

# AGENCY'S RESPONSE PROCEDURE

## RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

The governance of responses to the Grand Jury Final Report is contained in Penal Code §933 and §933.05. Responses must be submitted within 60 or 90 days. Elected officials must respond within sixty (60) days, governing bodies (for example, the Board of Supervisors) must respond within ninety (90) days. Please submit all responses in writing and digital format to the Presiding Judge and the Grand Jury Foreperson.

Report Title: Mental Health Crisis Services Report Date: May 22, 2014

Response by: Landy Black Title: Police Chief, City of Davis

### FINDINGS

I (we) agree with the findings numbered:

F3, F4, & F7

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered:

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations numbered: R1 have been implemented (attach a summary describing the implemented actions).

Recommendations numbered: \_\_\_\_\_ require further analysis (attach an explanation of the analysis or study, and the time frame for the matter to be prepared by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed; including the governing body where applicable. The time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of the Grand Jury Report).

Recommendations numbered: R2 will not be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not reasonable (attach an explanation).

Date: June 30, 2014 Signed: 

Total number of pages attached 2

## Police Department

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June 30, 2014

Honorable Daniel Maguire  
Superior Court of California  
725 Court Street  
Woodland, California 95695

Yolo County Grand Jury  
Post Office Box 2142  
Woodland, California 95695

Re: Grand Jury Report – Mental Health Crisis Services

Dear Judge Maguire and Yolo County Grand Jury:

This letter is to serve as the attachment to the Davis Police Department response to the Yolo County Grand Jury report regarding “Mental Health Crisis Services in Yolo County.”

### **Response regarding Recommendation R1:**

Recommendation R1 has been implemented.

The Davis PD has already established, and continues to pursue, a Crisis Intervention Training plan. We have deemed that the 32-hour training curriculum that has obtained California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) certification is the appropriate level of training to expose Davis Police officers to and have been sending employees to such a level of training for several years now. The Davis PD CIT plan establishes a 100% Crisis Intervention Training and certification target — not only for patrol officers within one year of completing a P.O.S.T.-compliant field training program and their probationary period, but for Public Safety Dispatchers within one year of completing a communications training program and their probationary period.

### **Response regarding Recommendation R2:**

Recommendation R2 will not be implemented at this time because it is impractical and unreasonable.

At such time as the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) establishes Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) as a mandatory component of either the Police Academy training curriculum, or the Field Training Program standards that all

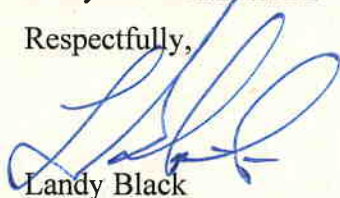
newly hired peace officers must undergo, then it will be inevitable that fully accredited peace officers will be working on the streets of all California jurisdictions, including Yolo County and the City of Davis, who have yet to receive the important, but not mandatory, CIT. Even when the point is reached when all tenured police officers in Davis (or any other jurisdiction) are CIT certified, there will be those newer, not yet CIT certified police officers working alongside CIT certified officers. However, yet-to-be-CIT-trained officers will undoubtedly be the closest, or most appropriate, police resources to dispatch to emergency or less urgent calls for service “involving individuals in mental health crisis” on many occasions. Unnecessarily delaying police responses to any calls “involving an individual in mental health crisis” – especially emergency calls – through a practice of deferring dispatch to a CIT certified officers who, due to distance or prior obligation, may have a response times several minutes slower than non-CIT officers’ response times, is not reasonable. The almost certain result of such an emergency call dispatching strategy is that both those who are in direct need of an expeditious police response, as well as innocent bystanders, are subjected to further, unnecessary risks.

Further, it is impractical and an unreasonable burden on police agencies, especially smaller agencies with perhaps only five to eight officers assigned per shift, to manage shift/squad assignments, beat assignments, call-for-service assignments, court appearances, vacation and other training time absences, etc. in such a way there is always a CIT certified officer on-duty and capable of being the first to respond to calls involving individuals in mental health crisis.

Again, when the time comes that P.O.S.T. establishes CIT as a mandatory component of either the Police Academy training curriculum, or the Field Training Program standards that all newly hired peace officers must undergo, every accredited peace officer working in any jurisdiction in California will have CIT as part of their basic skill-set. Then, by default, each and every peace officer responding to any and all calls involving individuals in mental health crisis will be CIT certified. Until that time, calls for service must continue to be dispatched as expeditiously as appropriate, without regard to CIT certification, with a continuing strategy to get CIT officers on-scene as soon as possible, but not requiring they be the first. This may seem explicitly contrary to Recommendation R2, but it is not entirely inconsistent philosophically.

I appreciate the Grand Jury’s enquiry into the important realm of Mental Health Crisis Services in Yolo County. We at the Davis Police Department not only look forward to, but advocate for, improvements and advancements to the intertwined network of mental health and public safety/law enforcement services.

Respectfully,



Landy Black  
Police Chief