OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF COUNTY OF INYO

Inyo County Sheriff's Office PO Drawer S Independence, Ca 93526 FILED

JUL 2 9 2024

INVO CO. SUPERIOR COURT PAMELA M. FOSTER, CLERK BY DEPUTY

July 24, 2024

Inyo County Superior Court PO Box 1508 Bishop, Ca 93515

Honorable Presiding Judge,

I am writing in response to the Inyo County Grand Jury final report for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Continuity Report Regarding the Concealed Carry Permit (CCW) Renewal Process

FINDINGS:

F1: "There are discrepancies between the information for renewing a Concealed Carry Permit on the ICSO website and current practices."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

ICSO staff has demonstrated full transparency throughout the Grand Jury investigation process, promptly providing all requested information and responding to every Grand Jury request. Respectfully, any perceived discrepancies between the provided information for the ICSO CCW Procedures and current practices should be noted in detail as to allow for a thorough response, corrective actions, or the opportunity to provide further information.

F2: "No information is presented on the ICSO website as to typical Concealed Carry Permit renewal process times nor an indication of the minimum time necessary to receive a renewal before the existing permit expiration date."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

Since the issuance of the initial Grand Jury Report, Senate Bill 2 has come into effect in the state of California. This legislation imposes additional requirements on the Sheriff's Office staff for issuing permits. These mandates, however, are unfunded and have significantly impacted the procedures for processing both new and renewal applications.

As currently noted on the Inyo County Sheriff's Office CCW Page:

"RENEWAL Applications are typically processed within 30 to 90 days+- however, due to circumstances beyond our control, the application process may be longer."

F3: "The Permitium Concealed Carry Permit expiration notice process is problematic."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

Expiration dates are clearly marked on CCW Permit Cards issued to the permit holder and are valid for two years to the date of issue. The Permitium System automatically notifies the permit holder by email of upcoming expiration six months in advance. Please see below for an example of the automated notification:

"Please do not respond to this email as this address is not checked. Your CCW permit is up for renewal! Your permit is set to expire. To renew your permit, please click here: (https://inyoso.permitium.com/ccw/start). If you have already renewed your permit, please disregard this email.

Please allow up to 120 business days for it to be processed. During the process of performing all applicable background checks, we may need to contact you to request additional information. We will do so via email, all notifications will also be displayed on the Order Tracker.

You will be notified via email once your renewal application has been approved. Additional instructions will be provided within the notification email.

Sincerely,

Inyo County Sheriff's Office"

Permit holders are given six months advance notice to allow time for the applicant to gather the required documents and schedule the mandated course in time for their permit to expire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: "The Grand Jury recommends that the ICSO review and revise the website to eliminate discrepancies between stated and actual CCW renewal practices by December 31, 2023."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

The Inyo County CCW Permitium Website has been updated to reflect the new legislation imposed by SB2 as well as to reflect our current procedures.

R2: "The Grand Jury recommends the ICSO provide evidence on the website as to typical CCW renewal times by December 31, 2023."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

The Inyo County CCW Permitium Website has been updated to note:

"RENEWAL Applications are typically processed within 30 to 90 days+- however, due to circumstances beyond our control, the application process may be longer."

R3: "The Grand Jury recommends the ICSO clearly indicate the minimum time required to review a CCW if all documentation is properly submitted by December 31, 2023."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

The Inyo County CCW Permitium Website has been updated to note:

"Due to the increased volume of applications, The NEW Carry Concealed application process may take approximately 180+ - days to complete. Applications are processed in the order they are received.

RENEWAL Applications are typically processed within 30 to 90days+- however, due to circumstances beyond our control, the application process may be longer. For NEW and RENEWAL applications: you will receive an email if any additional information and/or documents are needed when your application is being processed by our staff. If you have questions regarding your CCW application, please email us at ccw@inyocounty.us"

As well as "Applicants RENEWING a Concealed Carry Weapon license in Inyo County may apply up to 180 days before the expiration date listed on their current Concealed Carry Weapon license."

R4: "The Grand Jury recommends the ICSO assure expiration date notices sent by Permitium are accurate and include guidance for timely renewals by December 31, 2023."

SHERIFF RESPONSE:

Expiration dates are clearly marked on CCW Permit Cards issued to the permit holder and are valid for two years to the date of issue. The Permitium System automatically notifies the permit holder by email of an coming expiration six months in advance. Permit holders are given six months advance notice to allow time for the applicant to gather the required documents and schedule the mandated course in time for their permit to expire.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me anytime.

Sincerely,

Inyo County Sheriff Stephanie J. Rennie