



Los Gatos
Monte Sereno

POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 26, 2018

Ms. Tamara Davis
Deputy Manager, Jury Services
Superior Court of Santa Clara County
191 North First Street
San Jose, CA. 95113

(ENDORSED)
FILED
JUL 02 2018
Clerk of the Court
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY _____ DEPUTY
Janice Jones

Dear Ms. Davis,

Subject: Response to the 2017-2018 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on "Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes".

On behalf of the Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Department, I am providing this formal response to the 2017-2018 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on "Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes. The response was reviewed and approved by the Los Gatos Town Council on June 19, 2018.

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed document, please feel free to contact me at 408-354-6841.

Sincerely,

Peter Decena
Chief of Police

Encl: Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes

RESPONSE TO THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT ON “POLICE AND THE MENTALLY ILL: IMPROVING OUTCOMES” DATED MAY 4, 2018.

The Civil Grand Jury Report on “Police and the Mentally Ill” included four Findings with attendant Recommendations. The Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Department is required to respond to two of the Findings with five attendant Recommendations:

FINDING 1

The County’s AB 71-required criminal justice reporting surpasses that of many jurisdictions nationwide. However, the presence of mental illness in a given incident report is not mandated by AB 71. Reporting this data would assist law enforcement agencies in understanding the relationship between mental illness and officer involved shootings, and help in revising their training programs.

*Response: **AGREE***

Recommendation 1

Law enforcement agencies submitting AB 71-required data should report, to the extent possible, whether mental illness was involved in their use of force data, starting in 2019.

*Response: **Has not been implemented, but will be in the future.***

The Police Department will update its Use of Force Reporting Form to include a section that will indicate to the extent possible that mental health issues were involved in the use of force. This will allow the data to be captured and submitted to the Department of Justice pursuant to AB 71. This update will be implemented by June 2019.

FINDING 2

The Grand Jury found that training in crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques beyond what is included in the POST Basic Police Academy helps improve the outcome of law enforcement contacts with the mentally ill.

*Response: **AGREE***

Recommendation 2A

The law enforcement agencies should prepare a plan to ensure that all their officers receive POST-approved Crisis Intervention Training and De-Escalation technique training, beyond the training included in the POST Basic Police Academy, by the end of calendar 2018.

*Response: **Has been implemented.***

Recommendation 2B

The law enforcement agencies should provide funding for their law enforcement agencies to complete POST-approved Crisis Intervention Training and De-Escalation technique training, beyond the training included in the POST Basic Police Academy, by June 30, 2019.

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Response: *Has been implemented.*

Recommendation 2C

Law enforcement agencies should execute their plan to ensure that all officers receive POST-approved Crisis Intervention Training and De-Escalation technique training, beyond training included in the POST Basic Police Academy, by June 30, 2020.

Response: *Has not been implemented, but will be in the future.*

Currently only seven officers (out of the current strength of 38) have not attended the 40-hour CIT training class. The Police Department training plan specifies that the remaining seven officers will attend CIT training by June 30, 2020, although it is likely that this will be accomplished much sooner. As a side note, all seven of the Department's dispatchers have completed the 16-hour CIT training class.

Recommendation 2D

Law enforcement agencies should include Crisis Intervention Training and De-Escalation technique training in their Continuing Professional Perishable Skills and Communications training.

Response: *Requires further analysis.*

Currently there are no POST-approved CIT training courses that would fulfill the mandated two hours of Tactical or Interpersonal Communications training within the two-year training cycle. Police Department training staff will reach out to POST and request the addition of a CIT module designed to accommodate the parameters of the Perishable Skills Program. The alternative will be to have staff create a two-hour CIT training curriculum and submit it to POST for approval. The feasibility of either option will be determined by January 31, 2019.