

MONO COUNTY
SHERIFF
A Commitment to Community Safety and Service



Ingrid Braun
Sheriff-Coroner

MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Phillip West
Undersheriff

September 3, 2020

Honorable Judge Mark Magit
Presiding Judge, Mono County Superior Court
100 Thompson Way
Post Office Box 1037
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546

Re: Response to the Mono County 2019-2020 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Magit:

The Mono County Sheriff's Office is in receipt of the Mono County 2019-2020 Grand Jury Final Report. As required by California Penal Code Section 933(c), I am responding to the portions of the report that relate to the Mono County Sheriff's Office.

Annual Jail Inquiry as per Penal Code Section 919(b)

Finding 1: The Grand Jury finds that Mono County continues to maintain a well-run jail facility and has responded to the Coronavirus pandemic in an appropriate manner.

Recommendation 1: The Grand Jury finds that the Mono County Jail continues to be a well-run facility. The Grand Jury has no recommendations at this time.

The Sheriff's Office agrees with the finding and recommendation. We appreciate the time the Grand Jury took to conduct the mandated inquiry during this time of COVID.

Continuity Committee Mono County Jail Report

The Grand Jury revisited the Grand Jury Final Report from 2018-2019 regarding the Mono County Jail. The purpose of the review was to indicate if there was a response to the Grand Jury report and to report on what progress is being made to comply with their stated proposals in response to the recommendations of the Grand Jury.

Recommendations 1 – 4: The Grand Jury finds that Mono County and Mono Sheriff's Office have made every effort to comply with the recommendations of the 18-19 Grand Jury.

The Sheriff's Office agrees with the recommendation.

Recommendation 5: The Grand Jury finds that, given current circumstances, a visit to the Jail would not be appropriate at this time.

The Sheriff's Office agrees with the recommendation, which was specific to the Board of Supervisors conducting an in-person visit of the Jail.

Emergency Preparedness Final Report

Finding 1: The radio system currently being used by MLFD and much of Mono County is fast becoming obsolete and unreliable. The TOML, Mono County, and other agencies within the County have begun the process of upgrading internal communications. They also have a unique opportunity to participate in the "FirstNet" nationwide communications system, they have been asked to participate in a pilot project which would bring this system to Mono County to provide a proof of concept.

Recommendation 1: The Grand Jury recommends that Mono County and the TOML continue to support Mono County's participation in the FirstNet communications system and/or any appropriate improvements to the system as resources allow. The Grand Jury further recommends that these improvements be made within the scope of a unified plan for the entire County.

The Sheriff's Office agrees with the finding and recommendation. The Mono County Information Technology Department is driving the effort to improve the communications system in Mono County. All stakeholders are involved in the process, and regular meetings are held to keep the project moving forward and ensure all partners are informed on the status of the project. Stakeholders are considering a variety of technical solutions including incorporation of the FirstNet system. Work on improving the system is ongoing with a number of incremental technical improvements slated to happen by December, 2020. It is anticipated that substantive system improvements will take several years to complete and likely not be fully operational until 2025.

Respectfully submitted,



Ingrid Braun
Sheriff-Coroner

- c: Mono County Board of Supervisors
Robert Lawton, County Administrative Officer
Stacey Simon, County Counsel
Nate Greenberg, Information Technology Director