improve the identification of overpayments and the exact amounts needing to be collected by December 31, 2025. This may require identifying or determining if a new software system would be more beneficial. Response should address proposed timeline for implementation.

- R3.** Health & Human Services should conduct a cost analysis of the Revenue Services' agreement to determine if their service is more effective and efficient than maintaining collection efforts within Health & Human Services for better oversight and continuity by December 31, 2025. Response should address proposed timeline for implementation.

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Placer County Public Assistance: Does Fraud or Abuse Exist?
Report Date: June 30, 2025
Response By: Robert Oldham **Title:** Director, Health and Human Services

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings, numbered: _____.
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings, numbered: F2 - F5.
Please see attached memo.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R1 have been implemented.
(Describe here or attach a summary statement regarding the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered R2 have not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a target date of December 31, 2025.
Please see attached memo.
- Recommendations numbered R3 require further analysis. The further analysis will be completed by December 31, 2025.
Please see attached memo.
- Recommendations numbered N/A will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
Please see attached memo.

Date: August 19, 2025 **Signed:** 

Number of pages attached 6.



Dr. Rob Oldham
HHS Department Director
Chief Psychiatrist
Health Officer

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

RE: HHS Response to 2024-25 Grand Jury Report Placer County Public Assistance: Does Fraud or Abuse Exist?

Dear Judge Pineschi,

Thank you for your interest in our Human Services programs, and for the concern and consideration with which the Grand Jury undertook its investigation. The report was a fair and mostly accurate depiction of our operations, and it is clear the Grand Jury recognizes and appreciates both the importance of the services provided to the community and the manner with which our staff administer said programs.

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of Placer County Health & Human Services Department, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – *Grand Jury Report Placer County Public Assistance: Does Fraud or Abuse Exist?*

FINDINGS

I partially disagree with findings F2, F3, F4 and F5.

F2: Human Services Division staffing levels are insufficient to handle the increase in applications, denials, and requests for hearing.

I partially disagree with this finding.

The Grand Jury's recognition that Human Services is worthy of additional investment is a welcome one, which acknowledges the hard work of our dedicated staff and the benefit to our community in

having its members served at the highest level and at an elevated volume. Moreover, to the point of the finding that staffing levels are insufficient, while our staff have been impacted by having a higher workload with more applications and higher caseloads, nonetheless, they have maintained timeliness standards as required by state and federal regulations, and recipients have not been disadvantaged. Nonetheless, with a continued increase in applications and caseload, we acknowledge this may eventually result in negative impacts to the community and to our staff, and no doubt additional staffing will become appropriate and necessary.

While HHS would of course embrace any additional staffing for Human Services, there are some options already in place that could be, or are being, expanded upon that could lessen impact of the workload. These include the hiring and use of extra help staff and temporary admin staff to provide additional administrative support.

F3: Current software, California Statewide Automated Welfare System, is not fully capable of determining actual overpayments or losses due to its inability to accurately identify violators.

I partially disagree with this finding.

First, the CalSAWS system is not designed to, and should not determine overpayments. These must be done by an eligibility worker. Also, it does not have the ability to identify violators. This term is not the correct term, as not all overpayments are the result of someone violating any law. Many come about because of delays in processing, sometimes due to staff workload, sometimes due to untimely reporting by the customer. However, we believe the finding suggests that the system is not fully meeting the needs of Revenue Services in their duty of collecting on overpayments, and that does appear to be correct. In general, we believe the system is capable, but that it is not yet being used to its full extent, either because of access issues, lack of adequate training or understanding, or both. We met recently with Revenue Services, and we believe we can remedy this and are working to find solutions.

F4: There is an increase in EBT fraudulent activity which requires new technology to identify and prevent violators using the "debit cards".

I partially disagree with this finding.

That there has in recent years been an increase in EBT Fraudulent activity we concur this is true, to the detriment of our benefit recipients and the taxpayer. However, new technology required to prevent this has, since the Grand Jury's investigation, been implemented by the State of California. Beginning Monday, February 24, 2025, all EBT Cards produced in California have been created on Chip EMV/Tap cardstock, and replacement cards have been issued to all EBT Card Holders. Since that, the numbers of EBT with stolen benefits needing replacement have dropped significantly, from 58 requests in January, down to 11 in June and, so far, only 4 in July.

F5: Revenue Services is not fully able to recover all known or potential overpayments with existing procedures and ineffective software.

I partially disagree with this finding.

As indicated in F3, we believe that the software in this finding, CalSAWS, is not preventing the ability to recover all known overpayments, but that current limitations on access or understanding of the software presents barriers. Further, the software should not determine overpayments, they must be processed by an eligibility worker, so CalSAWS has no bearing on the potential to find unknown or potential overpayments. Procedures will evolve with access and understanding of the system and any barriers presented by procedures are the result of limits in access and knowledge of the system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Health & Human Services should direct staff from the Human Services Division to develop a plan increasing staffing within the Program Integrity Unit by November 1, 2025.

Recommendation 1 has been implemented.

An additional Senior Eligibility Specialist position has been requested as part of the 2025-2026 budget and is being reviewed by CEO's office for approval. Additionally, until the position is approved, a work-out-of-class assignment has been requested and if approved it will be filled with a staff member that will address the increased hearings and overpayment calculations, well ahead of the recommended deadline.

R2. Health & Human Services should coordinate with the California Department of Social Services to re-evaluate the current software California Statewide Automated Welfare System to improve the identification of overpayments and the exact amounts needing to be collected by December 31, 2025. This may require identifying or determining if a new software system would be more beneficial. Response should address proposed timeline for implementation.

Recommendation 2 has not yet been implemented but related measures will be implemented in the future.

The California Statewide Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS) is administered and operated by a consortium of California's 58 counties. This consortium, also known as the CalSAWS Consortium, is a legal entity, specifically a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), that manages the technology and operations supporting public assistance programs, and it came about due to federal and state mandates. Changes to the CalSAWS system are difficult to move forward, as such changes must be supported by the majority of the counties and must compete with priority items that must go forward to comply with new federal and state mandates and changes to program regulations.

While replacing the CalSAWS system is not an option, and making changes will be difficult and slow, there are two options that would likely address the Grand Jury's concerns.

The first would be for us to learn how to better use the existing system in CalSAWS. This will be achieved by Human Services collaborating with Revenue Services to determine if their access in the system is insufficient and if granting additional access would be helpful, if ours and Revenue Services knowledge of how to operate in the system is insufficient and if training would improve that, and if existing or ad/hoc reports and Business Intelligence tools in CalSAWS can help in administering and managing the work.

Should the system not have the native solutions needed, as a second option, Human Services can work with Placer County Information Technology Department (I.T.) to create management tools connected to CalSAWS to allow Revenue Services to more successfully manage duties. We have had success in similar endeavors with I.T. for other programs and projects.

Human Services and Revenue Services have already begun meeting to identify the issues and look for solutions. It is anticipated that the two options above will be accomplished prior to the recommended deadline.

R3. Health & Human Services should conduct a cost analysis of the Revenue Services' agreement to determine if their service is more effective and efficient than maintaining collection efforts within Health & Human Services for better oversight and continuity by December 31, 2025. Response should address proposed timeline for implementation.

Recommendation 3 requires further analysis.

In order for a cost analysis to be effectively and efficiently conducted, an outside consultant would be the best option. This could be costly and may require a Request For Proposal (RFP) process that could make the recommended timeline difficult or unfeasible. The cost may need to come from the General Fund and be approved by the CEO's office and the Board of Supervisors. This may not be a priority project or expense for those offices.

At this point I am not convinced it would be an HHS priority, because, as shown in R2, the immediate priority is to address improving the process as it stands between Human Services and Revenue Services. Revenue Services does the collections for most county departments and has the infrastructure, with staff knowledgeable and skilled in the job. The issues that present as barriers are not going to be any different for Health and Human Services staff. We believe we can resolve these. However, we will investigate the steps required to start the cost analysis process within six months.

Other Corrections / Concerns

There are a few items in the report outside the findings and recommendations that I would like to mention to provide greater accuracy from my perspective.

First, on page 23, when referring to the Intake Process, the report indicates that workers have a 30 day period in which to review and approve or deny the application. Workers processing CalFresh and GR do have 30 days; but those processing CalWORKs and Medi-Cal have 45 days.

On Page 24, still under Intake Process, it is written that the CalSAWS System is maintained by CDSS. The California Statewide Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS) is administered and operated by a consortium of California's 58 counties under a Joint Powers Authority structure. CDSS is a partner in that structure.

On Page 25 under Funding, the report indicates that the expenditures exceeded revenues in Human Services for the past three years. We have been unable to reconcile the dollar amounts given with the data that we provided, meaning we do not know how those numbers were arrived at and cannot verify their accuracy. However, the conclusion may come from some misunderstandings of the data and the budget process. Each year the Department submits a budget to the CEO's office, which is reviewed and incorporated in the County's overall annual budget and presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The budget is an estimate of expenses, and that process starts and is completed some months before the actual allocations for each individual program and some program components are received from the State. Often those allocations are larger than originally estimated in the budget. Additionally, those allocations may increase over the course of the fiscal year as additional funds are made available by the State. Placer County has been successful in serving the public to the full extent of the allocations. When other counties underspend those funds, they have been reallocated to counties that indicate their community need has exceeded their allocation. Placer County has often been the recipient of such funds. Budget amendments have been made and presented to the Board as necessary when these funds are made available, and expenditures fall within these amendments. Our analysis indicates that actual spending has exceeded the original budget in two of the last three years as a consequence.

On Page 31, under Collection Efforts, it indicates that the agreement between HHS and Revenue Services to collect overpayments of benefits issued occurred in February 2023. Revenue Services assumed responsibility for collection of Human Services overpayments in 2020 rather than 2023 as noted in the report.

On Page 32, under Collection Efforts, the second paragraph discusses processes that Revenue Services use with the CalSAWS system and their interface with Human Services staff. Through discussions with Revenue Services, this paragraph does not entirely accurately reflect the processes or the concerns Revenue Services has with CalSAWS or the processes. Revenue Services acknowledges that addresses and phone numbers in CalSAWS may not always be accurate, not because of the system, but because customers move or change phone numbers and do not always report these. Their process, like that of Human Services, is to attempt to contact the customer if return mail is received, or phone numbers are inaccurate, though these efforts are often unsuccessful. Both Human Services and Revenue Services do not change addresses or phone numbers until the changes are confirmed with the customer. Therefore, it is not the CalSAWS system that causes this barrier, nor is it the system that causes a workload burden, but rather the persons that are being collected on not updating their contact information. Further, Revenue Services has not forgone collection efforts on numerous cases due to this or to the system. However, Revenue Services has indicated that access issues and/or understanding of the system has hindered their ability to manage their caseload and accurately account for all cases.

Finally, on Page 32, also under Collection Efforts, the second paragraph lists the Revenue Services staffing pattern. The team coordinates with other staff in HHS, however the Revenue Services staff assigned to HHS collections consists of two Collection Agents, one Senior Collection Agent, and one Supervisor. There is no Staff Services Analyst in Revenue Services assigned to HHS collections.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this response to the Grand Jury's report.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert Oldham

CC: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel
Placer County Clerk-Recorder
Placer County Clerk of the Board

Securing Our Community: A Closer Look at Placer County Sheriff's Staffing

Placer County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to safeguarding individual liberties, preventing crime, and building community partnerships through transparency and education. Placer County Sheriff's Office is also responsible for the professional care and custody of those confined within the county's jail system.

As with many law enforcement agencies within the United States, Placer County Sheriff's Office is struggling to recruit and hire new officers. Local factors affecting staffing include legislative changes that have impacted the number of bookings and jail population which Placer County Sheriff's Office manages, the growing population of Placer County, and an increase in violent crime.

The Placer County Grand Jury's focus was to investigate law enforcement staffing, determining the factors affecting recruitment and workforce sustainability, and identifying the underlying causes of staff shortages.

The grand jury's examination revealed that additional staff, especially sworn peace officers, are needed to perform all the required services provided by this law enforcement agency. The grand jury noted Placer County Sheriff's Office should evaluate the use of incentives to motivate individuals to apply as law enforcement officers and encourage current staff to remain with the agency, with special emphasis on the recruitment of female officers.

Findings

- F1.** The enactment of AB109 required Placer County Sheriff's Office to adjust its Correctional Facility procedures to adapt to the change in inmate classifications and accommodate for longer potential incarceration of inmates.
- F2.** The implementation of Prop 47 added an additional challenge to Placer County Sheriff's Office by reclassifying certain property and drug offenses from felonies to misdemeanors.
- F3.** The passage of Prop 36 partially reversed Prop 47 and added a heavier consequence to petty theft and shoplifting offenses, which increased the number of bookings.
- F4.** Placer County Sheriff's Office may face staff shortages if Placer County's population continues to increase as predicted.
- F5.** Placer County Sheriff's Office has been experiencing an increase in the number of mandatory overtime hours over the past five years to adequately manage the jail facilities, thereby reducing the number of deputies in the field, which also affects staff morale and leads to burnout.

- F6.** Placer County Sheriff's Office's contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office for jail services is not providing taxpayers with the best value for their money.
- F7.** The Vanir report produced numerous recommendations involving operational changes and recruitment solutions which Placer County Sheriff's Office needs to address.
- F8.** Placer County Sheriff's Office struggles to recruit and hire new officers. Recruiting is impacted by low quality applicants, competing salaries with local law enforcement agencies and public perception of law enforcement agencies.
- F9.** Placer County Sheriff's Office lacks sufficient incentives to offer new hires and lateral transfers during the recruitment process, as well as incentives to retain existing staff.
- F10.** Placer County Sheriff's Office has less than 10% sworn female officers and faces challenging issues in recruiting females.

Recommendations

- R1.** Placer County Sheriff's Office needs to develop a plan(s) responding to legislative changes for operational efficiency by developing training programs for staff to better navigate and adapt to evolving laws such as AB109, Prop 47, and Prop 36. Placer County Sheriff's Office also needs to review booking procedures and jail capacity planning to accommodate fluctuations in inmate classifications and incarceration durations by November 1, 2025.
- R2.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should take steps to promote the hiring of and retention of sworn officers to mitigate cost increases associated with overtime pay and providing services to a rapidly increasing County population by November 1, 2025.
- R3.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should take steps to promote the hiring of and retention of correctional officers to mitigate cost increases associated with overtime pay and reduce the need for sworn officers to serve jail rotations by November 1, 2025.
- R4.** Placer County Sheriff's Office and Placer County Board of Supervisors should renegotiate the contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office on an annual basis starting with fiscal year 2026-2027 to ensure the actual cost of jailing a detainee is per person based upon Placer County Daily Jail Rate, until the Tahoe Justice Center is completed by December 31, 2025.

- R5.** Placer County Board of Supervisors should have a plan, including completion dates, for the replacement of the Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Tahoe Substation by December 31, 2025.
- R6.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should address the recommendations from the Vanir Report to streamline jail operations and staffing efficiencies, which would reduce overtime and improve work-life balance for current staff by December 31, 2025.
- R7.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should expand its recruitment efforts by developing targeted recruitment campaigns to attract a larger pool of quality applicants by November 1, 2025.
- R8.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should offer competitive financial and wellness incentives, as well as advancement and mentorship opportunities to retain quality officers by November 1, 2025.
- R9.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should improve its efforts in recruiting females by targeting specific outreach and partnerships with women's law enforcement organizations, and by evaluating policies and work environments to ensure they are inclusive and supportive of female officers by November 1, 2025.

County of Placer Board of Supervisors

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BONNIE GORE
District 1
SHANTI LANDON
District 2
ANTHONY M. DEMATTEI
District 3
SUZANNE JONES
District 4
CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



October 1, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Board of Supervisors Response – 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - *Securing our Community: A Closer Look at Placer County Sheriff's Staffing Challenges*

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors ("Board"), I am pleased to submit the following responses to the *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Securing our Community: A Closer Look at Placer County Sheriff's Staffing Challenges*.

FINDINGS

Finding No. 6: Placer County Sheriff's Office's contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office for jail services is not providing taxpayers with the best value for their money.

The Board wholly disagrees with this finding.

At the present time, the Nevada County Jail contract remains the only practical and cost-effective option for local bookings in the eastern region of Placer County. Under State law, the Placer County Sheriff is required to accept and house individuals lawfully committed to jail. This includes providing a booking facility for all arrests made within Placer County, including those made by allied agencies such as CHP, CA State Parks, and Probation, etc. The use of the Truckee Jail through this contract remains far more cost-effective than any other alternative for eastern Placer County. The Burton Creek Jail was closed in 2001 due to non-compliance with state jail standards. The County is moving forward with the Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Substation design (see October 1, 2025 Board response to the Grand Jury Final Report on Placer County Jails). Until this is completed, there is no other Type 1 jail facility within eastern Placer County that can satisfy the state mandates described above. It should also be noted that due to seasonal construction, inclement weather, and excessive drive times, the Washoe (Reno, NV) or El Dorado County (South Lake Tahoe) booking facilities are not feasible options.

If the County didn't utilize the Truckee Jail through this contract, the Sheriff would be forced to physically transport individuals to west Placer for booking. This is not a viable option from the standpoint of cost and

operations. The cost of funding full-time transport deputies would exponentially outweigh the cost of the contract between Placer and Nevada County. The contract with Nevada County Jail ensures that officers making arrests in the eastern part of the county do not need to drive to the western end for booking.

The contract with Nevada County not only saves time and resources but also allows officers to remain in their respective areas, maintaining a higher level of public safety and efficiency. By preventing long travel times for bookings, the contract helps keep law enforcement presence consistent across the county, avoiding the potential gaps in coverage that could arise if deputies were required to transport arrestees across significant distances.

The contract with Nevada County is reviewed annually, with cost comparisons of alternatives to ensure it is fiscally viable. The fiscal benefits of the contract outweigh its costs, making it a practical solution for Placer County and other agencies that rely on NCSO's jail.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R4. Placer County Sheriff's Office and Placer County Board of Supervisors should renegotiate the contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office on an annual basis starting with fiscal year 2026-2027 to ensure the actual cost of jailing a detainee is per person based upon Placer County Daily Jail Rate, until the Tahoe Justice Center is completed by December 31, 2025.**

Recommendation 4 has been partially implemented.

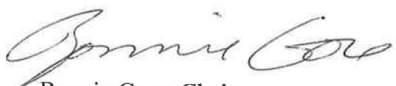
The contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office (NCSO) is renewed annually which enables the County to review the fiscal viability of the same. Recent state legislation repealed the use of "per-person Daily Jail Rate Fees" as a cost recovery mechanism. As the County may no longer charge or be reimbursed on a per-booking or per-detainee basis for jail operations, an analysis of such costs suggested by this report is no longer relevant and the Board will not implement this recommendation.

- R5. Placer County Board of Supervisors should have a plan including completion dates for the replacement of the Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Tahoe Substation by December 31, 2025.**

Recommendation 5 has been implemented.

The Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Substation has been identified by the Board as a high priority project and is included in Countywide Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, with an estimated total cost of \$97 million. Placer County has identified existing and future funding sources of approximately \$11 million, with additional funding still being sought for the remainder of the construction costs as well as operational costs. The project is currently in the planning phase with staff working with land use and design services consultants. Placer County's current Capital Improvement Plan can be found online here: [Placer-County-Capital-Improvement-Plan-2025-2030](#). Upon completion of the planning phase, the timeline for this project will be further refined.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel



PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WAYNE WOO
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

SHAYNE WRIGHT
UNDERSHERIFF

August 7, 2025

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Grand Jury Foreperson,

After carefully reviewing the findings of the Placer County Grand Jury 2024-2025, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the Grand Jury Final Report –A Closer Look at Placer County Sheriff's Staffing Challenges

Findings- A Closer Look at Placer County Sheriff's Staffing Challenges

Placer County Sheriff's Office Agrees with: F7, F10

F7. The Vanir Report produced numerous recommendations involving operational changes and recruitment solutions which Placer County Sheriff's Office needs to address.

F10. Placer County Sheriff's Office has less than 10% sworn female officers and faces challenging issues in recruiting females.

Response: We agree that the Placer County Sheriff's Office currently has less than 10% sworn female officers and acknowledges the ongoing challenges in recruiting females into law enforcement careers. This is consistent with national trends, where female representation in sworn positions remains below 15% in many agencies.

Recognizing these challenges, the Sheriff's Office has implemented targeted recruitment strategies focused on outreach to women, participation in women's law enforcement conferences, and mentorship programs led by female leaders within the agency. These initiatives have contributed to steady increases in female applicants and hires over recent years.

While progress has been made, we remain committed to continuous evaluation and improvement of recruitment and retention efforts to foster a diverse and inclusive workforce that reflects the community we serve.

The Placer County Sheriff's Office partially disagrees with the following: F9.

F9. Placer County Sheriff's Office lacks sufficient incentives to offer new hires and lateral transfers during the recruitment process, as well as incentives to retain existing staff.

Response: We partially disagree with the assertion that the Placer County Sheriff's Office lacks sufficient incentives to recruit new hires, lateral transfers, and retain existing staff. While recruitment challenges

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are not uncommon across law enforcement, especially considering shifting public perceptions, the Sheriff's Office offers a competitive package of incentives that have proven effective.

These include monthly POST certificate pay (\$500 for Intermediate and \$1,000 for Advanced certifications), an annual uniform allowance of \$1,065, specialty assignment pays, shift differentials, bilingual pay, and strong retirement and health benefits. For qualified lateral dispatch applicants, additional financial incentives include a \$1,500 signing bonus paid with the first paycheck and an additional \$1,000 upon successful completion of the probationary period, as determined by the Sheriff.

These incentives have helped attract experienced lateral officers and dispatchers and have contributed to overall retention stability. Additionally, we offer officer wellness programs funded through grants, as well as access to Concern/EAP mental wellness services, demonstrating our commitment to supporting the overall well-being of our staff.

Incentive offerings are determined through the collective bargaining process. While adjustments must be negotiated, the Sheriff's Office remains committed to participating in those efforts to ensure recruitment and retention remain strong. Vacancies have remained stable over time, and the department continues to monitor staffing trends closely to respond as needed.

Placer County Sheriff's Office disagrees with the following: F6

F6. Placer County Sheriff's Office's contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office for jail services is not providing taxpayers with the best value for their money.

Response: Under Penal Code §§4000–4030, the Placer County Sheriff is mandated to accept and house individuals lawfully committed to jail. This includes providing a booking facility for all arrests made within Placer County, including those made by outside agencies (CHP, State Parks, Probation, etc.).

Historically, Burton Creek Jail served this function for the North Lake Tahoe and Truckee area, but it was closed in 2001 due to non-compliance with state jail standards. To maintain local booking access, Placer County established a contract with the Nevada County Sheriff allowing use of Truckee Jail, a Type I facility, for booking arrestees in that region.

This arrangement:

- Allows local agencies to book arrestees 24/7 during weekends and non-business hours
- Prevents unnecessary and resource-intensive transports to Auburn or South Placer Jail (75–90 miles each way)
- Remains more efficient and cost-effective than re-opening Burton Creek or staffing dedicated transport units

Regarding jail cost recovery mechanisms:

- The Daily Jail Rate, as originally outlined and intended in the Penal Code to be charged to defendants, has been repealed

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- Jail Access Fees and Booking Fees do not apply to this inter-county contract and cannot be used here
- AB 1805 provides state funding to counties (\$464,844 annually for Placer), replacing per-booking fees

Until the Tahoe Justice Center is completed and operational, the Nevada County Jail contract remains the only practical, cost effective, and lawful option for local bookings in the eastern region of Placer County.

Recommendations

The grand jury recommends:

- R1.** Placer County Sheriff's Office needs to develop a plan(s) responding to legislative changes for operational efficiency by developing training programs for staff to better navigate and adapt to evolving laws such as AB109, Prop 47, and Prop 36. Placer County Sheriff's Office also needs to review booking procedures and jail capacity planning to accommodate fluctuations in inmate classifications and incarceration durations by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not applicable at this time

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) has consistently adapted to legislative changes that impact inmate demographics and jail operations. Major reforms such as AB 109 (effective October 1, 2011) and Proposition 47 (passed November 4, 2014) have already led to operational shifts, including adjustments to jail classification systems and custody practices. In 2024, the passage of Proposition 36 introduced new requirements that further shape how PCSO manages long-term incarceration and rehabilitation. Necessary adjustments to accommodate Prop 36 are currently underway and are expected to be fully implemented by November 1, 2025.

PCSO remains committed to ensuring staff are informed and responsive to these ongoing shifts. While some changes are made through policy updates rather than formal training programs, our workforce continues to receive comprehensive instruction. In 2024 alone, PCSO delivered 20,862 hours of training to sworn officers, 6,120 hours of STC-certified training to correctional officers, and 8,195 hours to dispatchers. Additionally, to better serve a population experiencing longer incarceration durations, the agency has expanded vocational training, educational programming, and life skills classes for inmates. Jail capacity and booking procedures are also under review to ensure continued alignment with evolving operational and classification needs.

- R2.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should take steps to promote the hiring of and retention of sworn officers to mitigate cost increases associated with overtime pay and providing services to a rapidly increasing County population by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation needs further analysis.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office acknowledges the recommendation and continues to prioritize efforts aimed at hiring and retaining sworn officers. While overtime costs are impacted by

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several operational demands, including population growth and service coverage, we remain focused on long-term solutions that support workforce stability. Our department has implemented continuous recruitment cycles and participates in multiple hiring events each year to attract qualified candidates. We also utilize AllStar Recruiting and have developed a recruitment video to promote careers within our agency. [Join the Placer County Sheriff's Office!](#)

In the past five years, we have had only 12 Deputy Sheriffs lateral to other agencies, an average of just 2 to 3 sworn staff departing per year, reflecting a 96% retention rate and a high level of job satisfaction. Additionally, we currently have only six open Deputy Sheriff Trainee positions and six Deputy Sheriff I position, all with interviews pending to fill.

Staffing fluctuations due to retirements, extended leave, and training commitments can temporarily impact overtime usage. However, these are necessary components of a well-trained and prepared workforce. We are committed to managing these demands responsibly while continuing to meet the service needs of our growing community. The agency is actively working toward improving retention strategies and will continue its efforts to address these challenges.

R3. Placer County Sheriff's Office should take steps to promote the hiring of and retention of correctional officers to mitigate cost increases associated with overtime pay and reduce the need for sworn officers to serve jail rotations by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has already been implemented.

Response: A year-round hiring and recruitment process is already in place and has successfully resulted in no current vacancies for Correctional Officer positions within Corrections. This achievement has significantly reduced projected overtime for FY 2025-26. PCSO will continue to build on this momentum by taking additional steps to support the hiring and retention of Correctional Officers. These efforts are expected to further control overtime costs and reduce reliance on sworn officers for jail rotations. Overtime has already begun trending downward, indicating early progress.

R4. Placer County Sheriff's Office and Placer County Board of Supervisors should renegotiate the contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office on an annual basis starting with fiscal year 2026-2027 to ensure the actual cost of jailing a detainee is per person based upon Placer County Daily Jail Rate, until the Tahoe Justice Center is completed by December 31, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented.

Response: While the recommendation to renegotiate the contract with Nevada County Sheriff's Office to base costs on Placer County's Daily Jail Rate may appear fiscally motivated, this approach is not applicable under current state guidelines.

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As of recent legislative changes, the State of California has repealed the use of per-person Daily Jail Rate Fees as a cost recovery mechanism. Counties may no longer charge or be reimbursed on a per-booking or per-detainee basis for jail operations. Instead, Placer County receives an annual allocation through AB 1805 (\$464,844) to support booking operations and associated costs, irrespective of how many individuals are booked.

Furthermore, the inter-county contract with Nevada County does not fall under the authority of jail booking or access fees, which were also repealed or restricted in their use. The agreement instead ensures vital 24/7 booking services in Eastern Placer County, a region that lost its own jail facility at Burton Creek in 2001 due to non-compliance with state standards.

Until the Tahoe Justice Center is completed and operational, the Nevada County Jail remains the only practical, lawful, and cost-effective booking option. Renegotiating this contract annually based on a per-person model could introduce an administrative burden, legal complications, and potential service disruptions without yielding valid fiscal benefit.

The Placer County Sheriff's Office will maintain the existing contract structure with Nevada County through FY 2025-2026. Once the Tahoe Justice Center opens, we will revisit long-term strategies for local booking and detention operations.

- R6.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should address the recommendations from the Vanir Report to streamline jail operations and staffing efficiencies, which would reduce overtime and improve work-life balance for current staff by December 31, 2025.

This recommendation will be implemented.

Response: Placer County Sheriff's Office is actively implementing staffing-related recommendations from the Vanir Report where feasible. These changes include reassigning correctional officers currently performing administrative or maintenance tasks back to inmate supervision roles. As a result, more correctional officers are now covering fixed post assignments, which has already contributed to a measurable reduction in overtime. Continued implementation is planned through 2025 to support long-term operational efficiency and improve work-life balance for staff.

- R7.** Placer County Sheriff's Office should expand its recruitment efforts by developing targeted recruitment campaigns to attract a larger pool of quality applicants by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: Placer County Sheriff's Office has expanded its recruitment efforts by launching a partnership with All Star Talent Recruitment in 2024. This initiative was designed to develop targeted campaigns that attract a larger and more qualified applicant pool. Early outcomes have shown promising results, and applications are being closely tracked to evaluate effectiveness.

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We will continue to utilize and expand this partnership through 2025 to ensure we reach a wide range of high-quality candidates and meet our recruitment goals by November 1, 2025.

R8. Placer County Sheriff's Office should offer competitive financial and wellness incentives, as well as advancement and mentorship opportunities to retain quality officers by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office recognizes the importance of hiring and retaining qualified sworn staff to ensure consistent service to the County's growing population. While we are not currently experiencing significant challenges with retention, and vacancies have remained stable over time, we continue to proactively monitor trends and adjust as needed.

The Sheriff's Office offers a range of competitive incentives as outlined in the current Memorandum of Understanding with the Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association. These include monthly POST certificate pay (\$500 for Intermediate and \$1,000 for Advanced certifications), a \$1,065 annual uniform allowance, specialty assignment pays, shift differentials, bilingual pay, and robust retirement and health benefits. These incentives have played a significant role in drawing experienced lateral officers from other agencies and in supporting long-term retention.

Any discussion about expanding or adjusting incentive offerings lies within the scope of negotiations between the County of Placer and the DSA, with involvement from County Human Resources. The Sheriff's Office supports these collaborative efforts and will continue to work within that framework to ensure recruitment and retention remain strong. Should vacancies increase in the future, the department is prepared to activate targeted recruitment efforts and utilize starting contracts as appropriate to maintain staffing levels.

R9. Placer County Sheriff's Office should improve its efforts in recruiting females by targeting specific outreach and partnerships with women's law enforcement organizations, and by evaluating policies and work environments to ensure they are inclusive and supportive of female officers by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: Placer County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) acknowledges the ongoing national challenge of recruiting women into sworn law enforcement roles and continues to implement targeted efforts to address this issue locally. While our current percentage of sworn female deputies remains slightly below national averages, we are actively working to improve representation through focused recruitment, mentorship, and retention strategies.

As of mid-2025, female representation within PCSO is as follows:

Sworn Full-Time Deputies: 9.2% (National Average ~13%)

Sworn Part-Time Deputies: 7.3% (National Average ~13%)

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Correctional Officers: 22.6% (National Average ~13-14%)
Professional Staff: 82.2% (National Average ~60%)

(Sources: Police Chief Magazine, 30x30 Initiative)

Our efforts include the historic promotion of the first female captain in PCSO history, who now leads internal mentorship programs aimed at supporting and advancing women within the department. We also maintain consistent participation in the annual Women in Law Enforcement Conference and continue to develop strong cadet and internship programs. These initiatives have contributed to meaningful growth in female applicants and hires.

- 2022: 62 certified female applicants
- 2023: 85
- 2024: 182
- 2025 (YTD): 94

In 2024 alone, we hired eight female Deputy Sheriffs. While PCSO's sworn female representation remains slightly below national averages, our correctional and professional staff representation exceeds typical benchmarks. This reflects both our organizational efforts and the broader, nationwide challenges in attracting women to sworn law enforcement roles.

We remain committed to recruiting the most qualified female candidates who reflect the values and mission of the Sheriff's Office. Our strategies include targeted outreach, ongoing partnerships with women's law enforcement organizations, and regular evaluation of our workplace policies and culture to ensure an inclusive and supportive environment for all female staff, sworn and professional. These efforts are central to our goal of building a workforce that is diverse, equitable, and reflective of the community we serve.

Sources

Police Chief Magazine
"Learning Perceptions: Women in Policing"
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), 2021.
<https://www.policchiefmagazine.org/learning-perceptions-women-in-policing>

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF)
Law Enforcement Facts & Figures
<https://nleomf.org/memorial/facts-figures/law-enforcement-facts>

30x30 Initiative
About the 30x30 Initiative: A Commitment to Advancing Women in Policing
<https://30x30initiative.org/>

American Police Beat (APB) Web
"Time to Address the Status of Women in Policing Today"
March 2023.
<https://apbweb.com/2023/03/time-to-address-the-status-of-women-in-policing-today>

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PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Sincerely,

Wayne Woo
Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

cc: Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Greg Warner, Placer County Supervising Deputy County Counsel
Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury

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Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime

Human trafficking is a persistent and grave issue in California, including in Placer County.

The Placer County Grand Jury investigated the effectiveness of local government agencies and their partnership with public services and community organizations in addressing the issue of human trafficking. The grand jury also examined whether existing policies, resources, and programs are adequately identifying and supporting victims of trafficking, as well as confirming preventative measures are in place. The investigation sought to substantiate the attempts being made to increase public awareness and educational steps being taken throughout Placer County since both play a significant role in combating human trafficking.

The grand jury reported on the comprehensive efforts within Placer County to combat human trafficking. Placer County has done a good job of providing victims of human trafficking with resources and information for assistance. Roseville Police Department and the Placer County District Attorney's Office have a coordinated and proactive approach to combating human trafficking within the region, working in collaboration with state and federal organizations as well as non-governmental organizations to conduct undercover operations, monitor online platforms for trafficking activity, and engage in community education and prevention efforts.

The grand jury found the extent of human trafficking in Placer County is difficult to quantify due to the nature of this criminal enterprise and the fact many victims do not seek help. As such, it is possible adequate resources are not dedicated to the problem of human trafficking. Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, strengthening community education in schools, for law enforcement, and for the public would be beneficial.

Findings

- F1.** Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.
- F2.** Roseville Police Department is addressing human trafficking via social media platforms with increased cyber work and sting operations.
- F3.** Placer County District Attorney's Office and Roseville Police Department have taken an active leadership role in tackling the issue of Human trafficking in Placer County.
- F4.** Placer County is a known transit and destination area for human trafficking due to its proximity to major highways/freeways and tourist spots.

- F5.** Placer County has done a good job of creating and funding support for human trafficking victims.
- F6.** Placer County Office of Education provides support and training to its individual school districts and relies strictly on annual certification (CARS) data to determine if the districts are in compliance with AB 1227.
- F7.** Roseville Police Department and Placer County Sheriff's Office are partnering with the Sacramento Regional Task Force to address human trafficking issues.
- F8.** The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force does not have representatives from all Placer County local law enforcement agencies.

Recommendations

- R1.** All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.
- R2.** Placer County Children's System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025.
- R3.** Placer County Office of Education should establish and implement a plan to ensure and assess each middle and high school within the district are following the mandate to provide human trafficking awareness and prevention education by November 1, 2025.
- R4.** Placer County Office of Education should develop a certification/verification system to ensure staff involved with middle and high school students are properly trained in human trafficking identification and prevention by December 31, 2025.
- R5.** Placer County Board of Supervisors should require Health & Human Services to provide a written evaluation and assessment from each of the four non-profit organizations (Stand Up Placer, Crisis Intervention Services, Child Advocates of Placer County, and KidsFirst) to determine if their individual outreach efforts had an impact within the community by December 31, 2025.
- R6.** Placer County District Attorney's Office should continue its efforts in obtaining funding for Victim Services from the California State Legislature by appropriating critical funds effective July 1, 2026.



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August 7, 2025

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
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Dear Grand Jury Foreperson,

After carefully reviewing the findings of the Placer County Grand Jury 2024-2025, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the Grand Jury Final Report – Human Trafficking in Placer County.

Findings- Human Trafficking in Placer County

Placer County Sheriff's Office disagrees with F1.

- F1. Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office disagrees with this finding. Notably, the Grand Jury never contacted our agency to request information about our human trafficking prevention and enforcement efforts, nor did they inquire about what has been done to address the issue. Had they done so, they would have learned that our agency takes a proactive and victim-centered approach to addressing human trafficking through coordinated efforts in investigation, enforcement, interagency collaboration, and public outreach.

The Investigations Division includes two specialized units: the Special Operations Unit, which currently has three of five detectives assigned to conducting undercover sting operations throughout the county in partnership with state and federal agencies; and the Crimes Against Persons Unit, with five of six detectives trained to investigate human trafficking cases often identified through those sting operations. Additionally, two Investigative Assistants review Suspected Child Abuse Reports (SCARs) and Missing Persons reports and are trained to recognize indicators of trafficking or exploitation. The Sheriff's Office also assigns a detective to the Sacramento Valley Hi-Tech Crimes/Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which investigates cyber tips related to trafficking and works with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

Further supporting these efforts, the Placer County Sheriff's Office Investigations Division regularly attends POST-certified Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigations (ICI) courses focused on child abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Additionally, staff recently attended the 2025 RISS Western Region Human Trafficking Summit, gaining insight into

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survivor-informed practices, case studies, and digital investigative strategies such as social media monitoring. The agency also uses Spotlight, an AI-powered tool designed to help law enforcement identify and recover victims of sex trafficking by scanning thousands of escort ads across the internet.

Collectively, these efforts reflect a significant and ongoing investment of resources that directly contradict the assertion that there may not be adequate attention or support dedicated to combating human trafficking in Placer County.

Recommendations

The grand jury recommends:

- R1.** All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

This recommendation has already been implemented.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office has an established process to identify and record human trafficking cases through its Crime Analysis Unit, which operates under the Investigations Division. This unit works closely with both the Special Operations Unit and the Crimes Against Persons Unit to collect, analyze, and map data specific to human trafficking. These efforts ensure that investigative resources are directed appropriately and effectively. In addition to analytical support, the Sheriff's Office prioritizes proactive enforcement, interagency collaboration, and ongoing training to support early identification and response to human trafficking cases across the county.

- R2.** Placer County Children's System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has already been implemented.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office has been an active participant in the County of Placer Memorandum of Understanding for the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) and Those at Risk for Exploitation Interagency Protocol. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office's Crimes Against Persons Unit regularly attends CSEC Task Force meetings, which directly support improved county-wide enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. These established practices reflect an ongoing commitment to interagency collaboration and the protection of vulnerable youth.

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SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

SHAYNE WRIGHT
UNDERSHERIFF

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wayne Woo'.

Wayne Woo
Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

cc: Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Greg Warner, Placer County Supervising Deputy County Counsel
Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury

HEADQUARTERS
2929 RICHARDSON DRIVE
AUBURN, CA 95603
(530) 889-7800

AUBURN MAIN JAIL
2775 RICHARDSON DRIVE
AUBURN, CA 95603
(530) 745-8500

SOUTH PLACER STATION
8140 HORSESHOE BAR ROAD, SUITE D
LOOMIS, CA 95650
(916) 652-2400

SOUTH PLACER JAIL
11801 GO FOR BROKE ROAD
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678
(916) 409-8100

NORTH LAKE TAHOE STATION
P.O. BOX 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
(530) 581-5300

County of Placer
Board of Supervisors

175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, California 95603
(530) 889-4010
BoardClerk@placer.ca.gov

BONNIE GORE
District 1
SHANTI LANDON
District 2
ANTHONY M. DEMATTEI
District 3
SUZANNE JONES
District 4
CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



October 1, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Board of Supervisors Response – 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - Human Trafficking in Placer County

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors (“Board”), I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Human Trafficking in Placer County.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R5. Placer County Board of Supervisors should require Health & Human Services to provide a written evaluation and assessment from each of the four nonprofit organizations (Stand Up Placer, Crisis Intervention Services, Child Advocates of Placer County, and KidsFirst) to determine if their individual outreach efforts had an impact within the community by December 31, 2025.**

Recommendation 5 will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

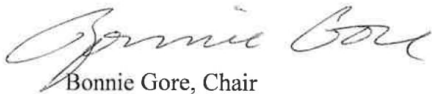
Assessing the impact of an organization’s outreach efforts within the community often involves subjective interpretation and may not lend itself easily to empirical measurement. Further, upon reviewing the Grand Jury’s report, the narrative and findings do not appear to substantiate the claim that outreach is insufficient. In fact, pages 72–73 highlight several outreach initiatives, though the report does not clearly explain why these efforts are considered inadequate or how they might be improved.

Nonprofit organizations are already subject to reporting requirements tied to the funding they receive, particularly from governmental sources, to demonstrate their effectiveness and community benefit in order to continue to receive funding from these sources. As to contracts these organizations may have with County departments, the metrics for performance are based on objective contract delivery standards identified in the specific contract. There is no means to translate this into a subjective analysis of “impact within the community”. Outside of contracts these organizations may have with County departments, Placer County does

not have any authority or jurisdiction to require non-County entities to provide the County with information on their activities.

The Grand Jury's report mentions the County's one-time grant funding opportunity in the total amount of \$1,500,000 that the County awarded on January 21, 2025, to certain nonprofit organizations that focus on domestic violence and human trafficking prevention. This opportunity was made possible through COVID-era interest funds Placer had available through the American Rescue Plan allocations. The successful applicants were Stand Up Placer (\$950,000), Crisis Intervention Services (\$300,000), Child Advocates of Placer County (\$100,000), and Kids First – Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County (\$150,000). As part of these grant award agreements, grantees are required to provide mid-year reports and final reports that discuss the impact the awarded funds have had on their operations. The mid-year reports were received from all grantees by July 31, 2025 and indicate all reporting grantees are performing a wide variety of domestic violence and human trafficking prevention services to a significant number of individuals, some of which was expanded by the grants funded received. The final reports are due on March 31, 2026 and these reports will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in spring 2026.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair
Board of Supervisors

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel



MORGAN B. GIRE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PLACER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

10810 Justice Center Drive, Suite 240 • Roseville, CA 95678-6231
916 543-8000 • FAX 916 543-2550
www.placer.ca.gov

August 28, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Placer County District Attorney Response - *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report [name of report section]*

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Placer County District Attorney's Office, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime, Section R6*.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R6. Placer County District Attorney's Office should continue its efforts in obtaining funding for Victim Services from the California State Legislature by appropriating critical funds effective July 1, 2026.

Recommendation 1 has been implemented.

The Placer County District Attorney's Office continues, and will continue, to exercise robust efforts to secure funding for Victim Services. To date, the Placer County District Attorney's Office has brought critical awareness to the detrimental effects of reductions and volatility in funding that supports our victims and survivors of crime. Such resources are vital to the health and resilience of our communities throughout the state.

The Placer County District Attorney's Office has engaged our lawmakers, both state and federal, as well as local policymakers to prioritize consistent and sustainable funding for Victim Services. This office will continue to educate and empower our community about the critical nature of this funding and this office will continue to demand that legislators prioritize the funding of services that are essential to the health and safety of victims and survivors of crime. This office will hold lawmakers accountable for their decisions regarding Victim Services funding and will continue to sponsor and support legislation directed at securing funding for our victims and survivors of crime.

Specifically, the Placer County District Attorney has directly supported legislation securing Victim Services funding, has testified about bills supporting such funding, has met with members of both houses of the California State Legislature as well as members of both houses of Congress to implore them to support funding for critical victim services.

Additionally, this office has, and will continue, to lead in creating innovative ways to support our victims and survivors of crime. Through this office's (em)Power & Resilience project, we have brought dozens of victim and survivor families together to share their stories to empower those impacted by crime to find their voice and advocate for change. This office has led delegations of victims and survivors to the state capital to advocate for funding for Victim Services and other supportive services.

The Placer County District Attorney's Office hosts a variety of programs to serve victims of Human Trafficking. To protect our community and promote public safety, we prosecute individuals accused of Human Trafficking to the fullest extent. In 2024 and 2025 alone we have sentenced individuals involved in human trafficking and its related offenses to over 50 years of custody time.

This office understands that the victims of these crimes present in a myriad of ways, at various stages within their healing process. To support these survivors, we provide victim advocates who connect victims to resources in and out of county, depending upon the best fit for the survivor. As this crime unfortunately extends to our most vulnerable population- children, we also offer specialized services for victims of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSEC). We provide specialized forensic interviewers to conduct trauma informed, evidence-based interviews, that allow for collaboration across disciplines and avoid duplicative interviews, and victim advocates specially trained to work with minors who have suffered (and are at risk of) exploitation. In 2024 alone, our office served 17 minors who were either at risk or victims of child sexual exploitation. Our Sexual Assault Response Team responds when victims present with acute needs, to gather evidence in a trauma informed manner, and provide critical medical intervention, in addition to connection with resources through direct connection with victim advocates. Moving forward, we intend to prosecute offenders, support victims, and are working towards a collaborative law enforcement-based initiative to meet the specialized needs of these complex cases.

In summation, the Placer County District Attorney's Office will continue its efforts to obtain consistent and sustainable funding for Victim Services and will continue to support our victims and survivors of crime in our community and beyond.

Sincerely,



Morgan Gire
District Attorney
Placer County District Attorney's Office

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Placer County Clerk-Recorder
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel



Board of Education

August 28, 2025

Sergey Terebkov
Area 1

Andrew Tagg
Area 2

David Patterson, Ed.D.
Area 3

R. Jan Pinney
Area 4

Kelli Gnile
Area 5

Renee Regacho-Anaclerio, Ed.D.
Area 6

Amber Johnson
Area 7

Isaac Barajas
Student Board Member

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-072

Dear Judge Pineschi:

I would like to submit my response to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2024-25 Grand Jury Report pertaining to *Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime*. I have carefully reviewed the information and recommendations formulated by the Placer County Grand Jury and after a thorough review, my responses are as follows:

Superintendent's Cabinet

Brad Tooker, Ed.D.
Deputy County Superintendent
Chief of Staff

Phillip J. Williams
Deputy County Superintendent

Susan Connolly-Fox
Associate Superintendent
Student Services

Jennifer Hicks
Associate Superintendent
Educational Services

Roger Van Putten
Associate Superintendent
Business Services

Troy Tickle
Assistant Superintendent
SELPA

Michelle Eklund
Chief Communications Officer
Superintendent's Office

FINDINGS

PCOE disagrees partly with finding number 6.

F6: Placer County Office of Education provides support and training to its individual school districts and relies strictly on annual certification (CARS) data to determine if the districts are in compliance with AB 1227.

PCOE disagrees partially with the finding.

This finding is generally accurate; however, the process for verification differs from what is suggested. The Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) does not independently verify school district or charter school compliance with AB 1227. Instead, PCOE relies on each district's internal processes to monitor compliance, with the California Department of Education (CDE) serving as the appropriate oversight authority.

Education Code requires school personnel to receive *continuation training* - as opposed to one-time in-service training - on human trafficking, consistent with broader mandated reporter obligations under Education Code § 51950. This requirement can be fulfilled through various training services, such as Public School Works.

With respect to classroom instruction, Education Code mandates that all students in grades 7 through 12 receive comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education, which must include human trafficking prevention. This instruction must be delivered by appropriately trained instructors, and each student must receive it at least once in middle/junior high school and at least once in high school.

School districts typically demonstrate compliance through their Course of Study and Board-approved curriculum, which reflects the inclusion of required human trafficking prevention lessons.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION #3:

R3. Placer County Office of Education should establish and implement a plan to ensure and assess each middle and high school within the district are following the mandate to provide human trafficking awareness and prevention education by November 1, 2025.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.

PCOE does not have the authority to mandate compliance with this recommendation. PCOE provided, and will continue to provide, technical assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) to support compliance with the law. PCOE has no enforcement authority to compel the submission of such information or to ensure compliance should an LEA be found out of alignment with the law.

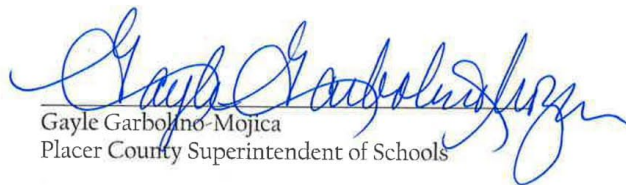
RECOMMENDATION #4:

R4. Placer County Office of Education should develop a certification/verification system to ensure staff involved with middle and high school students are properly trained in human trafficking identification and prevention by December 31, 2025.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.

PCOE does not have the authority to require compliance with the above request. However, PCOE provides training opportunities for educators and parents on human trafficking prevention throughout the county. Each local educational agency (LEA) is ultimately responsible for determining the training provided to its staff and for ensuring compliance with all applicable training requirements.

Respectfully submitted by:



Gayle Garbolino-Mojica
Placer County Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime

Report Date: June 30, 2025

Response By: Robert Oldham **Title:** Director, Health and Human Services

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings, numbered: _____.
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings, numbered: _____.
N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

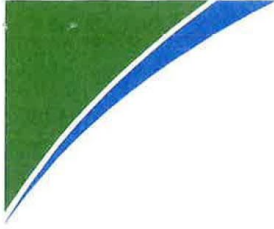
- Recommendations numbered R2 have been implemented.
(Describe here or attach a summary statement regarding the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a target date of _____.
N/A
- Recommendations numbered _____ require further analysis. The further analysis will be completed by _____.
N/A
- Recommendations numbered R1 & R3 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
Please see attached memo.

Date: August 19, 2025

Signed:



Number of pages attached 3.



Dr. Rob Oldham
HHS Department Director
Chief Psychiatrist
Health Officer

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

RE: HHS Response to 2024-25 Grand Jury Report - Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime

Dear Judge Pineschi,

We appreciate the Grand Jury for bringing attention to an important issue — the impact of human trafficking on victims and their families. Here in our community, local agencies, law enforcement, and service providers have come together to push back against trafficking and support those affected. After carefully reviewing the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of Placer County Health & Human Services Department, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime*

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

Placer County Health & Human Services (HHS), including its Children’s System of Care, has worked closely for years with the Probation Department and local law enforcement to combat human trafficking in our community.

One key effort is our involvement in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program, which has been active for over a decade. This program, mentioned in the report and administered by KidsFirst, helps identify both new and ongoing cases of human trafficking, as well as strategies to address them. This forum also plays a critical role for government, law enforcement and nonprofit members to discuss the changing policy landscape.

Many legislative developments—most not mentioned in the report—are addressed in these discussions including:

- Major revisions to Welfare & Institutions Code Section 300, now allow child welfare services to detain CSEC youth under neglect standards, making them dependents rather than wards of the court
- SB 1322 (2016), which states that children and youth cannot be considered prostitutes
- SB 855 (2015), which provides funding specifically for services supporting CSEC youth
- AB 794 (2015), which amends mandated reporting requirements
- HR 4980 (2014), which prohibits placing CSEC youth in juvenile halls
- HR 1865 (2018), which strengthens penalties for online sex trafficking
- AB 1227 (2017), which requires education and training about CSEC in schools

In addition to CSEC, HHS participates in other collaborative efforts not mentioned in the report—such as the Systems Management, Advocacy, and Resource Team (SMART) Board. This board has served as the County-authorized Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council since the late 1980s. Its members include the Juvenile Court, Probation Department, Placer County Office of Education, HHS, and the nonprofit organization Cal Voices.

R2. Placer County Children’s System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025

The recommendation has been implemented.

Placer County HHS, Probation Department, and local law enforcement recognize that human trafficking is a critical issue and collaborate closely to address it. This collaboration includes providing supportive services to victims and engaging in prevention efforts to help community members recognize the signs of trafficking and take action when needed.

KidsFirst, a local nonprofit organization, serves as the backbone agency for the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program. HHS remains committed to its involvement in CSEC and to continuing our strong partnership with law enforcement to prevent and respond to this serious community issue. It is important to note that the law enforcement partners, including Probation Department, listed in the report have been involved in the CSEC effort from the very beginning—something that may not have been clearly reflected in the report's findings.

Beyond CSEC-specific efforts, a joint task force—comprising Probation Department, local law enforcement, HHS, the Juvenile Court, and defense attorneys—meets regularly to address broader

trafficking issues. This collaboration has:

- promoted the use of a common screening tool to help determine appropriate services and placements for youth who have been trafficked,
- served as a platform for designing and promoting CSEC-related trainings throughout the community, and
- facilitated joint sting operations that have resulted in the arrest of alleged human trafficking perpetrators.

R5. Placer County Board of Supervisors should require Health & Human Services to provide a written evaluation and assessment from each of the four nonprofit organizations (Stand Up Placer, Crisis Intervention Services, Child Advocates of Placer County, and KidsFirst) to determine if their individual outreach efforts had an impact within the community by December 31, 2025.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

The Grand Jury has asked HHS to respond to this recommendation, even though it is addressed to the Board of Supervisors rather than the Department. Nonetheless, we offer the following explanation. Nonprofit organizations working to prevent and address human trafficking in Placer County receive funding from a variety of sources, including local philanthropy as well as state and federal agencies. These nonprofits are already subject to reporting requirements tied to the funding they receive, particularly from government sources. These requirements include documenting outreach and service activities. Several of these activities, though not all, are noted by the Grand Jury on pages 72-73 of their report.

The four nonprofit organizations mentioned in the recommendation recently received grants through a program administered by the County Executive Office to support efforts related to domestic violence and human trafficking. HHS is not the contractor administrator and does not oversee reporting for these grants.

For organizations that receive state or federal funds directly, HHS does not have the authority to require additional written evaluations or assessments beyond what is mandated by those funding agencies.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert Oldham

CC: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel
Placer County Clerk-Recorder
Placer County Clerk of the Board

Health & Human Services Department ■ 11434 B Avenue, Suite 100 ■ Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 745.3191 office ■ (530) 745-3135 fax ■ roidham@placer.ca.gov

3 of 3



ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

1051 Junction Blvd.

Roseville, CA 95678

Troy Bergstrom, Chief of Police

September 16, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

The Honorable Trisha Hirashima
Advising Grand Jury Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson
Foreperson
2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

**Re: Response to 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report
Human Trafficking in Placer County**

Dear Honorable Judge Pineschi, Honorable Judge Hirashima, and Placer County Grand Jury:

I would like to thank the Placer County Grand Jury for your continued dedication to the citizens of Placer County. I am pleased to submit our response to the 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Human Trafficking in Placer County" on behalf of myself, as Chief of Police for the City of Roseville and the Roseville Police Department.

Report Title: Human Trafficking in Placer County
Report Date: Released to the public on June 30, 2025 (Amended July 9, 2025)
Response By: Troy Bergstrom, as Chief of Police for the City of Roseville and Roseville Police Department

FINDINGS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Human Trafficking in Placer County" contains two (2) specific findings (F1 and F2) requiring a response from the Chief of Police for City of Roseville and the Roseville Police Department. I provide the following responses to those findings "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Roseville. For any findings that are not "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Roseville, the response will note that.

F1: Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.

I agree with the finding that there is incomplete information regarding human trafficking as it is difficult to quantify and track for many of the reasons outlined in the report. For the second part of the finding, whether that has an impact on adequate resources being dedicated to human trafficking, I can only speak for the Roseville Police Department where data collection does not impact the number of resources assigned to investigate human trafficking. Our Crime Suppression Unit will continue to investigate human trafficking in our city regardless of what empirical data is or is not present, as we know human trafficking is a crime that occurs in the shadows and is difficult to quantify.

F2: Roseville Police Department is addressing human trafficking via social media platforms with increased cyber work and sting operations.

As to finding numbered F2, I agree with the finding and the Roseville Police Department will continue with these efforts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Human Trafficking in Placer County" contains two (2) specific recommendations (R1 and R2) requiring a response from the Chief of Police for the City of Roseville and Roseville Police Department.

R1: All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

Response to R1- We have already implemented this recommendation and will continue our efforts in this area. The Roseville Police Department is already a leader in human trafficking enforcement in our county, with a significant number of resources dedicated to the issue.

R2: Placer County Children's System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025

Response to R2- Recommendation R2, has already been implemented in Roseville. The Roseville Police Department is already a member of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children ("CSEC") Task Force both at the task force level and as a part of the CSEC Steering Committee where we are represented by the Sergeant of our Crime Suppression Unit.

I again would like to thank the 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury for its report and service to the City of Roseville.

Sincerely,



Troy Bergstrom
Chief of Police
City of Roseville

Cc: Roseville City Clerk

Placer County Board of Supervisors

Placer County Probation Department
Brian Passenheim
2929 Richardson Dr Ste B
Auburn, CA 95603

Stand Up Placer
11985 Heritage Oak Pl Ste 200
Auburn, CA 95603

Crisis Intervention Services (Sierra Community House)
948 Incline Way
Incline Village, NV 89451

Child Advocates of Placer County
1430 Blue Oaks Blvd Ste 260
Roseville, CA 95747

KidsFirst-Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County
516 Gibson Drive, Ste 100
Roseville, CA 95678



AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT

BRYAN MORRISON, CHIEF OF POLICE
1215 LINCOLN WAY, AUBURN, CA 95603
Office (530) 823-4237 / FAX (530) 823-4224



September 15, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson, Foreperson
Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: Response to “Placer County Grand Jury Final Report, 2024-2025” Released June 30, 2025

Dear Judge Pineschi and Foreperson Peterson:

The City of Auburn has carefully reviewed and considered the “Placer County Grand Jury Final Report, 2024-2025,” released June 30, 2025, specifically the section entitled, “Human Trafficking: An Unseen Crime.” The Compliance Report requests the City’s response to Findings 1 and 8 and Recommendations 1 and 2 on Pages 74 and 75 of the Compliance Report. Accordingly, the City provides the following responses pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05, subdivisions (a) and (b):

F1: Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.

The Auburn Police Department agrees with this finding. The Auburn Police Department conducts annual operations targeting human trafficking and illicit massage parlors. These operations frequently identify victims of human trafficking. However, without comprehensive data from all relevant stakeholder agencies, the Auburn Police Department acknowledges that the current understanding of the scope of human trafficking may be incomplete. As a result, there may be insufficient resources dedicated to addressing the issue effectively.

F8: The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Task Force does not have representatives from all Placer County local law enforcement agencies.

The Auburn Police Department agrees with this finding. The Auburn Police Department does not have personnel specifically assigned to the CSEC Task Force team. Therefore, the CSEC Task Force does not have representatives from at least one Placer County local law enforcement agency. However, the Auburn Police Department does have a Detective assigned to the Placer County Special Investigations Unit (SIU). As noted in the report, the SIU plays an active role in handling CSEC-related cases.

R1: All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

PROFESSIONALISM — OWNERSHIP — RESPECTFUL — INTEGRITY — EMPATHY

The Auburn Police Department has implemented this recommendation. Some tools that have been utilized to increase efforts include Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management Systems (RMS). The Auburn Police Department will continue to use tools and increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

R2: Placer County Children's System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County to be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented by the Auburn Police Department because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, as it can only be implemented by the Placer County Children's System of Care and not by the Auburn Police Department. The Auburn Police Department does not have authority over the policies or practices implemented by third-party entities, including the Placer County Children's System of Care. However, should the Placer County Children's System of Care recommend agencies to be a part of the Task Force, the Auburn Police Department would give such recommendations due consideration within the scope of its operational capacity and resources by November 1, 2025.

The Auburn Police Department welcomes and appreciates the Grand Jury's interest in the Police Department's operations, as well as the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations above.

Sincerely,



Bryan Morrison, Chief of Police
Auburn Police Department



September 9, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P. O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603
Attn: Foreperson

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
Human Trafficking; An Unseen Crime

Dear Judge Pineschi:

The City of Lincoln's Police Department has reviewed the 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report titled "Human Trafficking: An Unseen Crime," and hereby submits its response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury as requested.

Findings by the Grand Jury and the City of Lincoln Police Department's Response

F1: Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.

Response: Agree.

F8: The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force does not have representatives from all Placer County law enforcement agencies.

Response: Disagree, all Placer County law enforcement agencies participate in the CSEC. The exception to participation is the California Highway Patrol, which is a State agency.

City Hall

600 Sixth Street
Lincoln, CA 95648
(916) 434-2400

www.lincolncalifornia.gov

City Manager's Office ♦ Community Development ♦ Engineering ♦ Fire
Library ♦ Recreation ♦ Police ♦ Public Works ♦ Support Services

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
"Human Trafficking: An Unseen Crime"

**Recommendations by the Grand Jury and the City of Lincoln Police Department's
Response**

R1: All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The CSEC Memorandum of Understanding, a copy of which is enclosed, sets forth identification and recording procedures.

R2: Placer County Children's System of Care should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025.

Response: This recommendation has already been implemented. The enclosed CSEC Memorandum of Understanding identifies all participating agencies.

* * * * *

This concludes and the City of Lincoln Police Department's response to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations from its 2024-2025 report titled "Human Trafficking: An Unseen Crime." Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if you have questions regarding this response.

Sincerely,



Matt Alves
Chief of Police

Enclosure: CSEC Memorandum of Understanding

cc: Placer County Probation Department
Brian Passenheim
2929 Richardson Drive, Ste. B
Auburn, CA 95603

Stand Up Placer
11985 Heritage Oak Place, Ste. 200
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
"Human Trafficking: An Unseen Crime"

Crisis Intervention Services (Sierra Community House)
948 Incline Way
Incline Village, NV 89451

Child Advocates of Placer County
1430 Blue Oaks Blvd., Ste. 260
Roseville, CA 95747

KidsFirst – Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County
516 Gibson Drive, Ste. 100
Roseville, CA 95678



September 30, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603
Attention: Foreperson

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report – Human Trafficking

Dear Honorable Alan V. Pineschi and Placer County Grand Jury:

The City of Rocklin and the Rocklin Police Department express their sincere appreciation to the Placer County Grand Jury for their dedicated service and thorough investigation into human trafficking in Placer County. After careful review of the 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report titled *Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime*, the Rocklin Police Department provides the following responses to the findings and recommendations outlined in the report.

Report Title: Human Trafficking in Placer County: An Unseen Crime
Report Date: June 24, 2025
Response By: Chief Rustin Banks on behalf of the City of Rocklin

FINDINGS

The Rocklin Police Department agrees with findings: N/A

The Rocklin Police Department disagrees partially with findings: F1, F8

F1: Due to incomplete information regarding human trafficking, there may not be adequate resources dedicated to human trafficking.

Response to F1: The Rocklin Police Department disagrees partially with this finding. The department has implemented several measures to address human trafficking, demonstrating a commitment to resource allocation. Specifically, the Rocklin Police Department actively participates in the *Lost Persons Working Group*, a collaborative network designed to enhance communication and identification of human trafficking victims and suspects.

CITY OF ROCKLIN, CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
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rocklin.ca.us | P. 916-625-5000 | F. 916-625-5095 | TTY. 916-632-4013

In 2024, the Rocklin Police Department's Community-Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) Unit conducted joint operations with the California Department of Justice, resulting in three arrests for violations at massage establishments, which helps discourage human trafficking activities.

In 2025, three Rocklin Police Department officers and two detectives completed Human Trafficking Training, enhancing detection and response capabilities. To address incomplete data, the department will conduct a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) operation starting in October 2025. Specially trained detectives will pose online as underage individuals to identify and apprehend suspects involved in human trafficking. This operation will include evidence collection and thorough documentation to support prosecution and resource allocation. The operation will be completed by December 31, 2025.

F8: The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Task Force does not have representatives from all Placer County local law enforcement agencies.

Response to F8: The Rocklin Police Department disagrees partially with this finding and clarifies its ongoing involvement. The department regularly participates in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Task Force, attending both in-person and virtual meetings. This includes contributing to committee sessions focused on revising and improving the CSEC Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The department is committed to continued participation to enhance coordination and communication.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: All Placer County law enforcement agencies and Placer County Health and Human Services should increase efforts to identify and record human trafficking cases to better allocate resources by December 31, 2025.

Response to R1: The Rocklin Police Department agrees with this recommendation and has planned actions to address it. The department will conduct a human trafficking operation targeting suspects and victims specific to the City of Rocklin by December 31, 2025. This mission will involve specially trained officers posing online as underage individuals to engage with potential offenders involved in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). The operation will focus on arrests, evidence collection, and thorough case documentation to generate accurate data, improve interagency coordination, and ensure resources are allocated effectively. This initiative is set to begin in October 2025. **This recommendation has not been fully implemented but will be completed by December 31, 2025.**

R2: Placer County agencies should encourage the Placer County Probation Department and all Placer County law enforcement agencies within Placer County to be included in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force to improve enforcement, communication, training, and recordkeeping by November 1, 2025.

Response to R2: The Rocklin Police Department agrees with this recommendation and has already implemented these measures and will continue to do so moving forward. The department regularly attends CSEC Task Force meetings, both in-person and virtually, and participates in efforts to revise the CSEC MOU. Historically, the department has attended approximately 50% of these meetings due to resource constraints. Moving forward, the Rocklin Police Department intends to increase its attendance and participation in CSEC Task Force meetings as resources allow, with a goal of increased participation by November 1, 2025. **This recommendation has been partially implemented, with plans for full implementation by November 1, 2025.**

CONCLUSION

The City of Rocklin and the Rocklin Police Department remain committed to combating human trafficking through proactive measures, collaboration with regional partners, and community engagement. We appreciate the Placer County Grand Jury's efforts to highlight this critical issue.

Thank you again for your service to the residents of Placer County.

Sincerely,



Rustin Banks
Chief of Police
City of Rocklin

Placer County Code Enforcement Services: Residents' Code Enforcement Complaints

The mission of Placer County Code Enforcement Services is to promote and maintain a safe and desirable living and working environment. Code Enforcement is a complaint-driven process, with the sole purpose of maintaining established norms and standards for the community.

The Placer County Grand Jury sought to determine whether Code Enforcement conducts its investigations in a timely and appropriate manner, providing complainants with proper notifications, resolving alleged violations in accordance with the code, and reducing its complaint backlog.

As part of the investigation into complaints regarding the lack of response or status regarding open complaints, the grand jury reviewed staffing, organizational structure, procedure and policies and the various reporting responsibilities of the unit in order to ascertain its efficiency and effectiveness.

While the grand jury found Code Enforcement is committed to resolving all complaints as quickly as possible, the grand jury determined Code Enforcement could improve its performance and public image by providing residents with more information on the status of cases. The current reporting structure may need to be reassessed so delays in the resolution of complaints are reduced. The grand jury also found a need for updated and standardized procedures for handling chronic complainers and identified the potential for efficiency improvements for hazardous vegetation management services.

Findings

- F1.** Code Enforcement sends a letter when a complaint is received but does not provide follow up information to complaint filers resulting in community dissatisfaction.
- F2.** The Geographic Information System mapping link needs to be reviewed and updated on the Code Enforcement website and should be made more easily accessible to residents.
- F3.** There is no procedure for handling chronic complainers, causing inefficiencies and could contribute to the chronic complaints.
- F4.** Through multiple interviews, the grand jury learned there are different priorities which impact the effectiveness of Code Enforcement.
- F5.** There is duplication with other agencies regarding the education and enforcement of hazardous vegetation. Elimination of this function from Code Enforcement could free up staff to handle the caseload backlog.

- F6.** Code Enforcement is committed to resolving all complaints as quickly as possible and reducing the complaint backlog.

Recommendations

- R1.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement Services to develop procedures for informing citizens on the status of complaints by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure which should include the provision of written correspondence to both complainants and violators.
- R2.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Community Development Resource Agency to update its Geographic Information System mapping and make it easily accessible on Code Enforcements' website.
- R3.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement to develop procedures for handling chronic complainers by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure.
- R4.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should consider the placement of Code Enforcement directly under the Community Development Resource Agency similar to Tahoe-Truckee Code Enforcement by December 31, 2025. This could reduce the conflicting priorities and increase efficiency.
- R5.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should ask Code Enforcement to review its hazardous vegetation management services for potential efficiency improvement by December 31, 2025.

County of Placer
Board of Supervisors

175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, California 95603
(530) 889-4010
BoardClerk@placer.ca.gov

BONNIE GORE
District 1
SHANTI LANDON
District 2
ANTHONY M. DEMATTEI
District 3
SUZANNE JONES
District 4
CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



October 1, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Board of Supervisors Response – 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - Placer County Code Enforcement Services: Residents Code Enforcement Complaints

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Code Enforcement Services: Residents Code Enforcement Complaints.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement Services to develop procedures for informing citizens on the status of complaints by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure which should include the provision of written correspondence to both complainants and violators.

Recommendation 1 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

To improve clarity and transparency, the acknowledgment letter sent to complainants is being revised by the Community Development Resource Agency (CDRA) to include a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and a more detailed explanation of the code enforcement process. Additionally, the letter will direct complainants to the GIS link on the Code Enforcement website, which offers real-time access to the following information regarding all active Code Enforcement cases: case number, violation type, address, APN, open date, and status. Contact information for the Code Enforcement office is also provided for those seeking further details. Code Enforcement staff expect to implement the updated acknowledgment letter by October 15, 2025. Updates will be made to the Policy and Procedures Manual to incorporate the Grand Jury's recommendations with a target completion date of November 1, 2025.

- R3. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement to develop procedures for handling chronic complainers by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure.**

Recommendation 3 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

To address an increasing pattern of misuse of the Code Enforcement complaint process, CDRA staff have drafted a comprehensive procedure aimed at managing chronic complainers and low-priority violations. This procedure will be finalized and incorporated into the Code Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual.

In parallel, staff have proposed an amendment to the Placer County Zoning Ordinance to establish a “No Duty to Enforce” provision. The proposed code language affirms the County’s discretion in determining whether to pursue enforcement in any given case, ensuring that not all complaints automatically trigger formal action. The proposed amendment is being processed as part of a Zoning Text Amendment package led by the Planning Services Division and will be considered by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in the coming months.

The above are targeted to be accomplished by December 31, 2025.

- R4. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should consider the placement of Code Enforcement directly under the Community Development Resource Agency similar to Tahoe-Truckee Code Enforcement by December 31, 2025. This could reduce the conflicting priorities and increase efficiency.**

Recommendation 4 requires further analysis.

CDRA is currently undergoing a department-wide organizational development review with assistance from the Regional Government Services Authority (RGS); this review is expected to be completed in 2026. CDRA management will assess the optimal organizational placement of the Code Enforcement section prior to completion of RGS’s efforts. Any proposed changes will be coordinated with the County Executive Office. In the event it is proposed to consolidate the code enforcement functions of multiple County departments either within or outside of CDRA, the County Executive Office may seek direction from the Board of Supervisors prior to making such organizational changes.

The organizational placement of Code Enforcement is targeted to be accomplished by December 31, 2025.

- R5. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should ask Code Enforcement to review its hazardous vegetation management services for potential efficiency improvement by December 31, 2025.**

Recommendation 5 requires further analysis.

While the enforcement capability in the Placer County HAZVEG program adds an important tool for ensuring compliance, the abatement process is labor-intensive, costly, and currently constrained by dedicated funds to support such efforts.

A preliminary comparison between the County’s HAZVEG program and CAL FIRE’s Defensible Space Program reveals a considerable duplication of effort, particularly in areas already being actively monitored and served by CAL FIRE. Given CAL FIRE’s well-established infrastructure, staffing levels, and effectiveness in

this area, there is a compelling argument that their program may sufficiently address the County's hazardous vegetation management objectives.

However, any decision to terminate or restructure the County's HAZVEG program will require thoughtful consideration of operational impacts, community needs, and coordination with CAL FIRE to ensure continuity of service. Prior to December 31, 2025, Code Enforcement staff will provide the Board of Supervisors the results of their analysis of service overlaps and potential options, and the Board will provide direction on the future of the County's HAZVEG program.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel



August 25, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Placer County Community Development Resource Agency Response - *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - Placer County Code Enforcement Services, Residents Code Enforcement Complaints*

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Placer County Community Development Resource Agency, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Code Enforcement Services, Residents Code Enforcement Complaints*.

FINDINGS

I agree with findings F2 and F6.

I partially disagree with findings F1, F3, and F5.

I wholly disagree with finding F4.

Finding No. 1: Code Enforcement sends a letter when a complaint is received but does not provide follow-up information to complaint filers resulting in community dissatisfaction.

I partially disagree with this finding.

Code Enforcement staff is committed to transparency and providing quality customer service to all members of the public, including complainants. Currently, complainants receive an acknowledgment letter upon submission, which includes contact information for the Code Enforcement office should they have questions or wish to follow up.

Administration ▪ Paul A. Hellman ▪ Director
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(530) 745-3000 office ▪ (530) 745-3120 fax



The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 2

As the Code Enforcement section receives approximately 450 public complaints per year, committing to dialogue with every complainant regarding case updates is not feasible. However, staff acknowledge that improvements can be made. There is an opportunity to enhance communication by providing additional information about the code enforcement process, clearer expectations on case timelines, and improved methods for complainants to track the status of their cases. These enhancements are being considered as part of ongoing efforts to improve service delivery and public engagement.

Finding No. 2: The Geographic Information System mapping link needs to be reviewed and updated on the Code Enforcement website and should be made more easily accessible to residents.

I agree with this finding.

Finding No. 3: There is no procedure for handling chronic complainers, causing inefficiencies and could contribute to the chronic complaints.

I partially disagree with this finding.

While the current Code Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual provides some guidance for addressing contentious complaints, including those from chronic complainers, it is clear that these provisions are no longer sufficient to meet the growing complexity and volume of such cases. Although the Manual notes that complaints may stem from neighbor disputes—and suggests mediation through Placer Dispute Resolution Services as a possible remedy—it lacks clear, enforceable procedures for consistently managing these situations.

The existing language allows the Code Enforcement Manager or designee to consider factors such as retaliation, neighborhood feuds, or chronic unfounded complaints, and to potentially decline enforcement in extreme cases. However, this guidance is broad, lacks standardized criteria, and does not clearly define when or how discretion should be exercised. As a result, decisions can vary across cases, leading to inconsistency, inefficiency, and potential misuse of County resources.

Given the noticeable rise in complaints stemming from interpersonal conflicts or the misuse of the code enforcement process, stronger and more structured provisions are essential. Revisions are needed to formalize discretion, establish clear intake and review procedures, and ensure that enforcement efforts remain focused on issues that serve the public interest rather than private disputes.

Finding No. 4: Through multiple interviews, the grand jury learned there are different priorities which impacts the effectiveness of Code Enforcement.

I wholly disagree with this finding.

The organizational priorities of the Code Enforcement section are aligned with guidance previously provided by the Board of Supervisors and support the County's strategic goals. These priorities include enhancing technological capabilities for tracking and reporting key performance metrics, reducing case resolution times, closing out legacy cases, and leveraging tools such as Accela and GIS applications to streamline operations. Additionally, Code Enforcement has recently developed and tested a formal abatement process to support a more proactive abatement program focused on properties that have not achieved voluntary compliance. These

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 3

ongoing initiatives demonstrate Code Enforcement’s commitment to improving program effectiveness and responsiveness while remaining aligned with Board-established priorities.

Regarding case prioritization, Code Enforcement uses a five-level system to ensure that the most serious issues receive the quickest response. Priority 1 cases involve immediate health and safety risks—such as sewage leaks, unsafe pools, or fire hazards—and are investigated as soon as possible. Priority 2 cases include recurring violations, unpermitted work, and illegal occupancy, which are addressed promptly. The most common complaints (e.g., setback violations, noise, storage issues) fall under Priority 3 and are handled as resources allow. Priority 4 and 5 cases cover lower-risk or minor issues (e.g., abandoned vehicles, non-hazardous signs) and are addressed when time permits. Priorities may be adjusted with supervisory approval to reflect changing circumstances, ensuring that resources are focused on protecting public safety and community welfare.

It is also important to note that the Code Enforcement section operates with dedicated staffing that is functionally separate from the other areas within the Planning Services Division. This deliberate separation ensures that code enforcement activities are carried out with a focused approach, free from the competing demands that may arise from other planning-related responsibilities.

The Code Enforcement section is comprised of a Code Enforcement Manager who oversees the section, a Supervising Code Enforcement Officer responsible for day-to-day operations and coordination, six Code Enforcement Officers who perform field inspections and investigations, and two administrative staff members who provide critical support in processing cases, managing records, and assisting with public inquiries.

There is no cross-assignment of duties between Code Enforcement personnel and staff in other sections of the division, such as current planning or long-range planning. This structure prevents any overlap in responsibilities that might otherwise result in conflicting priorities, divided attention, or diluted effectiveness.

Finding No. 5: There is duplication with other agencies regarding the education and enforcement of hazardous vegetation. Elimination of this function from Code Enforcement could free up staff to handle the caseload backlog.

I partially disagree with this finding.

Code Enforcement’s Hazardous Vegetation (HAZVEG) program is responsible for enforcing the County’s hazardous vegetation standards, as outlined in Chapter 9 of the Placer County Code. These local requirements closely align with the State of California’s defensible space regulations, which are administered by CAL FIRE’s Defensible Space Inspectors. Both sets of regulations are designed to reduce wildfire risk by requiring the clearance of flammable vegetation and the creation of defensible space around structures, particularly in areas designated as high or moderate fire hazard severity zones.

Although CAL FIRE possesses the authority to issue citations for non-compliance, its enforcement model—similar to the County’s HAZVEG program—has traditionally emphasized education and voluntary compliance over punitive action. The shared goal is to promote public safety by encouraging residents to proactively manage vegetation on their properties, thereby reducing the potential for wildfire spread.

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 4

The County's HAZVEG program is currently operated by a single dedicated Code Enforcement Officer. This officer focuses primarily on proactive education and outreach to property owners, with particular attention to those living in high and moderate wildfire risk areas. On average, the program conducts approximately 120 proactive inspections per month. Additionally, the officer responds to an average of 10 complaint-based inspections monthly, initiated by reports from the public.

The most significant operational distinction between Placer County's HAZVEG program and CAL FIRE's Defensible Space Program is the County's authority to initiate and carry out hazardous vegetation abatements when a property owner fails to comply. In such cases, after appropriate notice and due process, the County can enter the property, remove the hazardous vegetation, and recover costs from the property owner. This enforcement capability adds an important layer of accountability to the County's approach, ensuring that properties posing a risk to community safety can be addressed even in instances where voluntary compliance is not achieved.

Finding No. 6: Code Enforcement is committed to resolving all complaints as quickly as possible and reducing the complaint backlog.

I agree with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement Services to develop procedures for informing citizens on the status of complaints by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure which should include the provision of written correspondence to both complainants and violators.

Recommendation 1 has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a targeted completion date of November 1, 2025.

To improve clarity and transparency, the acknowledgment letter sent to complainants is being revised to include a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and a more detailed explanation of the code enforcement process. Additionally, the letter will direct complainants to the GIS link on the Code Enforcement website, which offers real-time access to the following information regarding all active Code Enforcement cases: case number, violation type, address, APN, open date, and status. Contact information for the Code Enforcement office is also provided for those seeking further details. Code Enforcement staff expect to implement the updated acknowledgment letter by October 15, 2025.

In parallel, staff has explored several additional measures to further improve the availability of information to both complainants and the general public. These options have included displaying individual officer contact information directly within the GIS platform and offering an opt-in feature that would notify complainants of any hearings or significant developments related to their complaint.

However, after careful evaluation, staff concluded that such measures may have unintended consequences. Specifically, providing direct staff contact details and proactively notifying complainants of hearings could significantly increase administrative workload and public inquiries, diverting time and resources away from timely case resolution. Ultimately, staff believes that while transparency remains a priority, maintaining a

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 5

balanced and efficient workflow is essential to the effectiveness of Code Enforcement operations. For this reason, staff does not recommend implementing these additional measures at this time.

Together with upcoming revisions to the Policy and Procedures Manual, these updates will ensure that timely and accessible case status information is consistently provided to the public, addressing the Grand Jury's recommendation.

R2. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Community Development Resource Agency to update its Geographic Information System mapping and make it easily accessible on Code Enforcements' website.

Recommendation 2 has been implemented. The GIS mapping tool has been updated and is available on the Code Enforcement webpage (<https://www.placer.ca.gov/2309/Code-Enforcement-Services>).

Code Enforcement staff reactivated its GIS service effective July 11, 2025, and added a prominent link to it on the Code Enforcement webpage. The interactive map offers real-time access to the following information regarding all active Code Enforcement cases: case number, violation type, address, APN, open date, and status.

R3. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should request Code Enforcement to develop procedures for handling chronic complainers by October 31, 2025. The Policy and Procedures Manual should be updated to include this procedure.

Recommendation 3 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a targeted completion date of December 31, 2025 following a workshop with the Board of Supervisors where these procedures will be reviewed and discussed.

To address an increasing pattern of misuse of the Code Enforcement complaint process, staff have drafted a comprehensive procedure aimed at managing chronic complainers and low-priority violations. This procedure will be finalized and incorporated into the Code Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual.

In parallel, staff have proposed an amendment to the Placer County Zoning Ordinance to establish a "No Duty to Enforce" provision. The proposed code language affirms the County's discretion in determining whether to pursue enforcement in any given case, ensuring that not all complaints automatically trigger formal action. The proposed amendment is being processed as part of a Zoning Text Amendment package led by the Planning Services Division and will be considered by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in the coming months.

In support of this ordinance change, a new internal policy has been drafted. This policy formalizes the Code Enforcement Manager's authority to exercise professional discretion in cases involving minor violations that do not impact public health or safety. The intent is to preserve neighborhood harmony, prevent the weaponization of the enforcement process in personal disputes, and focus limited County resources on violations that genuinely affect the broader public interest.

Under this policy, the Manager may decline to pursue enforcement when specific criteria are met. These criteria include: the violation being minor in nature; not posing any threat to health, safety, or the environment; and the likelihood of inflaming existing neighborhood conflicts if pursued. The policy also considers whether a

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 6

reasonable person would find the violation materially detrimental to the community. In such cases, the Manager may opt to issue a verbal or written warning or close the case without further action.

The policy also outlines clear procedures for complaint intake, review, documentation, and notification. Complaints that meet the criteria for discretionary review will be flagged during intake. The Manager will then assess the context of the complaint, including any patterns of past abuse by the complainant. Any decision to decline enforcement must be documented in the case management system, including a rationale based on the policy. Complainants will receive written notice explaining that the case does not warrant enforcement action under the “No Duty to Enforce” provision and this policy.

The policy also establishes clear exceptions. It does not apply to violations that pose a risk to life, health, or safety; involve criminal activity; cause significant environmental harm; or are subject to mandatory enforcement under state or federal law.

This policy is scheduled to take effect on November 1, 2025, and will be reviewed every five years, or sooner if operational needs require. Once implemented, it will be included in the Code Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual and serve as an important tool to promote consistent, fair, and efficient enforcement practices across the County.

R4. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should consider the placement of Code Enforcement directly under the Community Development Resource Agency similar to the Tahoe-Truckee Code Enforcement by December 31, 2025. This could reduce the conflicting priorities and increase efficiency.

Recommendation 4 requires further analysis, which will be completed by December 31, 2025.

CDRA is an agency comprised of several distinct divisions; the manager of each division reports directly to either the CDRA Director or Assistant CDRA Director. The manager of the Code Enforcement section of CDRA’s Tahoe office reports to the Deputy Director of CDRA responsible for managing CDRA’s Tahoe office, which is separate from the Planning Services Division that oversees CDRA’s other Code Enforcement operations.

While staff does not agree with the finding that conflicting priorities are reducing the efficiency of the section, CDRA acknowledges the need to evaluate the current organizational structure of its Code Enforcement operations. CDRA is currently undergoing a department-wide organizational development review with assistance from the Regional Government Services Authority (RGS); this review is expected to be completed next year.

Due to the mandatory timeframe for addressing the Placer County Grand Jury’s recommendations, CDRA management will assess the optimal organizational placement of the Code Enforcement section prior to completion of RGS’s efforts. Any proposed changes will be coordinated with the County Executive Office. In the event it is proposed to consolidate the code enforcement functions of multiple County departments either within or outside of CDRA, the County Executive Office may seek direction from the Board of Supervisors prior to making such organizational changes.

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 7

R5. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should ask Code Enforcement to review its hazardous vegetation management services for potential efficiency improvement by December 31, 2025.

Recommendation 5 requires further analysis. The further analysis will be completed by December 31, 2025 following a workshop with the Board of Supervisors where this assignment will be reviewed.

The most significant operational difference between Placer County's HAZVEG program and CAL FIRE's Defensible Space Program lies in the County's authority to perform abatements when property owners fail to comply with vegetation management requirements. While this enforcement capability adds an important tool for ensuring compliance, the abatement process is labor-intensive, costly, and currently constrained by dedicated funds to support such efforts.

In contrast, CAL FIRE operates a well-resourced, highly structured defensible space program that is supported by a sophisticated digital infrastructure and a robust team of inspectors. Their statewide program is capable of directing and tracking defensible space efforts across Placer County efficiently, while also delivering consistent public education and wildfire risk reduction services.

Recognizing the significant overlap in purpose, scope, and service area between the County's HAZVEG program and CAL FIRE's operations, Code Enforcement staff recently met with representatives from CAL FIRE to better understand their current capacity and ongoing activities in the region. These discussions confirmed that CAL FIRE is already conducting defensible space inspections that align closely with the County's program, both in approach and in geographic focus.

A preliminary comparison between the two programs reveals a considerable duplication of effort, particularly in areas already being actively monitored and served by CAL FIRE. Given CAL FIRE's well-established infrastructure, staffing levels, and effectiveness in this area, there is a compelling argument that their program sufficiently addresses the County's hazardous vegetation management objectives. Transferring full responsibility for hazardous vegetation inspections and enforcement to CAL FIRE could significantly reduce redundancy, while also freeing up County Code Enforcement resources to focus on other high-priority areas—most notably, reducing the current backlog of open enforcement cases and improving responsiveness across a broader range of code violations.

However, any decision to terminate or restructure the County's HAZVEG program will require thoughtful consideration of operational impacts, community needs, and coordination with CAL FIRE to ensure continuity of service. To that end, Code Enforcement staff plans to present this matter to the Board of Supervisors in November to seek direction on the future of the County's HAZVEG program.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Hellman
Community Development Resource Agency Director

cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
August 25, 2025
Page 8

Placer County Clerk of the Board
Placer County Clerk-Recorder
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel

Auburn Union School District: Tackling Academic and Financial Challenges

The Auburn Union School District has been in a deficit spending cycle for over 20 years. During the 2021-2022 school year, the District submitted a “Qualified” budget to the state, which initiated a string of required corrective actions requested by the Placer County Office of Education. The District has also experienced disagreement amongst the Board of Trustees in adopting corrective measures to address financial challenges, as well as an overall action plan to address low academic performance and expand student wellness services.

In June and July of 2024, the District hired a permanent superintendent and hired a new chief business officer, while the November 2024 election shifted the balance and perspectives of the Board of Trustees.

The Placer County Grand Jury sought to examine the District’s approach to reaching long-term financial viability and resolving the strategy to improve student academic performance and student well-being.

The Placer County Grand Jury finds historical multi-year budgets do not carry over ending balances to subsequent years budgets beginning balances. The district office hired a new chief business officer in July 2024. Subsequent budgets and interim budget reviews were appropriately linked with a more thorough explanation of the variances experienced in revenues and expenses, as well as a clearer understanding of future restricted funds and allocations.

The 2024-2025 District multi-year budget shows steady improvements in reducing deficit spending and maintaining a healthy cash balance in the treasury. The grand jury has confidence present financial reporting validates Auburn Union School District’s ability to operate the district’s educational obligations for Transitional Kindergarten through 8th grade students through the 2026-2027 school year and beyond.

The district has made a concerted effort to strengthen the staff and administration. The leadership team has executed a favorable collective bargaining agreement with the California School Employees Association and its Auburn Union Elementary School District Chapter #171. They are actively pursuing monetizing Auburn Union School District assets and building a positive culture throughout the district. The current Board of Trustees has a mix of perspectives on the goals and objectives for their school district but has shown a high capacity to listen to all points of view and seek a positive and collaborative action plan.

Findings

- F1.** The current strategic plan from 2021 does not align with the thinking and priorities of the community, newly elected (November 2022 and 2024) Auburn Union School District Board of Trustees and the recently hired (July 2024) Superintendent.
- F2.** Beginning balances for multi-year budgets do not match or align with prior years.
- F3.** The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 multi-year budget appropriately reflects Auburn Union School District financial health.
- F4.** Auburn Union School District is facing budget deficits over the next three years.
- F5.** Auburn Union School District treasury account is stated at \$10,543,476 as of March 31, 2025.
- F6.** Auburn Union School District administration, staff and Board of Trustees demonstrate transparency, collaboration, commitment and passion in their job responsibilities.
- F7.** Auburn Union School District has additional opportunities to monetize district assets.
- F8.** There is concern within the Board of Trustees regarding accepting funding from the California Community Schools Partnership Program.
- F9.** Heat map data suggests expanded busing could improve overall attendance, favorably impacting student performance and increased revenue from the state.

Recommendations

- R1.** The Board of Trustees and Auburn Union School District Superintendent should complete a strategic plan which aligns with the community values and expectations for student education and well-being.
- R2.** The Board of Trustees should direct the Auburn Union School District to footnote any Auburn Union School District-submitted budget where the subsequent year end beginning balances do not match prior year's ending balances for all multi-year budgets by September 1, 2025.
- R3.** The Board of Trustees for Auburn Union School District should respond and implement the recommendations of the 7-11 Committee to generate additional revenue from district assets by December 31, 2025.
- R4.** The Board of Trustees for Auburn Union School District should actively communicate to the Auburn community specific plans and concerns regarding pursuit of California Community Schools Partnership Program funds. Include this

information in the strategic plan and Board of Trustee minutes by September 1, 2025.

- R5.** The Board of Trustees for Auburn Union School District should continue to pursue additional funding to expand on existing district transportation services by December 31, 2025.



AUBURN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

255 EPPERLE LANE, AUBURN, CA 95603
PHONE 530-885-7242 FAX 530-885-5170

www.auburn.k12.ca.us

Dr. Brittaney Meyer
Superintendent

We stand together to place each child at the heart of every decision

August 29, 2025

Dear Placer County Grand Jury and The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi,

Please find attached responses to the 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury report entitled *Auburn Union School District: Tackling Academic and Financial Challenges ("Report")*. This response is provided on behalf of all required and requested parties as outlined within the Report.

- Auburn Union School District Board of Trustees
- AUSD Superintendent, Brittaney Meyer
- AUSD Chief Business Officer, Jeremy McReynolds

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Hglt".

Greg Hglt
Board President
Auburn Union School District Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brittaney D. Meyer".

Brittaney D. Meyer, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Auburn Union School District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremy McReynolds".

Jeremy McReynolds
Chief Business Officer
Auburn Union School District

RESPONSE TO PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: Auburn Union School District: Tackling Academic and Financial Challenges

Response Provided by: AUSD Board of Trustees, Superintendent, and Chief Business Officer

What is a Compliant Response?

Penal Code § 933.05 is very specific in what is required in a response. First, a respondent must address the findings listed in the report. There are only two responses allowed by the penal code. However, additional information is required if the respondent disagrees with a finding. If a report only lists findings and there are no recommendations, a response agreeing or disagreeing with each finding is not necessary.

FINDINGS

For purposes of subdivision (b) of Penal Code § 933.05, the respondent shall report one of the following two actions regarding each finding.

<p><u>The respondent agrees with the finding.</u></p>
<p><u>The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding; in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reason(s) therefore.</u></p>

- I (we) **agree** with the finding(s) numbered: F1, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9
- I (we) **disagree** wholly or partially with the finding(s) numbered: F2.

Describe any portions of the finding(s) that are disputed or not applicable; include an explanation of the reason(s).

Placer County Grand Jury
2024-2025 Final Report

RECOMMENDATIONS

For purposes of subdivision (b) of Penal Code § 933.05, the respondent shall report one of the following four actions regarding each recommendation.

The recommendation has been implemented with a summary regarding the implemented action.
The recommendation has not yet been implemented , but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for the implementation .
The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury's report.
The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation , therefore.

- Recommendations numbered R3, R4, R5 **have been** implemented.
(Describe the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered R1 **have not yet been** implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a targeted completion date of April 15, 2026.
Per Penal Code § 933.05(b)(2), a time frame for implementation must be included.
- Recommendations numbered _____ **require further analysis**. The further analysis will be completed by _____.
Describe the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.
- Recommendations numbered R2 **will not be** implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Provide an explanation.

Signature: _____

Date: 8/29/25

Number of pages attached 3.

RESPONSE TO PLACER COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT FORM ATTACHMENT

FINDINGS

Please find below a description of any portion of the findings that are disputed or not applicable and an explanation to the reason(s).

F2. Beginning balances for multi-year budgets do not match or align with prior years.

Response:

Disagree partially

Description and explanation:

2022-2023 and 2023-2024 (ending balance for 22-23 didn't match the beginning balance of 23-24).

While AUSD agrees that the ending balance for 2022-2023 did not match the beginning balance for 2023-2024, this estimate at the time of budget adoption was corrected in subsequent interim reports. This process is both appropriate and aligned with the standard reporting process and timelines as outlined below.

- **Estimated Fund Balances at Budget Adoption (June):**
At the time of budget adoption in June, the ending fund balances for the prior fiscal year are **estimated** based on May financials, as the fiscal year does not officially close until June 30. These estimates are used to project the beginning fund balances for the new fiscal year.
- **Actual Fund Balances (October – First Interim Report):**
Once the Unaudited Actual Financial Reports is complete by **September 15**, actual ending balances are finalized and reflected in the **First Interim Report**, which is submitted by **October 31**. This is the first opportunity to update the budget with actual financial data into the original budget.
- **Annual Audit Adjustments (December):**
The **Annual Audit Report**, which is completed by **December 15**, may identify additional required adjustments. If the audit results in changes to the ending fund balance, those adjustments are incorporated into the **Second Interim Report**, due in **January**.
- **County Office Oversight and Corrections:**
If any discrepancies or required journal entries are identified by the County Office of Education, the district is notified and corrections are made in the appropriate interim report.

In summary, variations between beginning and ending fund balances at budget adoption are due to the timing of fiscal closeout and the use of estimates. These are corrected through the regular

reporting cycle and in coordination with the County Office to ensure accurate and compliant financial reporting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please find below any explanation and additional detail as required.

R2: The Board of Trustees should direct the Auburn Union School District to footnote any Auburn Union School District submitted budget where the subsequent year end beginning balances which do not match prior year's end balances for all multi-year budgets by September 1, 2025.

Response:

Recommendation **will not be** implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.

Explanation:

As discussed in our partial disagreement response to Finding 2, estimated beginning and ending fund balances are corrected once actuals are available. This is inline with the standard reporting process and timeline for school budgets. Therefore, footnotes are unnecessary as the estimated beginning and ending fund balances are, by their nature, just that—estimate—and it is presumed that they may change as appropriate once actuals are available.

R3: The Board of Trustees for Auburn Union School District should respond and implement the recommendations of the 7-11 Committee to generate additional revenue from district assets by December 31, 2025.

Response:

Recommendation **has been** implemented.

Explanation:

The AUSD 7-11 Committee provided their recommendations to the Board of Trustees at a regular Board meeting held on March 13, 2025. Since this time the Board of Trustees have taken steps to implement all recommendations of the 7-11 which include leasing the Rock Creek property, taking action toward sale of the Atwood property, and investigating community partnerships for the Shirland Tract property.

R4: The Board of Trustees for the Auburn Union School District should actively communicate to the Auburn community specific plans and concerns regarding pursuit of the California Community Schools Partnership Program funds. Include this information in the strategic plan and the Board of Trustee minutes by September 1, 2025.

Response:

Recommendation **has been** implemented.

Explanation:

Per direction from the Board of Trustees, AUSD applied for Cohort 4 of the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) Implementation Grant in February 2025. During regular board meetings the plans and concerns regarding pursuit of the CCSPP grant were discussed. This portion of the recommendation has been implemented.

Regarding the inclusion of information within the updated Strategic Plan (slated for completion in spring 2026), this portion of the recommendation will not be implemented. In May 2025, the California Department of Education released those selected for a Cohort 4 CCSPP Implementation Grant; AUSD was not selected. Cohort 4 was the final cohort for the CCSPP Implementation Grant. Given this, no further action can be taken. Including this information in a forward looking strategic plan would, therefore, be counter to the spirit of the document.

R5: The Board of Trustees for Auburn Union School District should continue to pursue additional funding to expand on existing district transportation services by December 31, 2025.

Response:

Recommendation **has been** implemented.

Explanation:

In addition to city and county bus passes, as provided in previous years, beginning in 2025-2026 Auburn Union School District added a school bus route through an identified area of high chronic absenteeism in the north Auburn area. This route serves Auburn Elementary. As discussed in the Grand Jury report, enrollment and attendance are the two primary factors to drive district revenue. While financial constraints make district-wide busing infeasible, it is expected that the placement of bus routes through high impact areas will positively impact overall attendance percentages for the district, thereby increasing revenues. These revenues can then be used to add additional busing routes in future. Additionally, district staff continue to investigate applicable grant opportunities through a critical cost/benefit analysis in all areas, including transportation.

Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance: Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?

California law requires certain elected and appointed local agency officials, known as statutory filers, file a Statement of Economic Interests known as Form 700. California law also requires local public agencies to enact a Conflict of Interest Code. The Conflict of Interest Code requires certain officials, identified as designated filers, file Form 700. California law also requires certain officials complete ethics training.

The Placer County Grand Jury sought to determine whether the County's five incorporated cities (Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville) and one incorporated town, Loomis, enacted the necessary components of a Conflict of Interest Code, and whether the officials timely filed Form 700 and timely completed ethics training.

Despite challenges in collecting and compiling the data from local agencies due to recently changed processes for Form 700 filings, the grand jury examination found that each of the local agencies adopted a Conflict of Interest Code as required by the State, designated Form 700 filers as part of their Conflict of Interest Code, and offered ethics training. Many officials do not file Form 700 or receive ethics training by the deadline. The grand jury identified poor record keeping as a key challenge in identifying the number of people required to file Form 700 or receive ethics training, and whether there was compliance with the applicable deadline.

The grand jury found the need for local agencies to ensure up-to-date tracking programs for designated filers as well as those required to receive ethics training. The grand jury also determined that local agencies should include a compliance requirement in their respective Conflict of Interest Codes and include in their Conflict of Interest Codes enforcement authority over untimely Form 700 filings and ethics training.

Findings

Conflict of Interest Code

- F1.** Auburn, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville reviewed, amended, and/or adopted conflict of interest codes in 2024, in compliance with Government Code 87306 and 87306.5.
- F2.** Since Colfax did not provide a resolution showing its Conflict of Interest Code was reviewed in 2024, the Placer County Grand Jury was unable to determine whether Colfax conducted a biennial review of its Conflict of Interest Code in 2024.

- F3.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville have incorporated the State of California Model Code into their conflict of interest codes, bringing them into compliance with State law.
- F4.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville designate Form 700 filers in their conflict of interest codes, ensuring compliance with State law.
- F5.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville identify the city clerk as the filing officer for Form 700 filers.
- F6.** Roseville includes Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training in its Conflict of Interest Code.
- F7.** Roseville assigns responsibility to the city clerk for Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.
- F8.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training requirements in their conflict of interest codes.
- F9.** Roseville does address enforcement authority in its Conflict of Interest Code, which states there may be consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.
- F10.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include enforcement authority in their conflict of interest codes, leaving no defined consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.

Form 700

- F11.** Across all local agencies, most of the individuals who did not timely file Form 700 were designated filers.
- F12.** For Colfax, Lincoln and Loomis, incomplete information in recordkeeping for designated Form 700 filers prevented the grand jury from accurately assessing the timeliness of the filings.
- F13.** As a general matter, insufficient oversight by the local agencies has contributed to untimely Form 700 filings for designated filers.

Ethics Training

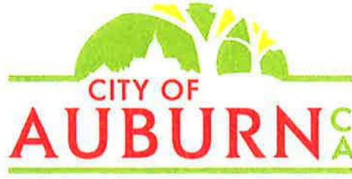
- F14.** Auburn and Rocklin currently place responsibility for Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training on their Human Resource/Administrative Services staff.
- F15.** Across all local agencies, insufficient oversight resulted in many individuals not receiving ethics training by the deadline set by State law.

- F16.** Across all local agencies, overreliance on the individual to schedule and receive ethics training resulted in untimely training.
- F17.** All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain necessary information.
- F18.** A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

Recommendations

- R1.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify those positions who shall receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training pursuant to Government Code section 53234-53235.2 by October 1, 2025.
- R2.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify the city clerk is the responsible official to administer the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training program, and function as the recordkeeper for ethics training records by October 1, 2025.
- R3.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or fail to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.
- R4.** Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Roseville should create and maintain an annual database for all designated Form 700 filers in alignment with the FPPC filing year by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each Form 700 filer, the date of hire or initial service, the type of filing (assuming, annual, leaving), the deadline for filing, the date the form was filed, and whether the filing was timely.
- R5.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin should create and maintain a database of all individuals required to receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each individual required to receive ethics training, the date of hire or the date the position was assumed which required ethics training, the deadline for receiving ethics training (one year/two years), the date ethics training was received, and whether ethics training was timely. The training records should be maintained for five years.

- R6.** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.



August 11, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson, Foreperson
Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: Response to "Placer County Grand Jury Final Report, 2024-2025" Released June 30, 2025

Dear Judge Pineschi and Foreperson Peterson:

The City of Auburn has carefully reviewed and considered the "Placer County Grand Jury Final Report, 2024-2025," released June 30, 2025, specifically the section entitled, "Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?" (the "Compliance Report"). The Compliance Report requests the City's response to Findings 8, 10, 17, and 18 and Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 beginning on Page 129 of the Compliance Report. Accordingly, the City provides the following responses pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05, subdivisions (a) and (b):

F8: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training requirements in their conflict of interest codes.

The City agrees with this finding. The City is currently evaluating updates to its Conflict of Interest Code to consider, among other things, incorporating references to AB 1234 training.

F10: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include enforcement authority in their conflict of interest codes, leaving no defined consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.

The City agrees with this finding. The City is currently evaluating updates to its Conflict of Interest Code to consider, among other things, additional enforcement authority.

F17: All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain necessary information.

The City partially disagrees with this finding. The City recognizes the importance of accurate and accessible record keeping. While prior records were kept in different locations, but still publicly accessible upon request, in 2022 the City enhanced its

tracking systems and improved internal processes to ensure that all required records are properly maintained and readily available for review.

- F18:** A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

The City partially disagrees with this finding. The City has consistently used reminders and administrative procedures to remind code filers and designated employees of the requirement to take AB 1234 ethics training and an overwhelming majority of them have met this requirement. While enforcement authority may support compliance for some, it may not support compliance for others.

- R1:** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify those positions who shall receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training pursuant to Government Code section 53234-53235.2 by October 1, 2025.

This recommendation has not yet been implemented by the City, but will be implemented in the future, by October 1, 2025.

- R2:** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify the city clerk is the responsible official to administer the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training program, and function as the recordkeeper for ethics training records by October 1, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented by the City because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The City Clerk currently tracks AB 1234 training for elected officials, appointed boards and commissions, and designated volunteers. For designated positions, training is managed by the Human Resources Department using the Vector Solutions platform. The City will work collaboratively across departments to ensure that roles are clearly defined and consider incorporating such responsibilities into the Conflict of Interest Code.

- R3:** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or fail to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.

This recommendation requires further analysis by the City. Within (6) months after June 30, 2025, the City will evaluate this proposal and staff will make a recommendation to the City Council regarding options for enforcement.

- R5:** Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin should create and maintain a database of all individuals required to receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each individual required to receive ethics training, the date of hire or the date the position was assumed which required ethics training, the deadline for receiving ethics training (one year/two years), the date ethics training was received, and whether ethics training was timely. The training records should be maintained for five years.

This recommendation has been implemented by the City. The City currently maintains tracking systems for AB 1234 training across applicable categories (Council, commissioners, volunteers, and designated positions). The City will continue to explore ways to enhance and consolidate tracking into a comprehensive database with the fields recommended by the Grand Jury and ensure retention of records for at least five years.

R6: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.

This recommendation has not yet been implemented by the City, but will be implemented in the future, by November 1, 2025.

The City of Auburn welcomes and appreciates the Grand Jury's interest in the City's operations, as well as the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandy Amara', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandy Amara, Mayor

City of Auburn

City of Colfax



August 27, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P. O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance

Dear Judge Pineschi:

The City of Lincoln has reviewed the 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report titled "Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance," and hereby submits its response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury as requested.

Findings by the Grand Jury and the City's Response

F8: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training requirements in their conflict of interest codes.

Response to F8: Ethics training requirements are established by State law, which is incorporated into the City's conflict of interest code by reference, and do not require separate codification.

F10: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include enforcement authority in their conflict of interest codes, leaving no defined consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.

Response to F10: The Political Reform Act articulates consequences and the means for enforcement, including oversight by the Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC").

City Hall

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Lincoln, CA 95648
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City Manager's Office • Community Development • Engineering • Fire
Library • Recreation • Police • Public Works • Support Services

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
"Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance"
August 27, 2025

F12: For Colfax, Lincoln and Loomis, incomplete information in recordkeeping for designated Form 700 filers prevented the grand jury from accurately assessing the timeliness of the findings.

Response to F12: This finding is not a statement of fact, but rather, a conclusory opinion. Lincoln disagrees with this finding. Lincoln's City Clerk's office has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. Additionally, all Form 700s are publicly available on the FPPC website.

F17: All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain necessary information.

Response to F17: This finding is not a statement of fact, but rather, a conclusory opinion. Lincoln disagrees with this finding.

F18: A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

Response to F18: This finding is not a statement of fact, but rather, a conclusory opinion. Lincoln disagrees with this finding.

Recommendations by the Grand Jury and the City's Response

R1: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify those positions who shall receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training pursuant to Government Code section 53234-53235.2 by October 1, 2025.

Response to R1: Ethics training requirements are established by State law, which is incorporated into the City's conflict of interest code by reference, and do not require separate codification. Lincoln's City Clerk's office has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. Further, the City Clerk's office is in the process of increasing public transparency through the use of both DisclosureDocs (form 700 filers) and CampaignDocs (all campaign docs, Form 501, 460, etc.); IT solutions that will be publicly available on the City's website mid-2026. Therefore, this recommendation will not be implemented.

R2: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify the city clerk is the responsible official to administer the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training program, and function as the recordkeeper for ethics training records by October 1, 2025.

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
"Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance"
August 27, 2025

Response to R2: Lincoln's City Clerk's office has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. All records are available via a Public Records Act Request. Form 700 filings are publicly available on the FPPC website as well. Further, the City Clerk's office is in the process of increasing public transparency through the use of both DisclosureDocs (form 700 filers) and CampaignDocs (all campaign docs, Form 501, 460, etc.); IT solutions that will be publicly available on the City's website mid-2026. Therefore, this recommendation will not be implemented.

R3: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or fail to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.

Response to R3: The Political Reform Act articulates consequences and the means for enforcement, including oversight by the FPPC. This recommendation will not be implemented.

R4: Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Roseville should create and maintain an annual database for all designated Form 700 filers in alignment with the FPPC filing year by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each Form 700 filer, the date of hire or initial service, the type of filing (assuming, annual, leaving), the deadline for filing, the date the form was filed, and whether the filing was timely.

Response to R4: Lincoln's City Clerk's office has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. All records are available via a Public Records Act Request. Form 700 filings are publicly available on the FPPC website as well. Further, the City Clerk's office is in the process of increasing public transparency through the use of both DisclosureDocs (form 700 filers) and CampaignDocs (all campaign docs, Form 501, 460, etc.); IT solutions that will be publicly available on the City's website mid-2026. Therefore, this recommendation will not be implemented.

R5: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin should create and maintain a database of all individuals required to receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each individual required to receive ethics training, the date of hire or the date the position was assumed which required ethics training, the deadline for receiving ethics training (one year/two years), the date ethics training was received, and whether ethics training was timely. The training records should be maintained for five years.

Response to R5: Lincoln's City Clerk's office has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. All records are available via a Public Records Act Request. Form 700

RE: Response to 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury Report
"Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance"
August 27, 2025

filings are publicly available on the FPPC website as well. Further, the City Clerk's office is in the process of increasing public transparency through the use of both DisclosureDocs (form 700 filers) and CampaignDocs (all campaign docs, Form 501, 460, etc.); IT solutions that will be publicly available on the City's website mid-2026. Therefore, this recommendation will not be implemented.

R6: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.

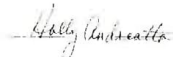
Response to R6: Lincoln's City Clerk's office strives to achieve timely performance, and has established internal procedures to document, track, and enforce Form 700 filings as well as ethics training for those designated. All records are available via a Public Records Act Request. Form 700 filings are publicly available on the FPPC website as well. ***In fact, the Grand Jury's report identified no untimely filers for the period evaluated.*** Further, the City Clerk's office is in the process of increasing public transparency through the use of both DisclosureDocs (form 700 filers) and CampaignDocs (all campaign docs, Form 501, 460, etc.); IT solutions that will be publicly available on the City's website mid-2026. Therefore, this recommendation will not be implemented.

This concludes Mr. Scully and the City's response to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations from its 2024-2025 report titled "Conflict of Interest, Form 700 and Ethics Training Compliance." Please do not hesitate to contact the City if you have questions regarding this response.

Sincerely,



Sean Scully
City Manager



Holly Andreatta, Mayor City
Council

cc: Placer County Grand Jury
Attn: Foreperson
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Placer County Board of Supervisors (courtesy copy per Grand Jury's request)

Placer County Grand Jury
2024-2025 Final Report

RECOMMENDATIONS

For purposes of subdivision (b) of Penal Code § 933.05, the respondent shall report one of the following four actions regarding each recommendation.

The recommendation has been implemented with a summary regarding the implemented action.
The recommendation has not yet been implemented , but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for the implementation .
The recommendation requires further analysis , with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury's report.
The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation , therefore.

- Recommendations numbered _____ **have been** implemented.
(Describe the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ **have not yet been** implemented but will be implemented in the future, with a targeted completion date of _____.
Per Penal Code § 933.05(b)(2), a time frame for implementation must be included.
- Recommendations numbered _____ **require further analysis**. The further analysis will be completed by _____.
Describe the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.
- Recommendations numbered 1-6 **will not be** implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Provide an explanation.

Signature: _____

Date: 8/27/25

Number of pages attached 4.

TOWN OF LOOMIS



9/9/2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge
Placer County
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

The Honorable Trisha Hirashima
Advising Grand Jury Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 649072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson
Foreperson
2024 – 2025 Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: Response to the Placer County Grand Jury Final Report 2024/25

Dear Honorable Judge Pineschi, Honorable Judge Hirashima, and Placer County Grand Jury:

The Town of Loomis has reviewed the Placer County Grand Jury Final Report 2024/25 released on June 30, 2025. The Town is providing the following responses pursuant to California Penal Code section 933.05, subdivision (a) and (b):

Placer County Grand Jury Finding No. 8:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training requirements in their conflict-of-interest codes.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Finding No. 8:

The Town agrees that its conflict-of-interest code ("Code") does not include AB 1234 language, but it cannot concur to the extent that such finding presumes it is required to be included in the Code. The three required components of a Code are as follows:

1. Incorporation Section (Terms of the Code) - This section designates where the Form 700s are filed and retained (i.e., the agency or the FPPC). This section also must reference Regulation 18730, which provides the rules for disqualification procedures, reporting financial interests, and references the current gift limit. A sample is available.

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2. List of Designated Positions - The code must list all agency positions that involve the making or participation in making of decisions that “may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest.” This covers agency members, officers and employees, and it may include volunteers on a committee if the members make or participate in making government decisions.
3. Detailed Disclosure Categories - A disclosure category is a description of the types of financial interests’ officials in one or more job classifications must disclose on their Form 700s. The categories must be tailored to the financial interests affected and must not require public officials to disclose private financial information that does not relate to their public employment.

Placer County Grand Jury Finding No. 10:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include enforcement authority in their conflict of interest codes, leaving no defined consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.

Town of Loomis’ Response to Grand Jury Finding No. 10:

The Town agrees that its Code does not include any “enforcement authority” language, but it cannot concur to the extent that such finding is presumed to be required to be included in the Code. The three required components of a Code are as follows:

1. Incorporation Section (Terms of the Code) - This section designates where the Form 700s are filed and retained (i.e., the agency or the FPPC). This section also must reference Regulation 18730, which provides the rules for disqualification procedures, reporting financial interests, and references the current gift limit. A sample is available.
2. List of Designated Positions - The code must list all agency positions that involve the making or participation in making of decisions that “may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest.” This covers agency members, officers and employees, and it may include volunteers on a committee if the members make or participate in making government decisions.
3. Detailed Disclosure Categories - A disclosure category is a description of the types of financial interests officials in one or more job classifications must disclose on their Form 700s. The categories must be tailored to the financial interests affected, and must not require public officials to disclose private financial information that does not relate to their public employment.

The Town also cannot concur to the extent that there is assumed to be left “no defined consequences” if a designated individual fails to file the Form 700 or fails to complete the AB 1234 training. The Town Clerk, as the filing officer for the Town has certain rights and duties under state law, and moreover, all designated-filer employees are under the Town Manager’s oversight.

Placer County Grand Jury Finding No. 12:

For Colfax, Lincoln and Loomis, incomplete information in recordkeeping for designated Form 700 filers prevented the grand jury from accurately assessing the timeliness of the filings.

Town of Loomis’ Response to Grand Jury Finding No. 12:

The Town cannot concur that there was “incomplete information” in the Form 700 logs, as they are accurate as to what the FPPC requires.

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Placer County Grand Jury Finding No. 17:

All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain necessary information.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Finding No. 17:

The Town's AB 1234 recordkeeping was legally compliant and therefore it cannot concur that it failed to contain "necessary" information.

Placer County Grand Jury Finding No. 18:

A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Finding No. 18:

To the extent there was untimely ethics training the Town cannot concur at this time that it was caused by any "lack of enforcement authority" — given the robust enforcement mechanisms already available.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 1:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify those positions who shall receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training pursuant to Government Code section 53234-53235.2 by October 1, 2025.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 1:

The Town will implement this recommendation, in keeping with its current practice to regularly review and update its Code. Pursuant to such review, it will make any necessary amendments pursuant to the time allotted for such amendments under state law.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 2:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify the city clerk is the responsible official to administer the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training program, and function as the recordkeeper for ethics training records by October 1, 2025.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 2:

The Town will implement this recommendation, in keeping with its current practice to regularly review and update its Code. Pursuant to such review, it will make any necessary amendments pursuant to the time allotted for such amendments under state law.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 3:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or fail to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 3:

The Town does not believe the recommendation is warranted. First, such language is not required under state law. Second, the FPPC already regulates and provides robust and broad enforcement over the Form 700 filing and AB 1234 training requirements. In addition, the filing officer for the Town has the ability to provide referrals to the FPPC as necessary. Finally, the Town Manager, consistent with the Town's Council-Manager form of governance, has oversight over all affected employees.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 4:

Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Roseville should create and maintain an annual database for all designated Form 700 filers in alignment with the FPPC filing year by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each Form 700 filer, the date of hire or initial service, the type of filing (assuming, annual, leaving), the deadline for filing, the date the form was filed, and whether the filing was timely.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 4:

The recommendation will be implemented to the extent it will include the date of hire or initial service.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 5:

Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin should create and maintain a database of all individuals required to receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each individual required to receive ethics training, the date of hire or the date the position was assumed which required ethics training, the deadline for receiving ethics training (one year/two years), the date ethics training was received, and whether ethics training was timely. The training records should be maintained for five years.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 5:

The recommendation will be implemented to the extent it will include the date of hire or initial service.

Placer County Grand Jury Recommendation No. 6:

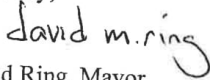
Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.

Town of Loomis' Response to Grand Jury Recommendation No. 6:

The Town plans to implement this recommendation through its implementation of some of the other recommendations, as noted above, including date of hire/service.

The Town of Loomis appreciates the Grand Jury's interest in the Town's administration, as well as the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations above.

Sincerely,



David Ring, Mayor
Town of Loomis

P.O. Box 1327, Loomis, CA 95650
Phone: 916-652-1840 Fax: 916-652-1847



August 26, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

The Honorable Trisha Hirashima
Advising Grand Jury Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson
Foreperson
2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: **Response to 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report. Conflict of Interest Code,
Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance**

Dear Honorable Judge Pineschi, Honorable Trisha Hirashima, and Placer County Grand Jury:

We would like to thank the Placer County Grand Jury for your dedication to the citizens of Placer County. We hereby submit our response to the 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance

Report Title: Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance
Report Date: Released to the public on July 9, 2025
Response By: Mayor Jill Gayaldo on behalf of City of Rocklin City Council

FINDINGS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance contains four (4) findings to which the Grand Jury has requested a response. Pursuant to Penal Code § 933(c), we provide the following responses to those findings "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Rocklin. For those findings that are not "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Rocklin, the response will note that.

CITY OF ROCKLIN, CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
3970 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA 95677
rocklin.ca.us | P. 916.625.5000 | F. 916.625.5095 | TTY. 916.632.4013

We agree with the findings numbered: F8.

We disagree, in whole or in part, with the findings numbered: F10, F17, and F18.

F8: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training requirements in their conflict of interest codes.

Response to F8: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, we agree that the Conflict of Interest Code adopted October 22, 2024 via Resolution 2024-232 does not include Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Trainings Requirements. The Conflict of Interest Code complies with applicable laws, rules, and regulations and is mandated by the Political Reform Act of 1974 which does not require the inclusion of Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Trainings Requirements in the Conflict of Interest Code. The City of Rocklin does require that designated employees, Commissioners, and City Council members complete AB 1234 training in per City Council Resolution 2024-232 adopted October 22, 2024.

F10: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin do not include enforcement authority in their conflict of interest codes, leaving no defined consequences if a designated individual fails to timely file Form 700 or complete Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training.

Response to F10: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, we partially disagree with this finding. The Conflict of Interest Code Section 12. Violations describes the administrative, criminal, and civil sanctions that are provided under the Political Reform Act if designated employees violate the Conflict of Interest Code. Furthermore, the City's adopted Code of Ethics, adopted September 11, 2007 via Resolution 2007-279 states that the Mayor and Chairs of Boards and Commissions have the responsibility to intervene when actions appear to be in violation of the Code of Ethics. Additionally, the FPPC established rules and consequences for failure to timely file Form 700s.

F17: All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain the necessary information.

Response to F17: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, we fully disagree with this finding. The City of Rocklin uses two systems to monitor Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training and Form 700 filings: Vector Solutions and South Tech Hosting. The staff that administer these systems are familiar with their recordkeeping abilities and can pull reports with the information needed.

F18: A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

Response to F18: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, we fully disagree with this finding. The City has a sufficient online training system, Vector Solutions, that tracks when designated employees, Commissioners, and City Council Members are required to complete training. As of

writing this response, there are no designated individuals who are not compliant with their AB 1234 Ethics Training.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance contains five (5) recommendations to which the Grand Jury has requested a response. Pursuant to Penal Code § 933(c), we provide the following responses to those recommendations "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Rocklin. For those findings that are not "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Rocklin, the response will note that.

R1: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify those positions who shall receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training pursuant to Government Code section 53234-53235.2 by October 1, 2025.

Response to R1: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, recommendation R1 will not be implemented. The list of positions and designated officials who shall complete ethics training is the same list as the positions and designated officials who must complete Form 700 filings. This list has been approved by the City Council on October 22, 2024 via Resolution 2024-232, therefore the recommendation has already been implemented with past practice.

R2: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin review, amend, and/or adopt their conflict of interest code to specify the city clerk is the responsible official to administer the Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training program and function as the recordkeeper for ethics trainings records by October 1, 2025.

Response to R2: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, recommendation R2 will not be implemented. The Administrative Services Department is the responsible department to ensure that all City trainings are completed, including ethics training. Given that the City has a 100% completion rate for AB 1234 ethics trainings, the system currently in place is effective and we will not be implementing changes.

R3: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.

Response to R3: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, recommendation R3 will not be implemented. Filing Form 700 and completing AB 1234 Ethics Training is a job requirement for certain positions. Through the City's adopted Code of Ethics and the Personnel Rules, the City Manager is granted enough authority to enforce these requirements and pursue progressive discipline and other appropriate action for those that are out of compliance. For the designated elected and appointed officials, the City's Code of Ethics provides the Mayor and Chairs of boards and commissions the authority to intervene when fellow officials appear to be in violation

of the Code of Ethics. Further revising of the Conflict of Interest Policy is duplicative of the enforcement mechanisms that are already in place.

R5: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin should create and maintain a database of all individuals required to receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each individual required to receive ethics training, the date of hire or the date the position was assumed which required ethics training, the deadline for receiving ethics training (one year/two years), the date ethics training was received, and whether ethics training was timely. The training records should be maintained for five years.

Response to R5: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, recommendation R5 will not be implemented or has already been fully or partially implemented. The City already has software, Vector Solutions, that tracks the name of the individual to receive AB 1234 training, the date of hire, the deadline to complete training, the date the training was received, and whether the training was completed timely. The City is able to pull reports on AB 1234 Ethics Training to assess these items, and all designated staff and elected and appointed officials are current on their trainings. These records do not have an expiration and thus, are maintained for at least five years.

R6: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.

Response to R6: The City of Rocklin is unable to provide a response for the other agencies in the findings. However, as to the City of Rocklin only, recommendation R6 will not be implemented. The City's systems that we use for tracking compliance with Form 700 filings and ethics trainings provide reports to the administrators with enough information to ensure that everyone is in compliance with the requirements. Emails are sent out to supervisors, managers, and department directors for employees who are not in compliance. The existing Code of Ethics and Personnel Rules provide adequate authority to the City Manager, Mayor, and Chairs of boards and commissions to enforce the Form 700 and ethics trainings requirements.

We again would like to thank the 2024-25 Placer County Grand Jury for its report and service to the City of Rocklin.

Sincerely,



Jill Gayaldo

Mayor

City of Rocklin



City Council
311 Vernon Street
Roseville, California 95678

August 21, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

The Honorable Trisha Hirashima
Advising Grand Jury Judge
Superior Court County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Bob Peterson
Foreperson
2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

**Re: Response to 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report
Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in
Placer County Compliant?**

Dear Honorable Judge Pineschi, Honorable Judge Hirashima, and Placer County Grand Jury:

I would like to thank the Placer County Grand Jury for your continued dedication to the citizens of Placer County. I am pleased to submit our response to the 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?" on behalf of myself, as Mayor, and the Roseville City Council.

Report Title: Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?

Report Date: Released to the public on June 30, 2025 (Amended July 9, 2025)

Response By: Mayor Krista Bernasconi, as Mayor, and on behalf of City of Roseville City Council

FINDINGS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?" contains two (2) specific findings (F17 and F18) requiring a response from the City of Roseville. Pursuant to Penal Code § 933(c), I provide the following responses to those findings "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Roseville. For any findings that are not "pertaining to matters under the control" of the City of Roseville, the response will note that.

F17: All local agencies' recordkeeping was difficult to review and often failed to contain necessary information.

As to finding number F17, I am unfortunately unable to provide a response because the matter is not under the control of the City of Roseville (per Penal Code § 933(c)) and I lack personal knowledge as to any difficulty the Grand Jury had with reviewing recordkeeping from the jurisdictions.

F18: A lack of enforcement authority within all local agencies led to failures to receive timely ethics training.

As to finding numbered F18, I am unfortunately unable to provide a response because the matter is not under the control of the City of Roseville (per Penal Code § 933(c)) and I lack personal knowledge as to any issues with enforcement authority in other jurisdictions. As to Roseville, however, I can state that I agree with the finding insofar as clearer enforcement authority would help with timely ethics trainings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: "Conflict of Interest Code, Form 700, Ethics Training Compliance, Are Cities in Placer County Compliant?" contains three (3) specific recommendations (R3, R4, and R6) requiring a response from the City of Roseville.

R3: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should specify in their conflict of interest code actionable enforcement authority against individuals who fail to timely file Form 700 and/or fail to timely receive Assembly Bill 1234 Ethics Training by October 1, 2025.

Response to R3- Recommendation R3, has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented as part of the next Conflict of Interest Code update (estimated to be early 2026).

R4: Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Roseville should create and maintain an annual database for all designated Form 700 filers in alignment with the FPPC filing year by December 31, 2025. The Placer County Grand Jury recommends the database include: the name of each Form 700 filer, the date of hire or initial service, the type of filing (assuming, annual, leaving), the deadline for filing, the date the form was filed, and whether the filing was timely.

Response to R4- Recommendation R4, has been implemented in Roseville since approximately 2015, but Roseville will ensure that the database is regularly updated and maintained.

R6: Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville should create a plan to increase oversight with a goal to achieve 100% timely Form 700 filings and ethics training, by November 1, 2025.

Response to R6- Recommendation R6, has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented as part of the next Conflict of Interest Code update (estimated to be early 2026). Roseville intends to make changes in the next Conflict of Interest Code update to increase enforcement options in an effort to better ensure compliance. This said, 100% compliance is likely never going to be possible due to factors like medical leaves, military leaves, maternity/paternity leaves, and other protected leave periods. We cannot compel disclosure during a protected leave period. Despite this, Roseville remains committed to obtaining as close to 100% compliance as legally possible.

I again would like to thank the 2024-2025 Placer County Grand Jury for its report and service to the City of Roseville.

Sincerely,



Krista Bernasconi
Mayor, and on Behalf of the Roseville City Council

Cc: Roseville City Clerk

Placer County Board of Supervisors

Sean Rabe'
City Manager, City of Auburn
City Hall
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603

Ron Walker
City Manager, City of Colfax
P.O. Box 702
Colfax, CA 95713

Sean Scully
City Manager, City of Lincoln
600 6th Street
Lincoln, CA 95648

Wes Heathcock
City Manager, Town of Loomis
P.O. Box 1330
Loomis, CA 95650

Aly Zimmermann
City Manager, City of Rocklin
3970 Rocklin Road
Rocklin, CA, 95677

Dominick Casey
City Manager, City of Roseville
311 Vernon St
Roseville, CA 95678

Community Schools: Examining Community Schools

The Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) collaborates with sixteen local school districts and one community college district to provide quality education in the region. PCOE participates in a state-funded grant program known as the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP), an educational strategy encouraged but not mandated by the California Department of Education.

In response to escalating tension between schools and parents over a wide range of concerns, including curriculum and school-based services such as physical and mental health care, the Placer County Grand Jury examined Placer County's implementation of the community school strategy, associated school-based mental health initiatives, and the Multi-payer Fee Schedule.

The grand jury found that while the PCOE emphasizes partnerships to equip every child with a first-class education, specific public information detailing their community engagement efforts regarding the community school model is limited. Details of the CCSPP grant funding and the commitments made when receiving it are not shared. The goals and objectives along with metrics showing effectiveness of this strategy are not made available to the wider community. While the application deadline for the current grant funding has expired, there are allocated funds still available which may lead to a new round of grants. The community needs to understand this program prior to any future applications being considered.

There is a notable lack of consistent, public facing communication on how the community school model is being implemented across the county. This gap has led to a lack of awareness, trust and involvement from parents who might not fully understand the program or how they can get involved in influencing the decisions made for their children's education. Despite this, the implementation of CCSPP in Western Placer Unified School District and Placer County Office of Education's Court School appears to be appropriate given the demographics of those students. With more transparency, these schools could be used as model of how this program can be of value.

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative is a separately funded initiative but is philosophically linked to CCSPP. They are based on the whole child approach to education which seeks to address all challenges impacting the child's ability to learn. The California Department of Education and Placer County Office of Education encourage all districts to adopt both along with the Multi-payer Fee Schedule. Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative funded school-based mental health services create concern about whether these services will be provided without parent involvement and have been the driver behind most opposition to the CCSPP. Placer County Office of Education has not been forthcoming in identifying the academic value of these services. Nor have they communicated the

potential benefits and risks of school-based care. Auburn Union School District is planning to move away from the wellness centers run by Placer County Office of Education, preferring to fund their own approach which more closely matches their educational goals.

The primary objective of the Multi-payer Fee Schedule is to create a sustainable funding mechanism for school-linked behavioral health services. Placer County Office of Education has received grant funding to participate in the development of this program. Parents need to be actively involved in this process and the wider community must be kept aware of the implementation plans. Parental involvement needs to start before services are provided, not after the Explanation of Benefits is received.

Findings

- F1.** Placer County Office of Education has not clearly communicated the plans for community schools effectively. Community outreach strategies, including parent involvement and engagement efforts in local schools, are not widely publicized or standardized across all districts.
- F2.** Information provided by the Placer County Office of Education has not sufficiently addressed the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative's objectives and implementation strategies.
- F3.** Community Schools is an educational strategy encouraged by, but not mandated, by the California Department of Education. Adoption is up to each school district and their board of education.
- F4.** California Department of Education is encouraging, but not mandating, the implementation of wellness centers and school-based mental health services using Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative grants funded by the Department of Health and Child Service and the Multi-payer Fee Schedule.
- F5.** The California Community Schools Partnership Program grant corresponded with the demographics and socioeconomic characteristics of Western Placer Unified School District students and families in specific schools within the district.
- F6.** Some mental health disorders can be diagnosed by certain school-based personnel, such as credentialed school counselors or wellness staff with appropriate training or licensure even if they are not licensed to provide mental health services.
- F7.** Students can access school-based behavioral health services through Medi-Cal or the Multi-payer Fee Schedule without real time parental notification. Parents are informed later through an insurance statement, which may exclude specific service details due to FERPA/HIPPA regulations for students 12 years and older.

Recommendations

- R1.** Placer County Office of Education should develop and implement transparent and broader communication about their involvement in the Community Schools program and associated initiatives (Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, Multi-payer Fee Schedule) which reaches not just the educational community, but the wider community they serve by October 31, 2025.
- R2.** Placer County Office of Education should put all Memorandums of Understanding for community schools on their website, so the community understands what Placer County Office of Education is agreeing to by taking the grant funding by October 31, 2025.
- R3.** Placer County Office of Education should develop a dedicated, comprehensive Community School page on their website with a section linking to Regional Transformational Assistance Center, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative and any other organizations which has access to children's data by December 31, 2025.



Board of Education

August 28, 2025

Sergey Terebkov
Area 1

Andrew Tagg
Area 2

David Patterson, Ed.D.
Area 3

R. Jan Pinney
Area 4

Kelli Gnile
Area 5

Renee Regacho-Anacleto, Ed.D.
Area 6

Amber Johnson
Area 7

Isaac Barajas
Student Board Member

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
PO Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

Dear Judge Pineschi:

I would like to submit my response to the findings and recommendations contained in the 2024-25 Grand Jury Report pertaining to *Community Schools*. I have carefully reviewed the information and recommendations formulated by the Placer County Grand Jury and after a thorough review, my responses are as follows:

Superintendent's Cabinet

Brad Tooker, Ed.D.
*Deputy County Superintendent
Chief of Staff*

Phillip J. Williams
Deputy County Superintendent

Susan Connolly-Fox
*Associate Superintendent
Student Services*

Jennifer Hicks
*Associate Superintendent
Educational Services*

Roger Van Putten
*Associate Superintendent
Business Services*

Troy Tickle
*Assistant Superintendent
SELPA*

Michelle Eklund
*Chief Communications Officer
Superintendent's Office*

FINDINGS

PCOE disagrees wholly with findings numbered 1 and 6.
PCOE disagrees partly with finding number 2.

F1. Placer County Office of Education has not clearly communicated the plans for community schools effectively. Community outreach strategies, including parent involvement and engagement efforts in local schools, are not widely publicized or standardized across all districts.

Response to F1: PCOE disagrees wholly with the finding.

PCOE serves as a technical assistance provider to local educational agencies (LEAs) in connection with the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP). In this role, PCOE offers support with the CCSPP grant process and with implementation strategies identified by LEAs as part of their locally defined community school approach. PCOE staff work directly with LEA personnel on these strategies; however, it is the responsibility of each LEA and its leadership to engage their community, communicate priorities, and define practices that reflect local needs.

Because community school strategies are intentionally broad and community-driven, each LEA must establish its own approach to defining, communicating, and obtaining input on its practices to ensure both transparency and meaningful community engagement.

Among the three Placer County districts awarded CCSPP planning grants, PCOE has partnered with Western Placer Unified School District and Rocklin Unified School District throughout their community school engagement processes. Auburn Union

School District, which also received a planning grant, experienced a leadership transition during the grant period, and PCOE is not aware of the district's approach to community engagement in this area.

PCOE holds no authority to require a standardized approach to outreach regarding community schools or the CCSPP. Given that only a limited number of LEAs in Placer County have received CCSPP planning or implementation grants, most communities within the county have had minimal direct exposure to California's community schools initiative.

F2. Information provided by the Placer County Office of Education has not sufficiently addressed the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative's objectives and implementation strategies.

Response to F2: PCOE disagrees partially with the finding

Placer County LEAs are still in the process of learning about the CYBHI Fee Schedule requirements and determining if they will pursue adopting the billing process and if so, for what services and providers they may seek reimbursement under this system. To date, adoption of the CYBHI Fee Schedule has been slow in California due to delays at the state level. This slow adoption is evident in Placer County where less than 10 families have provided information to participate in the CYBHI Fee Schedule. In each of these instances, the parents have been provided with consultation and information about the billing process and have been clearly informed that participation in billing is not required for services.

Community school strategies do not require school based mental health approaches and school based mental health programs do not require and cannot be sustained on the CYBHI Fee Schedule. If a school district or charter were to choose to adopt the CYBHI Fee Schedule, each local education agency within Placer County would ultimately determine the extent that they participate in the Fee Schedule and each would define unique objectives and implementation strategies that they would communicate to their community.

F6. Some mental health disorders can be diagnosed by certain school based personal [sic] such as credentialed school counselors or wellness staff with appropriate training or licensure even if they are not licensed to provide mental health services.

Response to F6: PCOE disagrees wholly with the finding.

PCOE is not aware of any requirement or authorization, either within community school practices generally or the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) specifically, that would require or permit a school counselor to diagnose a mental health disorder. Education Code § 49600 (AB 2508) authorizes credentialed school counselors to provide mental and behavioral health services to students. Contrary to the referenced finding, state law supports school counselors in delivering

services that address student mental health needs but does not authorize them to make clinical diagnoses.

With respect to other credentialed school staff, school psychologists are authorized to make educational determinations related to Special Education eligibility under California Education Code § 49424. Federal law, specifically the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. (2022)), also expressly identifies certain conditions (e.g., attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) in relation to eligibility determinations. However, these processes are not connected to community school practices or the CCSP. Moreover, eligibility for Special Education is not a prerequisite for reimbursement under the CYBHI Fee Schedule and, in certain cases, may even preclude such reimbursement.

The CYBHI Fee Schedule does not require a medical diagnosis for reimbursement. Instead, it requires a determination of “medical necessity” as defined in California Welfare and Institutions Code § 5961.4. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has clarified that “medical necessity does not equate to or require a diagnosis.” DHCS directs providers to apply criteria established under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), the California Health and Safety Code, and the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. Collectively, these authorities require that services be based on a patient’s specific needs and may include prevention, intervention, management, or treatment of symptoms—regardless of whether a formal diagnosis is present. Importantly, medical necessity determinations must be consistent with the criteria used in physical health care.

Finally, with respect to school-based wellness staff, licensed mental health professionals (e.g., Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists) are regulated by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). Where permitted by their training and licensure, these professionals are authorized to diagnose and treat mental health conditions. This authority arises from their professional licensure—not from the CCSP or the CYBHI.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION #1:

R1. Placer County Office of Education should develop and implement transparent and broader communication about their involvement in the Community Schools program and associated initiatives (Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, Multi-payer Fee Schedule) which reaches not just the educational community, but the wider community they serve by October 31, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented.

PCOE's outreach has been appropriately targeted to the stakeholders directly impacted by the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) and the California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI). Broader engagement at the countywide level would not be effective, as program goals and implementation strategies are determined locally by each LEA and school. Additionally, feedback directed to PCOE through such broad outreach would be difficult to act upon, since the authority for decision-making and program implementation rests with individual LEAs.

To date, only three schools in Placer County have received CCSPP implementation grants (see: [CA Partnership for the Arts Education Resource and Technical Assistance Center](#)), and fewer than ten families across the county have been asked to provide consent for billing under the CYBHI Fee Schedule. Despite this limited footprint, PCOE has undertaken a number of outreach efforts.

In December 2024, PCOE presented to its Governing Board on the CYBHI. This year, PCOE has also provided updates on school-based mental health initiatives to the Western Placer Unified School District Board and the Auburn Union School District Board. In addition, PCOE intends to present an update on its broader school-based mental health efforts to the Placer County Board of Supervisors in fall 2025.

Information and resources related to both the CCSPP and CYBHI have also been posted on the PCOE website, where they have been publicly available for several months.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

R2. Placer County Office of Education should put all Memorandums of Understanding for community schools on their website, so the community understands what Placer County Office of Education is agreeing to by taking the grant funding, by October 31, 2025.

This recommendation will not be implemented.

PCOE finds the specific recommendation to post all Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) related to the CYBHI on its public website to be inappropriate. As a matter of standard practice, PCOE does not post signed MOU agreements whether with State agencies, local districts, or other partners - on its website. These agreements are internal administrative documents that govern collaborative efforts and, when appropriate, are subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Requiring the posting of MOUs for one particular initiative would represent a departure from established practice, create inconsistency in how agreements are treated, and impose an unnecessary administrative burden without providing meaningful additional transparency. PCOE will continue to manage its MOUs in

accordance with applicable laws and regulations and remains committed to being responsive to the public through proper disclosure channels.

RECOMMENDATION #3

R3. Placer County Office of Education should develop a dedicated, comprehensive Community School page on their website with a section linking to Regional Transformational Assistance Center, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative and any other organizations which has access to children's data by December 31, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

In the winter of 2025, PCOE posted information about the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) to its website, including an overview and a Frequently Asked Question document. These resources can be found here: <https://www.placercoe.org/Pages/PCOE/About/Agency-Initiatives/Agency-Initiatives.aspx>. PCOE has an overview of the CCSPP and a link to the Capitol Area Regional Transformational Assistance Center website posted on its website. These resources can be found here: <https://www.placercoe.org/Pages/PCOE/About/Agency-Initiatives/Agency-Initiatives.aspx>

Respectfully submitted by:



Gayle Garbolino-Mojica
Placer County Superintendent of Schools

cc. Placer County Grand Jury
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Foresthill Public Utility District Transparency and Governance: Can a Newly Elected Board of Directors Recharge Confidence?

Under the governance of an elected Board of Directors and a General Manager, the Foresthill Public Utility District provides water and related services to a community of approximately 2,050 customers. Foresthill Public Utility District is considered an independent special district under the oversight of the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission and its governance guidelines. In addition to the Foresthill Public Utility District and its employees, elected Board members are entrusted with financial and governance responsibilities for this public utility district serving the community of Foresthill.

In response to staffing/outsourcing concerns and reported unprofessional conduct in board meetings, the Placer County Grand Jury examined operations of the Foresthill Public Utility District. In public meetings prior to the election of new board members in November 2024, members of the Placer County Grand Jury observed contentious rather than unified leadership.

The grand jury found challenges for the newly elected Board of Directors include demonstrating behaviors their community can be proud of, performing their duties in a collaborative manner, and tackling legacy and strategic issues to provide a foundation beyond the current Board of Directors and Foresthill Public Utility District's leadership team's tenure. Changes in Board members and appointed positions have resulted in positive improvements addressing transparency and accountability. While these changes are encouraging for the community, the Board should address staffing, governance, span of control and strategic issues to create a foundation for the future.

Findings

- F1.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Finance Manager position has been vacant since April 2023.
- F2.** An outside service provider (accounting firm) is providing services previously handled by the Finance Manager, a position described in the Foresthill Public Utility District Policy Handbook.
- F3.** The Foresthill Public Utility District General Manager has assumed certain financial and administrative roles previously assigned to the Finance Manager.
- F4.** The Foresthill Public Utility District does not have a comprehensive strategic plan outlining future years including risks and opportunities.
- F5.** Foresthill Public Utility District job descriptions (excluding pay scales) were last revised in 2014.

- F6.** Prior to the election of the new Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors and during interviews with multiple stakeholders, individuals expressed a lack of cohesion, and disunity amongst the Board members hampered the effectiveness and public trust of the Board of Directors.
- F7.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Enterprise Systems disclosure posted on the district website was last updated in 2015 and is outdated.
- F8.** Foresthill Public Utility District information contained on the Local Agency Formation Commission website is outdated.
- F9.** A review of Foresthill Public Utility District expenditures noted deviations from the Policy Handbook requiring Board of Directors approval.
- F10.** The Foresthill Public Utility District water right permit 15375 extension expired in 2011.
- F11.** The Foresthill Public Utility District has not filed all Form 700 filings on a timely basis.

Recommendations

- R1.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should evaluate the benefits of staffing the vacant Finance (or Business) Manager position in-house or execute an engagement letter with an accounting services provider no later than September 30, 2025.
- R2.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should prepare and approve a strategic plan at the next fiscal planning cycle (2025-2026) and update annually.
- R3.** Foresthill Public Utility District job descriptions should be updated and approved by the Board of Directors no later than September 30, 2025.
- R4.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should develop a plan (timeline and milestones) to update its Policy Handbook no later than September 30, 2025.
- R5.** The Foresthill Public Utility District General Manager responsibilities should be decoupled from minute taking no later than September 30, 2025.
- R6.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Enterprise System(s) disclosure on the District website should be updated for current business systems no later than September 30, 2025.
- R7.** The Foresthill Public Utility District should provide the Local Agency Formation Commission with updated information no later than September 30, 2025.

- R8.** Foresthill Public Utility District expenditure approvals should adhere to stated amounts in the Policy Handbook immediately, with acknowledgement to the Placer County Grand Jury no later than September 1, 2025.
- R9.** The Foresthill Public Utility District should review its investment strategy and realized asset returns at the next review cycle or no later than December 31, 2025.
- R10.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should update the status of securing its water right permit expired in 2011 no later than September 30, 2025.
- R11.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should review Form 700 filing requirements for district and board individuals no later than September 30, 2025, and review annually thereafter.
- R12.** The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should schedule a meeting to establish performance goals and objectives for the General Manager no later than September 30, 2025, and for each fiscal year thereafter.



FORESTHILL PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chase Dowling, President
Mark Bell, Vice President
Roger Pruet, Treasurer
Ron Thompson, Director
Dianne Foster, Director

Henry N. White, General Manager
Eric N. Robinson, District Counsel
Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard

August 18, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661-9072

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: 2024-2025 Grand Jury Final Report: Foresthill Public Utility District

Dear Grand Jury:

The Foresthill Public Utility District respectfully submits the following responses to the Placer County Grand Jury's 2024-2025 Final Report. We acknowledge and appreciate the Grand Jury's important role in promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance in local public agencies. After careful review of the findings and recommendations presented, we are pleased to provide the following responses on behalf of the District.

RESPONSES TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS

We agree with the findings numbered: F2, F3, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, and F11

We partially disagree with the finding numbered: F4

We disagree wholly with the finding numbered: F1

Finding No. 1: The Foresthill Public Utility District Finance Manager position has been vacant since April 2023.

We respectfully disagree with this finding. From August 2011 through April 10, 2023, Roger Carroll, CPA, fulfilled the duties of Finance Manager for the Foresthill Public Utility District under a Proposal to Provide Accounting Services. Following Mr. Carroll's passing in April 2023, Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP (LSL) assumed responsibility for Finance Manager duties under a Letter of Engagement executed on

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Page 2

May 31, 2023. Therefore, while there was a brief transition period, the Finance Manager responsibilities have not been vacant since April 2023.

Finding No. 4: The Foresthill Public Utility District does not have a comprehensive strategic plan outlining future years including risks and opportunities.

We partially disagree with this finding. The Foresthill Public Utility District developed a Water Master Plan in 1992. The Plan served as a strategic guide to maintain and enhance water service for the community. This Plan was updated in 2008 and includes long-term improvements and planning initiatives. This updated plan is a comprehensive strategic plan, and it continues to provide valuable guidance on infrastructure and water service issues the District may face for decades into the future.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation No. 1: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should evaluate the benefits of staffing the vacant Finance (or Business) Manager position in-house or execute and engagement letter with an accounting services provider no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 1 has not yet been implemented.

The Board agreed during the August 13th board meeting to evaluate, through a Request For Proposal, the benefits of staffing the Finance Manager position in-house or with an accounting service provider.

This process will continue during the next board meeting and will likely continue beyond that.

One Board member has a differing opinion: "At the Aug. 13th Board meeting, the Board passed a motion to hire a Finance Manager, but Directors continue to disagree on hiring a Finance Manager to work in-house. The process of posting, interviewing, and hiring methods are scheduled for discussion on Sept. 10, at the FPUD's next Board meeting."

Recommendation No. 2: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should prepare and approve a strategic plan at the next fiscal planning cycle (2025-2026) and update annually.

Recommendation No. 2 has been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District developed a comprehensive Water Master Plan in 1992, which has served as a strategic framework for maintaining and enhancing water

2025 08 18 Response to the Placer County Grand Jury R5 Board version clean with new date FINAL.docx

Page 3

service to the community. This plan was updated in 2008 to reflect changing needs and priorities and continues to guide the District in long-term infrastructure investment and water resource management. The 2008 update remains relevant and applicable to the District's ongoing operations and strategic decisions.

While the District supports the intent behind regular review of strategic goals, updating the Water Master Plan on an annual basis is neither typical for long-range planning documents nor financially prudent. Strategic planning at this scale is traditionally conducted on a multi-year cycle to ensure effective use of public resources. However, the District remains committed to reviewing its operational priorities annually as part of its fiscal planning process and will incorporate strategic considerations into that cycle as appropriate.

Recommendation No. 3: Foresthill Public Utility District job descriptions should be updated and approved by the Board of Directors no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 3 has not yet been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District acknowledges that routine updates to job descriptions (Policies) are a best practice and appreciates the Grand Jury's recommendation.

The District's current job descriptions were developed using widely accepted industry standards. These documents remain functional for the purposes of compliance, supervision, and operational consistency.

Timing of the implementation of this recommendation will depend on future Board discussions and priorities. Updating the Job Descriptions will be an Action Item at the September Board Meeting.

Director Foster believes revising Job Descriptions should be the next priority for the board.

Recommendation No. 4: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should develop a plan (timeline and milestones) to update its Policy Handbook no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 4 has not yet been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors are currently reviewing about one policy per month, allowing for focused discussion and thoughtful deliberation on each item. Due to the collaborative nature of this process, and the time required to obtain full Board consensus, each policy revision may take several months to complete.

2025 08 18 Response to the Placer County Grand Jury R5 Board version clean with new date FINAL.docx

Page 4

While this ongoing approach ensures that policies are carefully evaluated and reflect the Board's collective judgment, it does not currently follow a formal timeline with defined milestones. As such, the District cannot commit to a fixed plan for updating the entire Policy Handbook by the specified date. The pace and sequence of updates will continue to be shaped by Board priorities and available resources.

The District remains committed to ensuring its policies are clear, current, and aligned with best practices, and will continue to assess progress during regular Board meetings.

Recommendation No. 5: Placer County Grand Jury 2024-2025 Final Report The Foresthill Public Utility District General Manager responsibilities should be decoupled from minute taking no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 5 has not yet been implemented.

The Board of Directors has already discussed the possibility of transitioning away from action-style minutes – recommended by District counsel – to a more narrative or detailed format. Such a transition would require additional staff resources. The Board is currently deliberating whether to approve an additional staff position to support this potential change in minute-taking style. Until such a decision is made and resources are allocated, the current system will remain in place.

Recommendation No. 6: The Foresthill Public Utility District Enterprise System(s) disclosure on the District website should be updated for current business systems no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 6 has been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District updated its disclosure of enterprise system information in compliance with the requirements of Senate Bill 272 on July 14, 2025. The updated disclosure is available on the District's website and reflects the District's current business systems.

Recommendation No. 7: The Foresthill Public Utility District should provide the Local Agency Formation Commission with updated information no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 7 has been implemented.

On July 14, 2025, the Foresthill Public Utility District provided updated information to the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), including the name of the current Board Chair and the District's regular meeting time.

2025 08 18 Response to the Placer County Grand Jury R5 Board version clean with new date FINAL.docx

Page 5

Recommendation No. 8: Foresthill Public Utility District expenditure approvals should adhere to stated amounts in the Policy Handbook immediately, with acknowledgement to the Placer County Grand Jury no later than September 1, 2025.

Recommendation No. 8 has been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District follows a standard procurement policy which requires pre-authorization by the Board of Directors for expenditures exceeding \$15,000 per month. This policy ensures appropriate oversight of significant financial commitments.

Occasionally, operational necessity may require the General Manager to authorize purchases that exceed this threshold prior to formal Board approval. In such cases, the expenditures are to be promptly presented to the Board for ratification. This ratification process ensures compliance with District policy, maintains transparency, and safeguards public resources through full Board accountability.

The District acknowledges the importance of adhering to its Policy Handbook and remains committed to transparent and responsible financial management.

Director Foster and President Dowling thinks the board should revise policy 3082 to address violations.

Recommendation No. 9: The Foresthill Public Utility District should review its investment strategy and realized asset returns at the next review cycle or no later than December 31, 2025.

Recommendation No. 9 has been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District reviews its investment strategy annually, or more frequently if necessary, to ensure compliance with Government Code Section 53600. The District's current investment policy is consistent with statutory requirements and provides clear, industry-standard guidance for staff and investment professionals. This policy supports the transparent and responsible management of public funds and ensures alignment with the District's financial goals and fiduciary duties.

Recommendation No. 10: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should update the status of securing its water right permit expired in 2011 no later than September 30, 2025.

Recommendation No. 10 has not yet been implemented.

2025 08 18 Response to the Placer County Grand Jury R5 Board version clean with new date FINAL.docx

Page 6

The Foresthill Public Utility District is actively working to update the status of Water Right Permit No. 15375. The District anticipates providing an updated status regarding the extension request by September 30, 2025, in accordance with the recommendation. The Foresthill Public Utility District remains committed to preserving this critical resource for the benefit of the community and ensuring continued compliance with applicable state regulations.

Recommendation No. 11: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should review Form 700 filing requirements for district and board individuals no later than September 30, 2025, and review annually thereafter.

Recommendation No. 11 has been implemented.

Information outlining Form 700 filing requirements was distributed to the Board of Directors and staff on **July 15, 2025**. In addition, the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) regularly issues reminders to all mandatory filers to ensure ongoing compliance. The District will continue to review these requirements on an annual basis moving forward.

Recommendation No. 12: The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors should schedule a meeting to establish performance goals and objectives for the General Manager no later than September 30, 2025, and for each fiscal year thereafter.

Recommendation No. 12 has not yet been implemented.

The Foresthill Public Utility District Board of Directors conducts an annual review of the General Manager's performance and establishes goals during its regularly scheduled August board meeting. The Board is scheduled to initiate this task at the upcoming meeting on August 13, 2025.

The Foresthill Public Utility District appreciates the efforts of the Placer County Grand Jury in reviewing local governance practices. We remain committed to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in our operations. Should the Grand Jury require any additional information or clarification regarding these responses, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Chase Dowling, President of the Board,
On behalf of the
Board of Directors, Foresthill Public Utility District

Transient Occupancy Tax: Understanding TOT and TBID

Placer County has a program in place to generate revenue through a Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), applicable to short-term rentals in unincorporated Placer County. Transient Occupancy Tax revenue can help support a variety of projects and improvements for Placer County and are an added source of non-property tax revenue for Placer County. Placer County also has a program supporting two Tourism Business Improvement Districts (TBID), the North Lake Tahoe Tourism Business Improvement District and the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District, which fund tourism promotion and activities.

The grand jury sought to understand how these programs work, how revenue is collected, and how dollars are spent in support of the intended purpose of these programs.

The grand jury found the Transient Occupancy Tax for Placer County is a significant source of revenue, bringing in nearly \$30 million a year for the last three fiscal years. This revenue has allowed the county to invest in a variety of projects benefiting the North Lake Tahoe area residents and visitors. Transient Occupancy Tax revenue also results in a sizable addition to the county's general fund, roughly \$11 million a year. The Tourism Business Improvement District programs also play a key role for the Lake Tahoe region, an additional benefit for the county.

The grand jury identified several concerns with the TOT and TBID programs, and county leadership shared both their concern and thoughts on finding solutions. The audit program for Transient Occupancy Tax compliance needs work, as both the audit volume and confidence in the vendor are lacking. Transient Occupancy Tax revenue collection also needs an overhaul, both in terms of technology and staff direction.

Findings

- F1.** Placer County uses a third-party vendor to identify properties subject to Transient Occupancy Tax compliance. Since moving to third party vendors for this process, more than 1,500 properties have been identified which were previously unknown to the county and have operations subject to Transient Occupancy Tax compliance. Identification of such properties improves compliance and Transient Occupancy Tax revenue for Placer County.
- F2.** Audits of individual properties for Transient Occupancy Tax compliance are not effective; audit volume is low, and the third-party vendor audit reports lack professionalism. The Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office is investigating the benefits of discontinuing the contract with HdL Companies and using the Placer County Audit Department to better meet audit needs.

- F3.** The Transient Occupancy Tax remittance process is not efficient. The Treasurer's office is reviewing software vendors to allow property owners to easily remit Transient Occupancy Tax dollars online.
- F4.** The Placer County Auditor-Controller's Office internal audit report of Revenue Services for fiscal year 2021-22 identified several recommendations regarding the Transient Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District programs, including Transient Occupancy Tax oversight, Transient Occupancy Tax audit, and Tourism Business Improvement District agreement compliance.
- F5.** The Placer County website has extensive information on the North Lake Tahoe Tourism Business Improvement District, managed by the North Tahoe Community Alliance. However, the website has very limited information on the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District, only addressing the lodging Tourism Business Improvement District rate on one webpage.
- F6.** The Transient Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District programs have provided a significant boost to funds available for investment in the North Lake Tahoe region, benefiting both Placer County residents and visitors.

Recommendations

- R1.** The Treasurer-Tax Collector should develop Transient Occupancy Tax audit expectations and an audit solution which are both effective and cost-wise by November 1, 2025.
- R2.** The Treasurer-Tax Collector should pursue approval and installation of new technology solutions to revamp the Transient Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District collection process by December 31, 2025.
- R3.** The Treasurer-Tax Collector should complete the follow-up review of the fiscal year 2021-22 internal audit and report on any corrections or additional action to be taken by October 31, 2025.
- R4.** The Treasurer-Tax Collector should oversee an update to the Placer County website to include detailed information on the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District Tourism Business Improvement District by November 1, 2025.



OFFICE OF TRISTAN BUTCHER
TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

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August 26, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office Response - *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report Transient Occupancy Tax: Understanding TOT and TBID*

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the *2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Transient Occupancy Tax: Understanding TOT and TBID*.

FINDINGS

I agree with findings F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, and F6.

Finding No. 1: Placer County uses a third-party vendor to identify properties subject to Transit Occupancy Tax compliance. Since moving to third party vendors for this process, more than 1,500 properties have been identified which were previously unknown to the county and have operations subject to Transit Occupancy Tax compliance. Identification of such properties improves compliance and Transit Occupancy Tax revenue for Placer County.

I agree with this finding. Given the fact that there are various ways to market vacation rentals online, the third-party service provides an efficient way for the office to identify properties that are not remitting TOT.

Finding No. 2: Audits of individual properties for Transit Occupancy Tax compliance are not effective; audit volume is low, and the third-party vendor audit reports lack professionalism. The Treasurer - Tax Collectors Office is investigating the benefits of discontinuing the contract with HdL and using the Placer County Audit Department to better meet audit needs.

I agree with this finding. The experience my office received fell significantly short of expectations. Staff at HDL have been professional, but the work product received during our initial and subsequent audits has been below our expectations. Placer County's TOT ordinance differs from traditional city ordinances, which we believe contributed to the confusion.

The Treasurer-Tax Collector has been working with the Auditor-Controller's office to develop a plan for the Internal Audit team to begin administering the TOT audits going forward. The first audit is expected to take place this fall.

Finding No.3: The Transit Occupancy Tax remittance process is not efficient. The Treasurer's office is reviewing software vendors to allow property owners to easily remit Transit Occupancy Tax dollars online.



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I agree with this finding. The current TOT remittance process is not efficient. There are multiple payment channels and ways to report TOT to the office. These processes cause an additional workload for both the staff processing the TOT and the accounting team.

My office presented a proposal to the Board on March 18th for a new software solution that aims to streamline internal processes and simplify remittance for operators. The item was approved, and the new software is expected to go live in November.

Finding No. 4: The Placer County Auditor-Controller's Office internal audit report of Revenue Services for fiscal year 2021-22 identified several recommendations regarding the Transit Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District programs, including Transit Occupancy Tax oversight, Transit Occupancy Tax audit, and Tourism Business Improvement District agreement compliance.

I agree with this finding. The Treasurer-Tax Collector's office continues to work through the internal audit and implement the suggested recommendations, but several of the outstanding items will be addressed through the upgrade of our software.

Finding No. 5: The Placer County website has extensive information on the North Lake Tahoe Tourism Business Improvement District, managed by the North Tahoe Community Alliance. However, the website has very limited information on the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District, only addressing the lodging Tourism Business Improvement District rate on one webpage.

I agree with this finding. A new site has been added to the Treasurer-Tax Collector's office website to explain the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District. <https://www.placer.ca.gov/10367/Mountaineer-Transit-Company-Assessment-M>

Finding No. 6: The Transit Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District programs have provided a significant boost to funds available for investment in the North Lake Tahoe region, benefiting both Placer County residents and visitors.

I agree with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Treasurer-Tax Collector should develop Transit Occupancy Tax audit expectations and an audit solution which are both effective and cost-wise by November 1, 2025.

Recommendation 1 has been implemented.

The Treasurer-Tax Collector's office has worked with the Auditor-Controller's office to prepare an audit plan moving forward for TOT audits. The audits will be completed by Internal Audits, a division of the Auditor-Controller's office. The division will provide the specialized services requested, and no additional cost will be incurred.

R2. The Treasurer-Tax Collector should pursue approval and installation of new technology solutions to revamp the Transit Occupancy Tax and Tourism Business Improvement District collection process by December 31, 2025.

Recommendation 2 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.



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The Board of Supervisors approved a contract for a new TOT, TBID and Business License collection system on March 18th. The transition is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the beginning of November 2025.

R3. The Treasurer-Tax Collector should complete the follow-up review of the fiscal year 2021-22 internal audit and report on any corrections or additional action to be taken by October 31, 2025.

Recommendation 3 has been implemented.

A review of the audit has been completed in coordination with the Auditor-Controller's Office, and we are currently awaiting their results. Should any further actions be required, the Office will take the appropriate steps at that time.

R4. The Treasurer-Tax Collector should oversee an update to the Placer County website to include detailed information on the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District Tourism Business Improvement District by November 1, 2025.

Recommendation 1 has been implemented.

A new page has been added to the Treasurer-Tax Collector's website detailing the Olympic Valley Alpine Meadows Microtransit District Tourism Business Improvement District: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/10367/Mountaineer-Transit-Company-Assessment-M>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tristan Butcher".

Tristan Butcher
Treasurer-Tax Collector
Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office

Cc: Bob Peterson, Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel

Placer County Grand Jury 2024-2025 Report Inspections of Jails and Holding Facilities, Community Update on Coroner's and District Attorney's Offices

As part of its statutory responsibility, the Placer County Grand Jury conducted on-site inspections of three county jails and three holding facilities to assess their condition, operations, and adherence to state and local standards. The inspections included detailed observations of cleanliness, maintenance, safety protocols, and the overall treatment of detainees. The grand jury also visited the Placer County Sheriff's Coroner's Office and the Placer County District Attorney's Office.

The Placer County Grand Jury found Placer County's correctional facilities to be well-maintained and operating at a satisfactory level. The correctional staff demonstrated professionalism, courtesy, and a strong understanding of their responsibilities. Facilities were clean, bright, and organized, reflecting a commitment to safety and professionalism.

While most locations met high standards, the Placer County Main Jail in Auburn and the Tahoe Substation in Tahoe City presented some areas for improvement. The grand jury found the former in need of certain maintenance and the latter to be outdated and in need of renovation, which impacts the efficiency of the services provided.

Findings

Placer County Main Jail (Auburn)

- F1.** The Placer County Auburn Main in Placer County is well-maintained and adheres to state and local standards for safety and sanitation.
- F2.** The Placer County Auburn Main Jail provides a variety of rehabilitation programs, including educational, vocational, and mental health services, to support inmate reentry into the community.
- F3.** Construction for the Mental Health Facility and larger vocational training building will be completed by the end of 2025.
- F4.** The extent and frequency of *maintenance* of the mail handling fume hood is unknown due to the absence of performed maintenance documentation.
- F5.** The *operating efficiency* of the mail handling fume hood is unknown due to the absence of regular testing of the hood's airflow.
- F6.** The presence of coffee making equipment and cups near the mail handling fume hood creates a potential safety hazard, as these items could be contaminated by foreign materials within incoming mail items.

South Placer Adult Correctional Facility

- F7.** The South Placer Main Jail demonstrates a commitment to inmate health by providing access to medical, dental and mental health services.
- F8.** The South Placer Main Jail's new vocational training facility will help reduce recidivism by equipping inmates with practical skills for employment upon release.
- F9.** The South Placer Main Jail is enhancing its mental health services with newly designed facilities, providing the care and support detainees which have mental health challenges need.
- F10.** No maintenance records for the ductless fume hood were found.
- F11.** All of the facilities at this location were found to be well maintained and controlled by staff.

Historical Auburn Courthouse

- F12.** Although the historic Auburn courthouse is old, it has been well maintained and remains in good condition
- F13.** The historical Auburn courthouse provides excellent educational outreach and engages the community in preserving its history through guided tours, school programs, and community events which highlight its rich history.
- F14.** While the facility met expectations for cleanliness and maintenance overall, the staircase leading to the holding cells lacks cleanliness.

Hon. Howard G. Gibson Courthouse

- F15.** This facility was found to be well maintained and controlled by staff.
- F16.** Supports collaboration with the Placer County Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, and Public Defender's Office to provide support for legal proceedings.
- F17.** The courthouse works closely with the Placer County Sherriff's Office for inmate transportation and courtroom security, promoting safety and efficiency.

Tahoe Substation

- F18.** Several previous Grand Jury reports have cited potential liability issues which are shared by the current Grand Jury.
- F19.** While this facility is well maintained and operated by staff, the facility is outdated and in need of renovation or replacement.

Recommendations

Placer County Main Jail (Auburn)

- R1.** Placer County Sheriff's to maintenance tracking process should be developed and followed for the mail handling fume hood by August 1, 2025.
- R2.** Placer County Sheriff's to ensure all food and drink and preparation equipment should be removed from the mail room by August 1, 2025.
- R3.** Placer County Sheriff's to ensure a testing program should be developed and followed for the mail handling fume hood by September 1, 2025.

South Placer Adult Correctional Facility

- R4.** The grand jury recommends Placer County Sheriff by December 1, 2025, to explore the use of the basketball court at the PCMSF and considering additional outdoor resources to enhance recreational opportunities for detainees.

Historic Auburn Courthouse

- R5.** The staircase leading to the holding cells should be cleaned and maintained on a regular basis. The grand jury recommends Placer County Sheriff maintain and clean the staircase no later than September 1, 2025.

Tahoe Substation

- R6.** The Placer County Board of Supervisors should review and update plans for the renovation or replacement of this facility by December 1, 2025. The Board of Supervisors should continue to support building a replacement Burton Creek Substation facility and see it through to completion.

Hon. Howard G. Gibson Courthouse

The grand jury had no recommendations.



PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WAYNE WOO
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

SHAYNE WRIGHT
UNDERSHERIFF

August 7, 2025

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Grand Jury Foreperson,

After carefully reviewing the findings of the Placer County Grand Jury 2024-2025, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Jails, Holding Facilities, Coroner's Office, and District Attorney's Office.

Findings- Placer County Jails, Holding Facilities, Coroner's Office, and District Attorney's Office.

Placer County Sheriff's Office agrees with the following:

Agree: F4, F5, F6, & F10.

- F4. The extent and frequency of maintenance of the mail handling fume hood is unknown due to the absence of performed maintenance documentation.
- F5. The operating efficiency of the mail handling fume hood is unknown due to the absence of regular testing of the hood's airflow.
- F6. The presence of coffee making equipment and cups near the mail handling fume hood creates a potential safety hazard, as these items could be contaminated by foreign materials within incoming mail items.
- F10. No maintenance records for the ductless fume hood were found.

Partially Agree: F14.

- F14. While the facility met expectations for cleanliness and maintenance overall, the staircase leading to the holding cells lacks cleanliness.

Partially Agree: The cleanliness of this area is the responsibility of the Superior Court of California. We have communicated the Grand Jury's findings and have since implemented this area to be cleaned on a regular basis.

HEADQUARTERS
2929 RICHARDSON DRIVE
AUBURN, CA 95603
(530) 889-7800

AUBURN MAIN JAIL
2775 RICHARDSON DRIVE
AUBURN, CA 95603
(530) 745-8500

SOUTH PLACER STATION
6140 HORSESHOE BAR ROAD, SUITE D
LOOMIS, CA 95650
(916) 652-2400

SOUTH PLACER JAIL
11801 GO FOR BROKE ROAD
ROSEVILLE, CA 95678
(916) 409-8100

NORTH LAKE TAHOE STATION
P.O. BOX 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
(530) 581-6300



PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WAYNE WOO
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

SHAYNE WRIGHT
UNDERSHERIFF

Recommendations

The grand jury recommends:

- R1.** Placer County Sheriff's to maintenance tracking process should be developed and followed for the mail handling fume hood by August 1, 2025.

This recommendation will be implemented August 1, 2025.

Response: The Placer County Sheriff's Office has developed a spreadsheet to track the maintenance of the mail handling fume hood. Access to the filter panel is controlled, and a key has been placed in the mail room for authorized personnel. Routine maintenance tasks have also been scheduled on staff calendars to ensure timely upkeep. Additionally, we will be transitioning all mail checks to an electronic mail system by January 2026, which will render the fume hood obsolete.

- R2.** Placer County Sheriff's to ensure all food and drink and preparation equipment should be removed from the mail room by August 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: All food and drink preparation equipment has been removed from the mail room effective July 2025.

- R3.** Placer County Sheriff's to ensure a testing program should be developed and followed for the mail handling fume hood by September 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: To verify proper airflow in the fume hood, a string has been placed near the filter inside the hood. This serves as a simple and effective visual indicator of airflow as part of the testing program. Additionally, an air volume meter was purchased from the manufacturer and will be installed to ensure consistent and adequate airflow.

- R4.** The grand jury recommends Placer County Sheriff by December 1, 2025, to explore the use of the basketball court at the PCMSF and considering additional outdoor resources to enhance recreational opportunities for detainees.

This recommendation will not be implemented.

Response: The basketball court at the Placer County Minimum Security Facility (PCMSF) is in close proximity to an adjacent property, creating significant security vulnerability. There have been documented instances of non-incarcerated individuals throwing contraband over the fence and into the

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AUBURN MAIN JAIL
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TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
(530) 581-8300



PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WAYNE WOO
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

SHAYNE WRIGHT
UNDERSHERIFF

recreation area. This concern is further compounded by the County's decision to increase the classification level of the facility to medium security in response to Proposition 36, which requires a higher standard of safety and control. Mitigating this risk would require enclosing the court with correctional-grade steel mesh or other secure infrastructure, which is currently cost prohibitive. Due to these safety and budgetary concerns, the recommendation will not be implemented at this time. However, we will continue to monitor any potential funding opportunities that would allow us to revisit and explore this option in the future.

- R5.** The staircase leading to the holding cells should be cleaned and maintained on a regular basis. The grand jury recommends Placer County Sheriff maintain and clean the staircase no later than September 1, 2025.

This recommendation has been implemented.

Response: This responsibility falls under the contractual obligations of the Superior Court of California. While there was a lapse in regular oversight, the issue has since been addressed, and the area is now inspected and cleaned on a biweekly basis to ensure ongoing compliance.

Sincerely,

Wayne Woo
Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

cc: Board of Supervisors
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Greg Warner, Placer County Supervising Deputy County Counsel
Foreperson Placer County Grand Jury

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(530) 581-6300

County of Placer
Board of Supervisors

175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, California 95603
(530) 889-4010
BoardClerk@placer.ca.gov

BONNIE GORE
District 1

SHANTI LANDON
District 2

ANTHONY M. DEMATTEI
District 3

SUZANNE JONES
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



October 1, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Board of Supervisors Response – 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - Placer County Jails, Holding Facilities, Coroner’s Office, and District Attorney’s Office: Annual Inspections for Jails, Community Updates on Coroner & District Attorney Services

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors (“Board”), I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Jails, Holding Facilities, Coroner’s Office, and District Attorney’s Office: Annual Inspections for Jails, Community Updates on Coroner & District Attorney Services.

FINDINGS

Finding No. 18: Several previous Grand Jury reports have cited potential liability issues which are shared by the current Grand Jury.

The Board agrees with this finding.

Placer County has received and noted previous and current Grand Jury concern over the age and condition of the Tahoe Substation. The Board of Supervisors shares this concern, and the County continues to move forward on a solution for this facility. The Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Substation has been identified by the Board as a high priority project and is included in Countywide Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, with an estimated total cost of \$97 million. Placer County has identified existing and future funding sources of approximately \$11 million, with additional funding still being sought for the remainder of the construction costs as well as operational costs. The project is currently in the planning phase with staff working with land use and design services consultants. Placer County’s current Capital Improvement Plan can be found online here: [Placer-County-Capital-Improvement-Plan-2025-2030](#).

Finding No. 19: While this facility is well maintained and operated by staff, the facility is outdated and in need of renovation or replacement.

The Board agrees with this finding.

As noted above, the County continues to move forward on a solution for this facility. The Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Substation has been identified by the Board as a high priority project and is included in Countywide Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, with an estimated total cost of \$97 million. Placer County has identified existing and future funding sources of approximately \$11 million, with additional funding still being sought for the remainder of the construction costs as well as operational costs. The project is currently in the planning phase with staff working with land use and design services consultants. Placer County's current Capital Improvement Plan can be found online here: [Placer-County-Capital-Improvement-Plan-2025-2030](#).

We are proud of the work our Placer County Sheriff's department has done and continues to do in order to continue to provide a high level of service in eastern Placer County while the above work is ongoing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R6. The Placer County Board of Supervisors should review and update plans for the renovation or replacement of this facility by December 1, 2025. The Board of Supervisors should continue to support building a replacement Burton Creek Substation facility and see it through to completion.

Recommendation 6 has been partially implemented.

As noted above, the County continues to move forward on a solution for this facility. The Tahoe Justice Center/Burton Creek Substation has been identified by the Board as a high priority project and is included in Countywide Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, with an estimated total cost of \$97 million. Placer County has identified existing and future funding sources of approximately \$11 million, with additional funding still being sought for the remainder of the construction costs as well as operational costs. The project is currently in the planning phase with staff working with land use and design services consultants. Placer County's current Capital Improvement Plan can be found online here: [Placer-County-Capital-Improvement-Plan-2025-2030](#).

Sincerely,



Bonnie Gore, Chair
Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel

Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility Annual Inspection 2024-2025

The Placer County Probation Department oversees the operation of the Juvenile Detention Facility. The Placer County Grand Jury inspects the Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility annually; that inspection was conducted on October 22, 2024.

The grand jury found the Juvenile Detention Facility to be maintained in a professional manner. The staff was observed to be polite and engaging, demonstrating genuine concern for the youths in their charge. The staff was focused on offering educational opportunities, addressing mental health issues, and providing positive reinforcement for good behavior. The housed youths readily interacted with the staff in a respectful and collegial manner. The overall impression was, through a focus on education opportunities and the development of life skills, the incarcerated would benefit from their stay. Juvenile Detention Facility staff displayed an optimism that through their efforts, the chances of recidivism would be greatly decreased.

The grand jury identified a need to recoup the actual cost of housing youths from outside of Placer County.

Findings

- F1.** The fee paid to house out-of-county youths is far below actual service, staffing, and maintenance costs to operate the Juvenile Detention Facility.
- F2.** The new 2025 tablet computer program has the potential to deliver academic and other skill building tools.
- F3.** The Juvenile Detention Facility is well staffed and operated. Staff show a genuine concern for the wellbeing of the incarcerated youths.
- F4.** The Juvenile Detention Facility staff are committed to providing programs which address mental health and educational needs.

Recommendations

- R1.** Placer County Probation Department should assess whether its supervision of out-of-county youth at the current contract rate is resulting in unreimbursed or excess costs for the County. Probation should provide its assessment to the Placer County Board of Supervisors by December 31, 2025.
- R2.** Placer County Probation Department should establish and implement written goals and metrics to evaluate the success of the tablet program by October 31, 2025.



**PLACER COUNTY PROBATION
DEPARTMENT**

2929 Richardson Drive, Suite B, Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 889-7900 | www.placer.ca.gov

BRIAN PASSENHEIM
Chief Probation Officer

JOSEPH NETEMEYER
Assistant Chief Probation Officer

September 30, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Subject: Placer County Probation Department Response to Grand Jury Report

I hope this message finds you well. I want to sincerely apologize for the delay in mailing a copy of the Grand Jury response. The response was originally finalized on August 12, 2025, and it was my intention to ensure its timely delivery.

As I am new in my position as Chief Probation Officer, this was an inadvertent oversight on my part. I regret any inconvenience this may have caused and appreciate your understanding as I continue to get fully oriented in my role.

Please know that I am taking steps to ensure this does not happen again in the future. If there is anything further you need or if I can provide additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Passenheim", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Passenheim
Chief Probation Officer
Placer County Probation Department

Attachment: Placer County Probation Department August 12, 2025, Response to Grand Jury Report

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Placer County Clerk - Recorder
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel



**PLACER COUNTY PROBATION
DEPARTMENT**

2929 Richardson Drive, Suite B, Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 889-7900 | www.placer.ca.gov

BRIAN PASSENHEIM
Chief Probation Officer

JOSEPH NETEMEYER
Assistant Chief Probation Officer

MOLLIE RONCO
Assistant Chief Probation Officer

August 12, 2025

The Honorable Alan V. Pineschi
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Placer County Probation Response - 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report - Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility

Dear Judge Pineschi,

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, on behalf of the Placer County Probation Department, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2024-25 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility.

FINDINGS

I agree with findings F2, F3, F4.

I disagree with finding F1.

Finding No. 1: The fee paid to house out-of-county youths is far below actual service, staffing, and maintenance costs to operate the Juvenile Detention Facility.

I disagree with this finding. The amount received by the County to house out-of-county youths accurately recoups the increased costs of housing those youths. The Juvenile Detention Facility (“JDF”) operates in accordance with the minimum standards for juvenile facilities within California Code of Regulations Title 15, “Crime Prevention and Corrections,” which includes requirements for staffing, room separation, educational programs and medical care. The requirements, and the overall operation costs of the JDF, consist of many fixed costs that are incurred by the County regardless of the number of youths housed at any time. For example, state regulations require minimum staffing levels (one staff member for each 10 minors when they are awake, and one staff member for 30 minors when they are asleep).

The regulatory requirements and operational structure of the JDF result in unoccupied beds at times. For that reason, the County agreed to house a small number of out-of-county youths at the request of nearby counties to fill those available spots. Probation's agreements for out-of-county youths do not otherwise increase the fixed costs of operating the facility since the out-of-county contracts allow flexibility to decline placement of out-of-county youths when the facility is near capacity. This ensures the JDF does not go over capacity or result in additional costs due to opening an additional unit as a result of these agreements. There are, however, some incremental cost increases related to food, clothing and personal hygiene items. The additional incremental costs are covered by the daily fee charged in the out-of-county contracts.

If the number of out-of-county youths were to significantly increase, then there would be additional fixed costs incurred by the County but the current number of additional youths and the structure of the existing out-of-county contracts does not result in additional costs.

Finding No. 2: The new 2025 tablet computer program has the potential to deliver academic and other skill building tools.

I agree with this finding.

Finding No.3: The Juvenile Detention Facility is well staffed and operated. Staff show a genuine concern for the wellbeing of the incarcerated youths.

I agree with this finding.

Finding No.4: The Juvenile Detention Facility staff are committed to providing programs which address mental health and educational needs.

I agree with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Placer County Probation Department should assess whether its supervision of out-of-county youth at the current contract rate is resulting in unreimbursed or excess costs for the County. Probation should provide its assessment to the Placer County Board of Supervisors by December 31, 2025.

Recommendation 1 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

The Probation Department will provide an assessment to the Placer County Board of Supervisors by December 31, 2025.

R2. Placer County Probation Department should establish and implement written goals and metrics to evaluate the success of the tablet program by October 31, 2025.

Recommendation 2 has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

The Placer County Probation has partnered with Orijin, PBC, to implement new tablets in our Juvenile Detention Facility as described in the Grand Jury report. Implementation of the project began in early 2025. The Probation Department is in the final phase of getting the systems connected, supported and online, which should be finished by the end of September. Once the tablets are running, the next phase will be training staff at the facility and conducting a trial period for the tablets. The training/trial phase is anticipated to last 2-3 months, and the goals and metrics for the program will be prepared during that phase. Given the above noted timeline, the Probation Department plans to have established written goals and metrics to evaluate the success of the tablet program by October 31, 2025.

Sincerely,



Brian Passenheim
Chief Probation Officer
Placer County Probation Department

Cc: Placer County Grand Jury, Foreperson
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Placer County Clerk of the Board
Placer County Clerk-Recorder
Daniel Chatigny, Placer County Executive Officer
Karin Schwab, Placer County Counsel

