



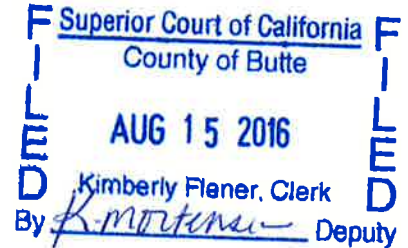
TOWN OF PARADISE POLICE DEPARTMENT

5595 Black Olive Drive, Paradise, CA 95969 (530) 872-6241 FAX (530) 872-4950

Gabriela F. Tazzari-Dineen, Chief of Police

July 14, 2016

The Honorable Robert A. Glusman, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA, 95965



Re: Response to the FY 2015-2016 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Glusman,

In accordance with Penal Code Section 933 and 933.05, Paradise Police Department Chief of Police submits the following response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury's Final Report from FY 2015-2016 pertaining to Homelessness in Butte County and this department's Animal Shelter facility.

Homelessness in Butte County (Report):

The Paradise Police Department agrees and recognizes the recommendation by the Grand Jury presented on page 45 (F8/R3) related to tracking incidents that involve homeless individuals and activity.

As noted in the Grand Jury's Final Report, law enforcement expenses incurred as a result of officers responding to incidents involving homeless individuals are difficult to calculate because there are many different ways to track dispatched Calls for Service. The Paradise Police Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system is RIMS; (Sun Ridge Systems, Inc). This system allows calls for service to have a call-type that is reflective of the activity involved in the call (theft, arson, rape, etc). The call-type of homeless or transient is not a reliable category because the call-type is subject to change to a crime code depending on the officers' investigation and therefore it

becomes difficult to track calls or crimes that involve a homeless individual. RIMS does; however, offer a "special circumstance" category that does not interfere with the call type and that allows the user to easily search activity using a specific special circumstance. The Paradise Police Department has created a special circumstance specific to homeless activity. Dispatchers and officers have been trained to use this code when dealing with any type of activity involving homeless people. The Department expects that this new procedure will greatly improve the gathering of data and will allow staff to calculate the economic impact related to homelessness more accurately.

Butte County Animal Shelters (Report):

The Paradise Police Department agrees with the findings listed on page 25 (F5-F8) and the recommendations listed on page 6 (R3-R6) relating to funding and upgrades to the shelter, as well as providing greater separation of animals (dogs/cats, sick/healthy), and the shelter hours of operations.

As noted in the Grand Jury's Final Report, the Animal Control Shelter is in need of additional funding, renovation or expansion, greater separation of animals and increase hours of operations. Currently, the Animal Control Shelter is funded by 5 funding sources; Measure N (A special \$1 per month per parcel tax that generates approximately \$132,300 per year and that is solely dedicated to Animal Control operations), Measure C (A 6 year general half cent sales tax), Service Fees, donation funds, and PASH donations. Although the combination of these funds has allowed for current operations to continue, and in some ways improve, these funds are still not sufficient to attain the identified needs, accomplish large renovations and/or expansions or to increase the number of employees working at the shelter or increase hours for current employees. Two of these funds are limited (Measure C and donation funds) and when these funds are exhausted, the shelter operations will not be sustainable.

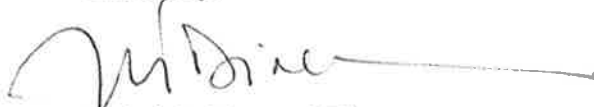
Sustaining and improving the operations of the Animal Control Shelter is one of the Town's and Police Department's priorities and therefore staff is constantly researching ways to increase funding to maintain or improve the shelter. The Town/Police Department has reviewed a few funding solutions that may be implemented, such as online dog licensing and a review and potential increase in the fee schedule. Although implementation of either idea would produce some additional funding, the projected revenue does not reach a level that would be sufficient to sustain the shelter operations, let alone, accomplish large scale improvements. The Town foresees having to place Measure N on a future ballot for the purpose of increasing the \$12 a year per parcel tax contribution to an amount that is both reasonable and adequate to sustain and improve the operations and staff of the Animal Control Shelter.

In the meantime, as the Town considers a permanent long-term sustainable solution for funding for the Animal Control Shelter, the Town has dedicated funding in FY16/17 to purchase 4 new animal isolation units (cages) for cats in order to improve separation and reduce cross contamination between healthy and sick cats. The Town is also researching the possibility of acquiring an already existing building adjacent to the shelter that if possible, and with minimal renovations, may be used to separate animals such as dogs and cats by housing them in separate buildings.

The hours of operation that are open to the public at the shelter were increased in 2014 and some internal operational changes were also made to ensure that the shelter is open to the public in spite of vacations or sick call-outs. In addition, the Town has extended the availability for services by making some services available at Town Hall. Also, within the next few months, the Town will go "live" with an online dog licensing service to provide for the registration or renewal of dog licensing any time of the day or night. Extending the hours of the shelter to the public is a regularly discussed goal and will be implemented when the Town has the financial resources to do so.

I would like to express my appreciation to the grand jurors for their commitment of time and effort to thoroughly understand the Paradise Police Department's Animal Control Shelter operation and for taking interest in the homelessness issues in Butte County. Thank you for the opportunity to present you with this response to the Grand Jury Final Report FY 2015-2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Tazzari-Dineen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gabriela Tazzari-Dineen
Chief of Police