

# ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 9, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Supervisor Richard Valle, Chair, excused  
Supervisor Scott Haggerty

Location: Board of Supervisors' Chambers – Room 512 – 5th Fl  
County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

## Summary/Action Minutes

### I. Alameda County Public Health/Environmental Health Department Jails Inspection

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

Dr. Muntu Davis, Public Health Director and County Health Officer, Public Health Department, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the results of the Public Health Department's inspection of Santa Rita and Glenn Dyer jails.

Health and Safety Code §101045 states that the County Health Officer shall investigate health and sanitary conditions in every county jail and every other public detention facility at least annually.

For both the Glenn Dyer and Santa Rita facilities, all of the applicable articles and sections required for a Nutritional Health Evaluation of a Type II Facility were generally in compliance with the following exceptions:

#### *Santa Rita Jail*

- The registered dietitian had not been reviewed and signed off on the menus
- The Emergency Feeding Plan could not be located at the time of the inspection
- 76% of the sample of audited charts with special diets received their therapeutic meal

#### *Glenn Dyer Jail*

- The medical diet manual did not include sample menus and menu patterns for each diet.
- The diet manual was reviewed by the registered dietitian, but not signed off by the responsible staff.

#### Nutritional Health Recommendations

##### *Santa Rita Jail*

- Ensure the current menus are reviewed and updated annually by the registered dietitian.
- Ensure the Emergency Feeding Plan is available for inspection.
- Ensure inmates receive special diet as prescribed.
- Increase the number of healthful beverages in all vending machines in accordance with the County Nutrition and Physical Activity Guidelines

##### *Glenn Dyer Jail*

- Review and update the Diet Manual in Food Services.
- Increase percent of healthful snacks available in vending machines to 50 percent in line with the County's Board-approved Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy and Guidelines.

For both the Glenn Dyer and Santa Rita facilities, all of the applicable articles and sections required for a Medical/Mental Health Evaluation of a Type II Facility were in compliance.

Inmates were generally satisfied with and noted improvement in the level of medical care received. All were aware of their medical conditions, potential health complications, the importance of their medications and their dietary needs.

Ronald Torres, Supervising Registered Health Specialist, Environmental Health Department, Health Care Services Agency presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Department's Annual Inspection of Santa Rita Jail.

The Department of Environmental Health's (DEH) regulatory role is to identify and document issues of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. DEH serves an intermediary role between the County and City-run detention facilities and the *Board of State and Community Corrections*, (formerly known as "the Corrections Standards Authority").

DEH maintains an active and collaborative working relationship with the Santa Rita Jail and Glen Dyer Detention Facility personnel, which has helped to ensure a safe food supply and safe overall environment for the inmate, law enforcement and "civilian" populations at each of these facilities.

## Findings

### Staff/Officers' Dining Kitchen

- Several food-handling violations were observed in the Staff/Officer's Dining Kitchen. Food (chili and hot dogs) improperly hot held prior to service, which was immediately corrected by properly heating the chili and hot dogs on the stove prior to transferring to hot-holding units;
- Food contact surfaces improperly cleaned and sanitized (can opener w/food debris residue, indicative of improper cleaning and sanitizing)

### Main Kitchen/Commissary

- One (1) walk-in refrigerator was measured at a slightly elevated temperature with food product temperature measured at 46 degrees F
- Approximately 10 lbs of frozen bologna was discarded due to "freezer burn"
- Rodent activity observed in upstairs dry storage (however, no harborage or other excessive accumulation of droppings)

### Inmate Housing Units

- Random cell inspections revealed normal "wear and tear" with regard to inmate mattresses; replaced by facility staff upon notification
- Blocked/partially blocked ventilation ports were consistently observed in the majority of inspected cells; constant struggle for facility staff to keep ventilation ports "unblocked" due to modification of these ports by inmates to suit their comfort level (each cell receives a thorough "overhaul" during inmate turnover, at which time the ventilation ports are unblocked)
- No foodborne outbreaks have been documented since the 'new' jail opened in 1989
- Bacteriological water samples taken throughout the facility over the years have tested "negative" for Coliform bacteria (the current drinking water standard used by public water systems), average of 4 – 5 samples taken at each annual inspection
- The "cook-chill" system has greatly reduced the potential for 'temperature abuse' of foods cooked and cooled on a large-scale
- Improved methods for daily temperature monitoring and documentation has helped to strengthen overall food safety operations
- Handwashing and glove-use policies have been developed and implemented for inmates working in the foodservice detail, including those who serve food in the housing units

## Summary of Findings

The Common Areas (food storage garbage, toilets and showers areas) and Inmate Cells were inspected to ensure that all related food and housing sanitation and safety standards were met.

No major violations regarding food storage/service, facility sanitation or plumbing were observed during the 2017 inspection.

### Speakers

John Jones III, has been housed in Glenn Dyer and Santa Rita Jail and stated that the Board should address the human rights issues/concerns at Santa Rita Jail, including solitary confinement and inadequate laundry and inadequate food.

Angela Noel, Oakland Community Organizations, spoke in support of Prisoners United, and supports the prisoners demands.

### Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

### Recommendation from the Public Protection Committee:

Aramark Food Service Corp will follow up on why dietician has not reviewed and signed off on menus  
Follow up on steps to increase the 76% accuracy for chart information  
Supervisor Valle: Incorporate other things in jail inspection

## II. Update on Inmate Concerns

### [Attachment](#)

### Speakers

Sherry Costa, Jose Valle, Marlene Sanchez, Indigo Mateo, Yolanda Triania, Rabia Kabel, Anne Wells, Yolanda Huang, Urszula Fydman, John Jones III, Sabir Lockett, Ruben Leal, Susan Shawl, Mary Bow, Darius Cyprian, Elliott Hosman, Kim Pollak, Kohl Hook, and Jean Moss spoke about the poor treatment of inmates, the inmate hunger strike, and requested the Sheriff's Office stop Administrative Segregation (solitary confinement).

Captain Dave Blanchard, Sheriff's Office, presented a PowerPoint presentation on an update on Inmate Concerns at Santa Rita Jail.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> through October 19<sup>th</sup> several inmates initiated a hunger strike at the Glenn Dyer Detention Facility to raise awareness of five (5) concerns of the inmates, including:

- Indefinite Solitary Confinement
- Subjective Grievance Practices
- Abuse of Discretion to Lockdown
- Insufficient and Unsanitary Clothing
- Insufficient Food and Starvation for Indigent Prisoners

The Sheriff's Office continually evaluates its operations as it pertains to the health, wellness, and care of those in their custody. A full review of inmate concerns is being conducted and will be evaluated to determine if potential changes in policy and procedures are necessary. Glenn Dyer staff has maintained an open dialogue with the inmates regarding their concerns. Progressive and innovative means will be evaluated and explored to maintain a safe and healthy living environment.

**Purpose:**

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position**
- Other:

**Recommendation from the Public Protection Committee:** The Sheriff's Office will return to the Committee to present an update on the following:

- Update on transgender persons in administrative segregation
- More information on classification of inmates who are assigned to Administrative Segregation
- More information on appeals process of inmates grievances  
Sheriff's Office to look in to partnering with Roots Organization
- Submit a redacted page of the log for inmate recreation time in the Administrative Segregation Unit

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marlene Sanchez, administrative segregation 1 hour per month, reported that there has been no behavioral issues, what is the process of getting out of isolation, more information to explain to other family members. How to get out of the classification of solitary confinement.