



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Sesquicentennial 1850-2000

**Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services
Administration**

300 North San Antonio Road, Bldg.3, Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1332

Telephone: (805) 681-5220 Facsimile: (805) 681-5262

James L. Broderick, Ph.D.
Director

May 10, 2002

Honorable Rodney S. Melville
Presiding Judge
Santa Barbara County Superior Court
312-C East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93456

Grand Jury Foreperson
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Judge Melville & Grand Jury Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and commend the work of the Fiscal Year 2001-2002 Grand Jury for the many hours of time and effort that went into reviewing the operation of the Juvenile Hall Facilities and the Mental Health Component supplied by Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) Department. The Grand Jury's commitment to quality service delivery for our County's youth is much appreciated. As the Director, I am pleased to have the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury's Report on *Juvenile Detention Facilities*. See the attached response.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations of the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report on Juvenile Detention Facilities.

Sincerely,

James L. Broderick, Ph.D.
Director

JLB/sw

Attachment: Response to the Findings & Recommendations

cc: Michael F. Brown, County Administrative Officer
Sue Gionfriddo, Chief Probation Officer

M L Gordon
Assistant Director
Administration

Charles H. Nicholson, M.D.
Assistant Director
Medical

RESPONSE TO THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Please accept the following as my official response to the 2001-2002 Grand Jury Report on Juvenile Detention Facilities in Santa Barbara County, which was released on March 19, 2002.

FINDING 23: The Grand Jury found that juveniles are transported to the Mental Health facility in restraints for treatment due to the lack of an adequate treatment facility on site.

RESPONSE: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. The present practice is that ADMHS staff will assess, counsel, and treat detained minors at the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH). The following data shows the number of minors who were transported from SMJH to the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) Clinics in either Santa Maria or Lompoc has decreased.

October 2001 – 10 minors
November 2001 – 7 minors
December 2001 – 6 minors
January 2002 – 5 minors
February 2002 – none
March 2002 – 1 minor

Recommendation 23: Probation Department should provide a quiet, segregated room on site to conduct counseling sessions

Response The recommendation has been implemented. The Probation Department has made available, at the SMJH, one of the on-site modular buildings for ADMHS staff to conduct assessments, counseling and treatment. The modular is large enough for family counseling whenever the need arises. ADMHS can also visit with minors in one of the interview rooms in the office or in the main classroom whenever it is not in use. ADMHS staff also utilize a small office to do paperwork.