



SUTTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
CARL V. ADAMS

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August 10, 2009

**FILED**

SEP 28 2009

The Honorable Christopher R. Chandler  
Presiding Judge of the Sutter County Superior Court  
446 Second Street  
Yuba City, California 95991

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By Jackie Lowell Deputy

**Re: Response to the 2008-2009 Grand Jury Final Report**

Dear Judge Chandler,

The District Attorney responds as follows to each of the recommendations of the 2008-2009 Grand Jury pertaining to the Office of the District Attorney of Sutter County:

**The Gang Task Force**

**Recommendation One: The Grand Jury recommends continuing efforts into researching grants to further assist the Sutter County Gang Task Force. (Grand Jury Report, page 43)**

Response: The District Attorney concurs that grant funding to enhance the operations of the Sutter County Gang Task Force would be beneficial. The review of Federal and State criminal justice grants is a continuing process. If any private funding is discovered that source would also be investigated and pursued if the conditions of funding met the needs of the Gang Task Force.

Comment to Recommendation One: The current state of the California budget and the national economy have greatly reduced Federal and State grant funding in all areas including criminal justice generally and gang investigation specifically. At this time the operation of the Sutter County Gang Task Force is supported entirely from general fund contribution and non-designated criminal justice funds. The State of California contributes to the Gang Task Force through the assignment of the Task Force Commander as well as the provision of office space and equipment.

No private funding in this area is known but should such money become available it would be applied for so long as the funding could finance the or enhance

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operations that are in place. It would not be wise to change the focus of the Gang Task Force merely because there was funding for a different direction. The existing operation as it is in place is very beneficial to the community.

**Recommendation Two: The Grand Jury recommends continued training to qualify officers as expert witnesses. (Grand Jury Report, page 43)**

Response: The District Attorney concurs that continued training of officers assigned to the Gang Task Force is an important element of operations. There are many areas where training will be helpful. One of the more important areas is helping Task Force officers to qualify to testify as experts in court.

Comment to Recommendation Two: Continued training of the Gang Task Force supervisors and members is important to the operation of the Task Force. From the point of view of the District Attorney, one of the more important elements of training is to help Task Force officers qualify to testify as experts who can give their opinions on local gangs and activities in Court.

It is, nevertheless, recognized that there is a lot of Gang Task Force work that takes place before a case goes to trial and training in all areas is important. The District Attorney supports the recommendation of the Grand Jury for training Task Force officers as expert witnesses as a part of the total training program for the Sutter County Gang Task Force.

**Recommendation Three: The Grand Jury recommends the Sutter County Gang Task Force expand community awareness programs by sponsoring or offering additional public information forums. (Grand Jury Report, page 43)**

Response: The District Attorney concurs that the relationship with the community is extremely important to the functioning of the Sutter County Gang Task Force. There needs to be awareness in the community of the presence, identification and impact of gangs. The community's support needs to be enlisted to assist the Gang Task Force. Community awareness programs of all types should be pursued.

Comment to Recommendation Three: The effectiveness of the Sutter County Gang Task Force can be enhanced in two related areas. First, as the recommendation suggests, it is useful and helpful to educate the local community about the presence of gangs, their identification and their impact. The Gang Task Force officers currently are conducting public information presentations for community groups. These programs help members of the community to be safe and also enlist their aid in reporting unusual circumstances to law enforcement.

At the same time the Gang Task Force increases it's effectiveness by becoming known within the gang sub-culture itself. In order to collect intelligence and have a chance for proactive law enforcement operations the members of the Gang Task Force need to know and be known among gang members.

Both of these approaches are important and both involve significant investment of time. The effort on community awareness must be kept in balance with all the other priorities that press upon the Sutter County Gang Task Force every day.

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**General Relief Program**

**Recommendation Three: The Grand Jury recommends continuing to work collaboratively with the Sutter County District Attorney's Fraud Investigation Unit to help improve the fraud pre-screening and investigation process. (Grand Jury Report, page 5)**

Response: The District Attorney's Office has two Senior Criminal Investigators assigned to investigate welfare fraud of all types who work cooperatively with the Human Services Department. Successful investigation and prosecution requires a collaborative approach. The knowledge and professional skills of both departments are necessary. This will continue and the assigned District Attorney's Investigators will be available to assist in any way that their own skills make possible.

Comment to Recommendation Three: This recommendation was actually directed to the Human Services Department and involved the District Attorney's Office only peripherally. The District Attorney was involved in the Grand Jury's investigation as an advisor and contact as reflected in the fifth paragraph, page 4. The District Attorney, however, does agree with the recommendation and will continue to cooperate with the Human Services Department to improve the fraud investigation process as both departments have done in the past.

Sincerely,



Carl V. Adams  
District Attorney of Sutter County

cc: Kevin Bermingham  
Grand Jury Foreperson

Larry Combs  
County Administrator

CVA:hs

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2009

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
TRAFFIC DIVISION



# YUBA-SUTTER NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT TEAM

P.O. BOX 3455, Yuba City, CA 95992-3445 Telephone (530) 674-2725

August 10, 2009

Honorable Chris Chandler  
Presiding Judge, Sutter County Superior Court  
446 Second Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

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SEP 28 2009

**Re: Response to the 2008-2009 Grand Jury Final Report**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
By Julie Lowell Deputy

Judge Chandler,

The follow is the response of the Yuba-Sutter Narcotic Enforcement Team (NET-5) to the findings and recommendations of the 2008-2009 Sutter County Grand Jury Final Report.

## The Gang Task Force

**Recommendations:** *The recommendations include continuing efforts into researching grants to further assist the Sutter County Gang Task Force, continue training to qualify officers as expert witnesses and expand community awareness programs by sponsoring or offering additional public information forums.*

**Response:** NET-5 concurs with the findings of the Grand Jury. NET-5, working with the agencies making up the Gang Task Force, will continue our efforts in researching grants on the State and Federal levels to expand the Gang Task Force mission. NET-5 has and will continue training the Gang Task Force staff to become experts in the area of gangs. We will continue our efforts in providing in house training and sending the gang task force personnel to gang training courses whenever there is an opportunity and funding available. NET-5 will continue to educate the public by presenting gang presentations throughout the area. NET-5 will continue reaching out to our local schools through our gang task force personnel and demand reduction agent to educate the public in gang awareness.

Sincerely,

Mike Hudson  
Special Agent Supervisor  
California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement  
Commander, Yuba-Sutter Narcotic Enforcement Team (NET-5)

**RECEIVED**

AUG 13 2009

cc: J. Paul Parker  
Sheriff, Sutter County

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
TRAFFIC DIVISION