

Grand Jury Report

REQUIRED RESPONSE FORM

Grand Jury Report Title : Continuity Report

Report Dated : April 17, 2025

Response Form Submitted By:

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482 (use address block as inserted on first page)

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: July 16, 2025

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the FINDINGS portion of the report as follows:

☐ I (we) agree with the Findings numbered:

☒ I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered below, and have *attached* a statement specifying any portion of the Finding that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons therefore.

F1

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the RECOMMENDATIONS portion of the report as follows:

☒ The following Recommendation(s) have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:

R1

☐ The following Recommendation(s) have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future; **attached, as required**, is a time frame for implementation:

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- ☐ The following Recommendation(s) require further analysis, and **attached, as required**, is an explanation and the scope and parameters of the planned analysis, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared, discussed and approved by the officer and/or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed: (This time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury Report)
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- ☐ The following Recommendations will NOT be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not deemed reasonable; **attached, as required**, is an explanation therefore:
-

I have completed the above responses, and have attached, as required the following number of pages to this response form:

Number of Pages attached: 2

I understand that responses to Grand Jury Reports are public records. They will be posted on the Grand Jury website: www.mendocinocounty.org/government/grand-jury. The clerk of the responding agency is required to maintain a copy of the response.

I understand that I must submit this signed response form and any attachments as follows:

First Step: E-mail in pdf file format to:

- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: grandjury@mendocinocounty.org
- The Presiding Judge: grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

Mendocino County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 939
Ukiah, CA 95482

Printed Name: John Haschak

Title: Chair, Board of Supervisors

Signed: _____ Date: _____

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT TITLED:

CONTINUITY REPORT

Discussion

The Board of Supervisors welcomes this opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury report titled "Continuity Report". The Board appreciates the Grand Jury's deep dive into these issues concerning the families and children of Mendocino County.

Pursuant to the request of the Grand Jury, the Board is responding to the following:

- F1. The response from the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors to Recommendation 10 in the Family and Children's Services Report failed to comply with the requirements of California Penal Code § 933.05.

Mendocino County disagrees with Finding 1.

Recommendation 10 stated as follows: "Mendocino County implement a QA department in FCS. (To be completed by May 2025) F10". Because FCS had in place a quality assurance program, a summary of that program was provided as part of the response to Recommendation 10. The Board believes that the July 23, 2024 response to Recommendation 10 complied with California Penal Code § 933.05. However, the Grand Jury sent a letter dated November 12, 2024, stating that they believed the Board's response to Recommendation 10 was non-compliant. The non-compliance letter stated that the Board's "response did not provide a complete summary" and that "the summary should include the County FCS policies and procedures which accurately describe the quality assurance program, or if no such policies and procedures exist, a summary of how the quality assurance program functions." In response to the non-compliance letter, on December 17, 2024, the Board provided a Supplemental Response to Recommendation 10, that included a more detailed summary of the FCS quality assurance program and explained in greater detail how the program functioned. The Board believes that any perceived non-compliance may be the result of a disconnect between the Grand Jury's recommendation and the Board's understanding of that recommendation. However, Finding 1 does not explain why the Grand Jury believes that the Board's response was non-compliant. Therefore, the Board is limited in addressing the Grand Jury's concerns.

As an update, FCS has recently restructured the Compliance and Quality Assurance unit. As part of restructuring, FCS is working to contract Case Review and Quality Assurance with the State of California, therefore having a third party (the State) provide the case reviews and the quality assurance over FCS cases. FCS hopes to be in contract with the State by July 1, 2025. Additionally, the County's current Self-Assessment, which was discussed in Attachment 10 to the December 17, 2024 Supplemental Response, is due in November 2025. The County will then develop the System Improvement Plan based upon the County

Self-Assessment.

- R1. The Board of Supervisors ensures that all future responses to Grand Jury recommendations comply with California Penal Code § 933.05.

The recommendation has been implemented.

The Board of Supervisors works to ensure that all responses to Grand Jury Requirements comply with California Penal Code § 933.05.