

County of Santa Clara

Office of the Sheriff

55 West Younger Avenue
San Jose, California 95110-1721
(408) 808-4900



Laurie Smith
Sheriff

June 22, 2016

Mr. Michael J. Bush
Field Representative
Board of State and Community Corrections
2590 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95833

Subject: Corrections 2014-2016 Biennial Inspection Response for Main Jail, Elmwood Men's and Elmwood Women's

Dear Mr. Bush:

I am responding to your letter dated May 4, 2016, regarding the 2014-2016 biennial inspection of the Santa Clara Main Jail (MJ), the Elmwood Complex Men's Facility (EMF) and Women's Facility (EWF). During the inspection, you noted some items of non-compliance. The following response identifies and addresses those concerns.

Main Jail

Temporary Holding Cells

We recognize that on the day of inspection, cells C2 and C4 were being utilized to "temporarily" hold more inmates than the rate of capacity. To rectify this, we will be sending notice to our deputies/officers assigned to the designated areas. This notice will ensure that staff is aware of the total capacity allowed per each "temporary" holding cell.

Single Occupancy Cells

Although these cells have a second bunk, they are primarily used for single inmate housing. This issue is being addressed in the remodel of floors 5-7, to include module 4A. The remodel will take place before the end of the year.

Multiple Occupancy Cells

These inmates will eventually be rehoused into one of the remodeled units in Main Jail North once all of the work is completed. Between the remodel and the construction of the new jail, Main Jail South housing will eventually be phased out.

Dormitories

Although the unit contains 54 bunks, many are offline due to repairs and occupancy has been in the low to mid forties. The plan is to move all of those inmates to the Elmwood facility once all work has been completed on M2 and M3. This work should be completed by year's end.

Dayroom

We have been attempting to give more "out time" to inmates housed in these units. If they are compatible with each other, they will "program" with each other. On the day of inspection, we entered a housing unit in which all inmates were out of their cells for recreation (7th Floor). Due to the limited number of tables and seating in the day room, we were out of compliance; however, we do have plastic chairs available that the inmates are aware of and utilize. Another option would be to split the program time (top tier/bottom tier). But, this will nullify the avenue in which we are attempting to go. We will address this issue with command staff.

Elmwood Complex

Men's and Women's Facility

Fire Inspection Compliance:

The 2014-2016 BSCC Biannual Inspection Report indicates that the Elmwood Men's and Women's Facilities have not been inspected since February 10, 2010 marking both Facilities overdue for a Fire Inspection. However, Elmwood Administration's records show that the Fire Marshal conducted facility inspections of the Elmwood Men's and Women's Facilities in 2014, 2015 and 2016 (see attached reports)

Elmwood Men's Facility

No compliance issues noted.

Bush, Michael

3 | Page

Elmwood Women's Facility

No compliance issues noted.

We believe that this comprehensive Corrective Action response will successfully meet all the exceptions described in your letter. Feel free to contact Assistant Sheriff Troy Beliveau at 408-808-4915, if there are any concerns with our response.

Sincerely,

LAURIE SMITH, Sheriff

By:



Assistant Sheriff Troy Beliveau

TB/kb

CC: Jeff Smith, County Executive
Dave Cortese, President Board of Supervisor
Presiding Judge Pichon, Superior Court, Santa Clara County
Grand Jury Foreman, Superior Court, Santa Clara County
John Hirokawa, Chief of Correction, Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff
David Sepulveda, Captain, Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff
Blanca Hoyt, Captain, Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff
Kevin Heilman, Captain, Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff