



JOHN D'AGOSTINI  
SHERIFF - CORONER - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR  
COUNTY OF EL DORADO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

July 21, 2021

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury  
Presiding Judge of the El Dorado County Superior Court  
1354 Johnson Blvd.  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

RE: El Dorado County Grand Jury Case 20-02, Inspection of County Jails

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury,

This Office has received and reviewed a report by the El Dorado County Grand Jury relating to the "Inspection of County Jails and Juvenile Treatment Center, dated June 30, 2021."

Sheriff's Response to the Grand Jury Findings

**F1.** El Dorado County jails provide only 170 computer tablets between the Placerville and SLT locations. At normal capacity, the combined number of inmates equals 390.

**The Sheriff agrees with finding.**

**F2.** Court-ordered classes for narcotics and alcohol abuse and anger management have been temporarily suspended at both jails due to COVID-19.

**The Sheriff agrees with finding.**

Sheriff's Response to the Grand Jury Recommendations

**R1.** Both jails should explore options for the purchase of additional computer tablets to provide wider opportunities for inmates to access educational and self-improvement programs.

**Recommendation has been implemented.**

Headquarters • 200 Industrial Drive • Placerville, CA 95667 • 530-621-5655 • Fax 530-626-8163  
Jail Division • 300 Forni Road • Placerville, CA 95667 • 530-621-6000 • Fax 530-626-9472  
Tahoe Patrol • 1360 Johnson Blvd., Suite 100 • South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150 • 530-573-3000 • Fax 530-544-6809  
Tahoe Jail • 1051 Al Tahoe Blvd. • South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150 • 530-573-3031 • Fax 530-541-6721

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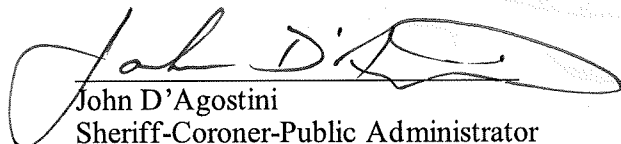
*funds, though in taking this approach, we knew it would take longer. I am pleased to report that we have received additional tablets from our inmate communications system provider NCIC and we now have a total of 355 tablets. This is the number of tablets needed for daily distribution to inmates who want a tablet who are not restricted from having one due to destructive behavior when we have typical jail populations noted by the Grand Jury of around 390 inmates. Our current inmate population between the two jails is 310 inmates, well below the number of tablets that we have.*

- R2.** Both jails should consider temporary alternatives, either one-on-one visits or virtual support courses for court-ordered substance abuse and anger management programs. These could be similar to Challenges and Changes virtual programs offered at the JTC.

**Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.**

*Though staff reviewed temporary alternatives to these programs at the time they were suspended, reasonable options that could be accommodated in our facilities were not available. On June 15, 2021, the state of California lifted many of the COVID-19 restrictions the forced us to suspend programs, allowing us to resume jail programming.*

Sincerely,



John D'Agostini  
Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator