



COUNTY OF LAKE

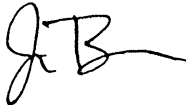
Public Health Services Department - Administration
922 Bevins Court
LAKEPORT, CALIFORNIA 95453-9739
Telephone 707/263-1090 FAX 707/263-4395

Promoting an Optimal State of Wellness in Lake County

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 17, 2011

TO: The Honorable Richard C. Martin, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
via the Lake County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Brown, Health Services Director 

SUBJECT: Required Response to FY 2010/11 Grand Jury Final Report

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933, I am submitting this response to the FY 2010-2011 Final Grand Jury Report via the Lake County Board of Supervisors.

Response to Lake County Public Health Division Oversight (Pages 69 & 70)

Findings:

- F 1. The Public Health Division administers California State and Federal Health programs to benefit the health and safety of the people of Lake County.
- F 2. Funding received from grants is a suspense-filled process and makes for a stressful situation.

Response to Findings:

We agree with these findings.

Recommendations: None

Response to Recommendation: We appreciate the Grand Jury's oversight to help improve County departments and their review of the facts and findings regarding Public Health.

Brown
Health Services Director
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Ben M. Tait, M.D.
Health Officer
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Christine Pomeroy
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FROM: Jim Brown, Health Services Director *JB*

SUBJECT: Required Response to FY 2010/11 Grand Jury Final Report

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933, I am submitting this response to the FY 2010-2011 Final Grand Jury Report via the Lake County Board of Supervisors.

Response to Mold in My Home: Does Anybody Care? (Pages 11 - 13)

Findings:

- F 1. No local governmental agencies exist in the County that evaluates mold.
- F 2. Since it has been documented that indoor dampness or fungal growth are potential health risks, mold must be eliminated in a safe and efficient manner.

Response to Findings:

We do not disagree with these findings.

Recommendations:

- R1: Have County government become informed in mold mitigation. (F1, F2)
- R2: Correct County website to remove reference to mold services. (F1)

Response to R1:

In Environmental Health's on-going efforts to have our inspectors become even more informed regarding mold and remediation, we recently had two of our lead Environmental Health Inspectors attend training provided by the CA Department of Public Health regarding mold/moisture issues. The training included the following issues on mold:

- Identification of what constitutes enforceable violations
- Understanding the health effects resulting from these substandard housing conditions
- Reviews of applicable laws and enforcement authority
- Identification of remediation options

Additionally, Environmental Health has prepared a "Mold Fact Sheet" which provides

the public with the potential health risks from mold and remediation options. We will move our "Mold Fact Sheet" to a more obvious location on our website to better comply with Recommendation #1 by providing current and correct health information to the public so they can investigate, prevent, and remediate indoor mold on private property. This will be accomplished before September 1, 2011.

Response to R2:

In the **Discussion and Facts Section** it states that on the Code Enforcement page of the County's website "... there is a chart indicating that the agency to contact about 'Mold inside habitable dwellings' is Building and Safety." (See attachment, page 13) This is a Building and Safety web page, and not a web page that Environmental Health has any control over and needs to be addressed by that Department.



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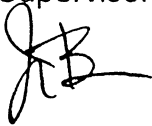
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DATE: August 16, 2011

TO: The Honorable Richard C. Martin, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court via the Lake County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Brown, Health Services Director 

SUBJECT: Required Response to FY 2010-11 Grand Jury Final Report

Response to South Lake Holding Facility (Pages 131 – 133.)

Findings:

- F 1. The conditions in the South Lake Holding Facility reflect a total lack of respect.
- F 2. SLHF is an old facility and is not required to be maintained by today's safety and health standards. Lake County Public Health Department informed the Grand Jury that it has not been inspecting this facility.
- F 3. Inmate areas were found to be poorly maintained, dirty and unsanitary.
- F 4. Since there are no cleaning supplies available, Sheriff Officers are unable to perform emergency cleanups.
- F 5. Sheriff Officers' furniture is old and makeshift.
- F 6. Ambient lighting is insufficient.
- F 7. In the women's holding cell, there are nonoperational shower pipes protruding from the wall; this is in an alcove not visible to correctional officers.
- F 8. Open urinal grates without adequate plumbing are unhealthy and unsanitary.
- F 9. The Grand Jury was informed that the Sheriff is responsible only for transport and security, and the Court had no knowledge of responsibility; therefore, the Grand Jury was unable to discover just exactly who is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the holding facility.

Response to Findings: Public Health does not disagree with any of the findings that pertain to the Public Health Dept.

Recommendations and Responses:

- R 1. Place SLHF on the Lake County Public Health Officer's routine inspection schedule. (F1, F2, F3)
- R 2. Someone assume the responsibility to clean and maintain the holding

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facility on a regular basis. (F1, F2, F3, F7, F9)

- R 3. Store cleaning supplies in the locked closet for immediate use. (F1, F2, F4)
- R 4. Replace officers' makeshift desk and equipment in the guard area with newer, more functional pieces from the County's surplus inventory. (F1, F4)
- R 5. Improve the lighting for both safety and morale. (F1, F2, F6)
- R 6. As protruding plumbing creates a potential suicide-by-hanging hazard, remove pipes from women's holding cell wall. (F2, F7, F9)
- R 7. Correct plumbing regarding the open urinal grate. (F8)

Response to Recommendation R1:

We inspected the facility after the Grand Jury first reported the conditions they had observed to us. We have included the South Lake Holding Facility to our routine and on-going inspection cycle.

Response to Recommendations R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7:

We do not disagree with any of the recommendations relative to Public Health's responsibilities. However, we do not believe Health Services/Public Health has any direct role or responsibility to furnish the facility, arrange for janitorial services, or do repairs or provide maintenance to the South Lake Holding Facility. Health Services/Public Health will coordinate the inspection process with the responsible party.



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Response to Lake County Environmental Oversight (Pages 67 & 68)

Findings:

- F 1. Facts indicate the EHD is a self-sustaining division.
- F 2. EHD is operating below budget in the area of personnel and staffing.

Response to Findings: We agree with these findings.

Recommendations: None

Response to Recommendations: We appreciate the Grand Jury's oversight to help improve County departments and their review of the facts and findings regarding Environment Health.

rown
 Services Director
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