

OFFICE OF THE
SHERIFF
INYO COUNTY, CA



WILLIAM R. LUTZE
SHERIFF

JEFF HOLLOWELL
UNDERSHERIFF

"A Professional Service Agency"

SEP 16 2016

INYO CO. SUPERIOR COURT
PAMELA M. LOSTER, CLERK
BY DEPUTY

September 9, 2016

FILED

SEP 19 2016

INYO CO. CLERK
KAMMI FOOTE, CLERK
BY *[Signature]* DEPUTY

Inyo County Grand Jury
c/o Honorable Dean T. Stout, Presiding Judge
Inyo County Superior Court
PO Drawer U
Independence, Ca. 93526

Dear Members,

First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your service as members of the Grand Jury. I recently received your Final Report for the Inyo County Sheriff's Office/County Jail Inspection Report. My responses to your recommendations and commendations are as follows:

R1: The Grand Jury recommends a technological upgrading of the electronic control panel in the Panel in the Pod observation tower of the Jail.

Response: The Sheriff's Office is aware of the issues with the control panels which are approximately 22 years old. We have contacted several providers to determine the best course of action and products available. A decision should be made this year and a Request for Proposals completed.

R2: The Grand Jury recommends consideration be given whereby deputies have the option of wearing vests or belts in carrying the 30+ lbs. of equipment that they are required to carry.

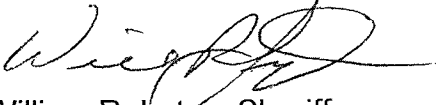
Response: The Sheriff's Office authorized Deputy Sheriff's to wear load bearing vest in 2012 and authorized Correctional Officers to wear load bearing vests on 8/13/2015. The Deputies and Correctional Officers receive \$1,200 per year for purchase and maintenance of uniforms. We provide safety equipment upon employment but the load bearing vests are optional equipment and must be purchased by the Deputy or Correctional Officer and must meet Department specifications.

R3: The Grand Jury recommends improved coordination between Health and Human Services and the Sheriff's Department when addressing mental illness and severe substance abuse cases and responding time by Health and Human Services personnel.

Response: The Sheriff's Office is meeting regularly with Health and Human Services staff to discuss and coordinate mental health and substance abuse response protocols. Improvement has been made in this area to date.

Again, thank you for your service. If you have any questions or need further information please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William R. Lutze', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

William R. Lutze, Sheriff