

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DETENTION FACILITIES

## INTRODUCTION

The following report highlights the inspections made by the 2004-2005 Grand Jury of the police departments, Sheriff's Stations and detention facilities within Santa Barbara County. Under California Penal Code 919(b), the Jury is mandated to inquire into the conditions and management of all detention facilities.

These facilities are grouped into four areas of operation: Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Custody Facilities, Municipal Police Departments, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Stations, as well as the County Probation Department Facilities. (Federal facilities are not included in this report.)

## METHOD OF INQUIRY

The Grand Jury visited each of the facilities listed in this report in the fall of 2004 and the new Santa Maria Juvenile Hall in early 2005. Deputies, police officials and staff on site at the time of the visits were interviewed and each facility was inspected by two or more members of the Jury. All Jury observations are as of the time of our visits.

## OBSERVATIONS

### Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Custody Facilities

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Main Jail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>618</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>68</b> Floor Mats</li> <li>• <b>93</b> Correctional Officers</li> </ul>	<p>The Jury observed an overcrowded condition with inmates sleeping on mats on the floor. Correctional officers organize the population into groups to minimize possibly dangerous interactions between inmates.</p>	<p>This Jury recognizes the challenges this overcrowded condition has created and commends the staff on the professional manner in which they handle a changing and potentially volatile population.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>See Special Report</b> <u>No Vacancy</u></p>

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p><b>Men's Honor Farm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>122</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>18</b> Correctional Officers</li> <li>• Located at the back of the Main Jail</li> <li>• Minimum Security</li> </ul>	<p>The facility was crowded (all bunks were full), but quiet and organized. It had well-equipped education centers with up-to-date computers. The outdoor area is used for exercising and as a perk for good behavior.</p>	<p>Those assigned to the Honor Farm are required to work either on site or at other county facilities during their incarceration. They may also participate in education and treatment programs.</p>
<p><b>Women's Honor Farm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>39</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>2</b> Female Correctional Officers</li> <li>• Located next to the Men's Honor Farm</li> <li>• Minimum Security</li> </ul>	<p>This facility was organized, quiet, and not as crowded as the men's area. The area was kept neat and clean, inside and out, by the inmates.</p>	<p>The Honor Farm is a positive place for those who earn recognition for good behavior. Education and work training offered to inmates allow for a more successful rehabilitation.</p>
<p><b>Court Holding Facility Figueroa Street</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8</b> Cells</li> <li>• <b>7</b> Correctional Officers, three to five per shift</li> <li>• Female officer on duty when female inmates present</li> <li>• Located in basement of the Superior Court Building</li> </ul>	<p>The holding facility can accommodate up to 100 inmates daily awaiting court appearance. All cells were full at the time of our inspection. Some inmates were handcuffed outside cells for safety as well as overcrowding reasons. Prisoners were orderly and organized into cells based on the crimes committed and ability to get along with others. Video surveillance is used to monitor detainees. The facility was clean and well-run.</p>	<p>Sheriff's deputies are well-trained and do a good job of managing a diverse and sometimes dangerous population contained in a small area.</p>
<p><b>Santa Maria Holding Facility Class 1 Branch Jail (96 hour hold only)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>35</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>3</b> Correctional Officers are on duty 24/7</li> <li>• Located in same facility as the Santa Maria Sheriff's Station</li> </ul>	<p>The facility appears to be well run. One female officer is required when female detainees are present.</p>	<p>This facility is used to hold inmates for court appearances in North County. The facility is also used to house newly arrested inmates.</p>

### Santa Barbara County Municipal Police Departments

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lompoc Police Department &amp; Holding Class 1 Facility</b> (96 hour hold only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>35</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>45</b> Officers</li> <li>• Located within Lompoc City Police Department, next to the court</li> </ul>	<p>This is the only large holding facility operated by a police department in the county. It is immaculate and well run.</p>	<p>Lompoc has the friendliest and most beautiful jail in the county. Inmates are provided with three hot meals a day during their incarceration.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Guadalupe Police Department</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12</b> Officers, including the Chief</li> <li>• <b>10</b> Vehicles, including a donated Hummer</li> </ul>	<p>The facility is small but organized and effectively serves the community.</p>	<p>There is close cooperation with the Santa Maria Police Department.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Santa Barbara Police Department</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2</b> Holding Cells</li> <li>• <b>142</b> Sworn Officers plus reserve officers</li> </ul>	<p>This department has an innovative solution for holding people under the influence of alcohol.</p>	<p>The Jury was impressed with the amount of time and programs dedicated to gang intervention and prevention. Police Explorer and Cadet programs are also conducted through this department.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>See Special Report</b> <u><a href="#">A Sobering Thought</a></u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Santa Maria Police Department</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1</b> Holding Cell</li> <li>• <b>108</b> Officers, plus reserve officers</li> </ul>	<p>The department has expanded into the former fire station located next to the police station and houses a state-of-the-art 911 dispatch center.</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>

**Santa Barbara County has four cities that contract law enforcement services with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department: Carpinteria, Goleta, Buellton and Solvang. Contract cities choose to pay for Sheriff's Department Deputies to enforce the law within their city limits in lieu of establishing their own police departments. These departments will be covered under the Sheriff's Department Stations section below. Of the four, Carpinteria is the only one to formerly have had a police department; the other three have always contracted with the County for protection. Contracting with the County saves the city money and ensures the city the expertise from a large and experienced department, especially in the case of a major crime.**

**Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Stations**

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p><b>Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Headquarters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>17</b> Deputies to patrol the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City of Santa Barbara</li> </ul>	<p>The headquarters building houses the investigation units, office support and communication center. The unincorporated areas from Gaviota to Highway 154 are covered.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>
<p><b>Coroner's Bureau</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2</b> Deputies</li> <li>• <b>1</b> Autopsy Room</li> <li>• <b>1</b> Toxicology Laboratory</li> <li>• Office and bereavement area</li> <li>• Office for investigations</li> </ul>	<p>The facility is small, but efficient. There is a refrigerated room that can hold up to 25 bodies. Most autopsies are performed at Cottage Hospital. The toxicology laboratory is cramped, but serviceable.</p>	<p>The Jury was impressed with the efficiency and competence of this department.</p>
<p><b>Isla Vista Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>13</b> Deputies</li> <li>• Located in a small storefront building</li> </ul>	<p>Plans are being made to move to another location provided by the University of California, Santa Barbara. There is no holding area. During times of high arrests, vans are used to transport detainees to the County Jail. The Isla Vista Foot Patrol does a commendable job of handling potentially hostile situations on a regular basis.</p>	<p>The largest problem for the Foot Patrol in Isla Vista is drugs and alcohol and the more than 20,000 UCSB and City College students and visitors using those substances. An increased presence of State Alcohol Beverage Control officers underscores the seriousness of the problem. Halloween is the most volatile time, when approximately 50,000 students and outsiders congregate in the area to celebrate. During this time, Patrol brings in an estimated 120 law</p>

<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>	<p>enforcement officers and 28 UCSB police officers, along with four vans, the Sheriff's mounted unit and helicopters. If the Sheriff provided a list of students involved in alcohol and drug offenses to UCSB authorities, it would help to reduce future problems.</p> <p><b><i>See Special Report</i></b> <u>A Sobering Thought</u></p>
<p><b>Cuyama Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1</b> Holding Cell</li> <li>• <b>2</b> Deputies</li> </ul>	<p>This is an older residential facility that is clean and well kept. One deputy is on call at all times. The two deputies coordinate with the fire department during emergency situations. In an emergency, helicopters are available within 15 to 30 minutes.</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>
<p><b>Lompoc Rucker Road Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12</b> Deputies shared with the Buellton Station</li> </ul>	<p>The Station is commanded by the Lieutenant in charge of the Buellton Sheriff's Station, with rotating deputies serving the unincorporated areas in the Lompoc Valley. Stables for a mounted unit are located adjacent to this Station.</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>
<p><b>Buellton Station/ City of Buellton</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>12</b> Shared Deputies</li> <li>• Located in a small Office near Community Center</li> </ul> <p>Facility</p>	<p>Two <b>contracted</b> deputies protect the City of Buellton. A Sheriff's Lieutenant is appointed as Chief of Police of the City. Deputies assigned to this office patrol the unincorporated areas in the vicinity of Buellton.</p> <p>Condition/Management</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p> <p>Jury Comments</p>

<p><b>Santa Ynez Station/ City of Solvang</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20</b> Deputies</li> <li>• Located in offices in the Veterans' Memorial Building in Solvang</li> </ul>	<p>Four <b>contracted</b> deputies protect the City of Solvang. A Sheriff's Lieutenant is appointed as Chief of Police of the City. Five Deputies are funded by the Chumash Reservation. Deputies assigned to this office patrol the unincorporated areas of the Santa Ynez Valley and the Chumash Reservation upon request.</p>	<p>The Jury has highlighted an exceptional youth program started by two dedicated Sheriff's deputies in the Solvang area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>See Special Report</b> <u>A Real Knockout Program</u></p>
<p><b>Carpinteria Station/ City of Carpinteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2</b> Holding Cells</li> <li>• <b>29</b> Deputies</li> <li>• Located in back of Carpinteria City Hall</li> </ul>	<p>Fifteen <b>contracted</b> deputies protect the City. A Sheriff's Lieutenant is appointed as Chief of Police of the City. Fourteen deputies are assigned to patrol the unincorporated area of the Carpinteria Valley.</p>	<p>The office is small but organized. The holding cells are used only for short periods of time.</p>
<p><b>Goleta Valley Station/ City of Goleta</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>34</b> Deputies</li> <li>• Located in storefront buildings in the Marketplace Center and Old Town Goleta</li> </ul>	<p>All deputies are <b>contracted</b> to serve and protect the City of Goleta. A Sheriff's Lieutenant is appointed as Chief of Police of the City. There is no City police station. Storefront offices are used primarily for report writing. Citizens must go to the Sheriff's Headquarters to obtain a police report.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>
<p><b>Santa Maria Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>16</b> Deputies</li> <li>• Located next to the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall</li> </ul>	<p>This station provides service to citizens in the unincorporated areas of the Santa Maria Valley.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>

## Probation Department

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p><b>Santa Barbara Juvenile Hall</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>56</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>19</b> Staff</li> <li>• <b>1</b> Nurse on duty full-time during the week</li> <li>• Located on premises with Juvenile Court and Juvenile Probation Department</li> </ul>	<p>Santa Barbara Juvenile Hall detains girls and boys up to 18 years of age. The wards are housed in secured rooms with a bed, window, sink and toilet. A mental health staff member helps evaluate, monitor and isolate those needing treatment. There are educational and drug and alcohol treatment programs provided. Four and a half hours of school a day are required. There is a large outdoor recreational area and a small swimming pool. The facility is clean, orderly and well kept.</p>	<p>The juveniles observed at the time of our visit were respectful to the officers and staff and were treated in the same manner. In addition to education, art is encouraged to help bolster self-esteem. A positive atmosphere among officers, staff and youth was observed.</p>
<p><b>Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (Old)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>50</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>57</b> shared staff with new facility</li> <li>• <b>1</b> Nurse on duty full-time during the week</li> <li>• Located next to the Sheriff's Station</li> </ul>	<p>This facility was clean and well lit. There were classrooms, dayrooms, and a single recreational area.</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>
<p><b>Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (New)</b> <b>Sue J. Gionfriddo Juvenile Justice Center</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>90</b> beds</li> <li>• <b>57</b> Shared staff</li> <li>• An expansion of the old Juvenile Hall</li> </ul>	<p>The Jury visited this brand new facility in early spring. It is an addition to the old facility. Together they are nearly 5 times larger than the old facility. The new facility features two-story "pods" with sleeping areas, kitchenettes and classrooms. A state-of-the-art video monitoring system is in place. The juvenile court is located within the structure.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury applauds the Probation Department for having recognized the need for a new Juvenile Facility and seeing it through to completion.</p>

Facility	Condition/Management	Jury Comments
<p><b>Los Prietos Boys Camp &amp; Boys Academy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>75</b> Beds</li> <li>• <b>49</b> Staff</li> <li>• Located on 17 wooded acres in the Los Padres National Forest, 20 miles north of Santa Barbara</li> </ul>	<p>The facility was found to be clean and orderly. It maintains a structured program with a daily routine that includes academics, skill training and physical exercise. Physical health and mental health are priorities. Education programs are fully accredited.</p>	<p><i>Intentionally Blank</i></p>

## CONCLUSION

The Jury wishes to thank all of the men and women who made their time available during the annual inspections. There are additional facility areas and programs the Jury has highlighted in depth and these are reported as Criminal Justice Special Reports.

## FINDINGS

### **Finding 1**

The professionalism displayed in the day to day operations of all of the facilities visited impressed the Jury.

### **Finding 2**

The level of service and commitment to effective law enforcement within the confines of their respective budgets was commendable.

## AFFECTED AGENCIES

**Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department**  
**Lompoc Police Department**  
**Guadalupe Police Department**  
**Santa Barbara Police Department**  
**Santa Maria Police Department**  
**Santa Barbara County Probation Department**

Finding 1, 2