

June 2, 2004

Clifford R. Anderson, III
Presiding Judge
Santa Barbara County Superior Court
P. O. Box 21107
Santa Barbara, CA 93121-1107

Re: Response to Grand Jury Report on Criminal Justice and Detention Facilities

Dear Judge Anderson:

I have reviewed the Grand Jury's Criminal Justice and Detention Facilities report for 2003-2004. We have been requested to respond to the section dealing with "Overcrowding Obstacles and Looking to the Future." Specifically, the Grand Jury recommended that a video arraignment system be installed in both the North and South Santa Barbara Counties.

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office agrees with the finding. As the report notes, evaluation and feasibility of installing this technology will require further analysis and following the pattern of other counties, some type of Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to implement the recommendation. This office is prepared to immediately join in the formation of such a Council and to actively participate in making this recommendation a reality.

Very truly yours,

Thomas W. Sneddon, Jr.
District Attorney

TWS:rm

cc: Naomi Schwartz, 1st District
Susan Rose, Vice Chair, 2nd District
Gail Marshall, 3rd District
Joni Gray, 4th District
Joseph Centeno, Chair, 5th District
Joseph E. Holland, County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor
David Clous, Foreperson, 2003-2004 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury