



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT NO. 2606
"The Cost of Adult Detention Facilities"**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RESPONSE

FINDINGS – California Penal Code Section 933.05(a) requires a response to the designated findings of the Grand Jury.

RESPONSES TO FINDINGS:

F1. The Sheriff's Quarterly Oversight Report to the Board of Supervisors regarding the cost of detention borne by the Sheriff's Department does not include costs borne by other County departments, such as the costs of medical and mental health services.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS - California Penal Code Section 933.05(b) requires a response to the designated recommendations of the Grand Jury.

RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS:

R.1. By January 1, 2027, the Board should consider requiring an audit to determine the full costs of adult detention facilities.

Response: **The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.**
Costs of adult detention facilities are within the County's General Fund, which is audited annually and compliant with California Government Code Sections 25250 and 25253.

R.2. Upon completion of the audit and no later than June 30, 2027, the Board should consider directing the auditor to report on the review of the full costs of operating each of the adult detention facilities.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

Please see response to R.1 for further explanation.

R.5. By July 1, 2027, the Board should consider directing the Sheriff's Office to close MCDF.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

MCDF is the County's only dormitory-style, less-restrictive custody facility and provides an appropriate housing option for lower-risk offenders. Unlike traditional jail housing, participants have increased out-of-bunk time, greater access to programming, and a rehabilitative environment while continuing to receive the same medical and mental health services available at the County's other detention facilities.

MCDF offers a variety of educational, vocational, and reentry programs that support rehabilitation and successful integration. Closing the facility would eliminate an important correctional resource, reduce housing flexibility, and limit the Office of the Sheriff's custody options, including the ability to reserve higher-security beds for offenders that require greater custody levels.

R.6. By December 31, 2026, the Board should consider directing the Sheriff's Office to collect and report operating cost data separately for each CAF program.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

State regulations, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) established accounting and financial reporting standards for local governments, and County policies do not require departments to collect and report operating cost data as recommended. Producing separate cost analyses for each of the Sheriff's CAF programs, would impose unfounded expectations on one County program area and significantly impact the County's use of its resources. The operating cost of the CAF programs are currently reported comprehensively and adhere to applicable rules and regulations.