County of Santa Clara
Probation Department

Sheila E. Mitchell
Chief Probation Officer

August 6, 2013

TO: Gary A. Graves
Chief Operating Officer

FROM: Sheila E. Mitchell
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: Response to Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report - Juvenile Hall - On the Right Track

This letter responds to the Civil Grand Jury’s Final Report, dated June 11, 2013 regarding Juvenile Hall.

FINDING 1: The interior of the doors in the individual housing units are covered with graffiti and gang tagging.

Probation’s Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 1: The County should explore and test methods to eliminate graffiti and gang tagging in Juvenile Hall.

Probation’s Response: The Probation Department has consulted with the County Facilities and Fleets (FAF) Department to ascertain if there are methods or strategies that exist to ameliorate the problem tagging. FAF has agreed to work with Probation to test in one unit a process of stripping down the doors to the stainless steel in an effort to learn if the stainless steel finish will camouflage future tagging. Further, FAF has also begun to assist the Probation Department’s Juvenile Hall Beautification Project by painting each housing unit, including the doors. One unit has been completed to date and a second unit is currently in the process of being painted.