



## **EL DORADO COUNTY GRAND JURY 2010 – 2011**

### **EL DORADO COUNTY DETENTION FACILITIES**

Case Number GJ010-016

#### **REASON FOR REPORT**

California Penal Code §919(b) requires that grand juries annually inspect all jails, prisons and juvenile detention facilities within their respective counties.

#### **FINDINGS**

Members of the 2010 – 2011 El Dorado County Grand Jury inspected the Placerville Juvenile Hall, Placerville County Jail, South Lake Tahoe Jail, South Lake Tahoe Juvenile Treatment Center and Growlersburg Conservation Camp. Interviews were conducted with staff at the facilities and a thorough inspection of each facility was completed. All facilities were found to be clean, safe and well managed. Detainees at each location had ready access to medical care and there was a process in place for addressing detainee grievances.

#### **OTHER FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **PLACERVILLE JUVENILE HALL**

There are no findings or recommendations.

## **PLACERVILLE JAIL**

The Placerville Jail is currently using a 22-year-old VHS system for surveillance. Due to inaccessibility of replacement parts, the system can no longer be maintained. Very poor images produced by this old technology are not suitable evidence required by the County's Justice System. A recent altercation between two inmates took place in a section of the jail's kitchen where there are no cameras. Although the altercation stopped before major injuries were inflicted, there was no recorded evidence of the conflict. The El Dorado County Grand Jury urges the Sheriff's Office to spend the budgeted funds and proceed with the 3 Phase plan to upgrade the surveillance system.

## **SOUTH LAKE TAHOE JAIL**

Overtime is required on a continuing basis. The Sheriff's Department should return staffing to appropriate levels to alleviate this problem. The need remains to upgrade surveillance equipment as indicated in the Grand Jury Report 2009-2010.

## **SOUTH LAKE TAHOE JUVENILE TREATMENT CENTER**

There are no recommendations.

## **GROWLERSBURG CONSERVATION CAMP**

Previously budgeted renovation of Growlersburg's obsolete facility was put on hold due to State budget constraints. The renovation should be completed. Unlike other county detention facilities, the distance to emergency facilities from Growlersburg precludes the accessibility of staff and inmates to an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED). To remedy this situation, an AED should be purchased for the Growlersburg facility.

## **RESPONSES**

Responses are not required.