

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.42
(ID # 20078)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, October 04, 2022

FROM : EXECUTIVE OFFICE:

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Response to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Report re:
Children Services Division

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the attached response to the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury Report re: Children Services Division; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to forward the approved response to the Presiding Judge and the County Clerk-Recorder.

ACTION: Policy


Sayori Baldwin, DPSS Director

9/29/2022


Michael Bowers, Assistant HR Director

9/29/2022


Min C. Lari, County Counsel

9/30/2022

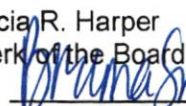

Jeff Van Wageningen, County Executive Officer

9/30/2022

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: October 4, 2022
xc: EO, DPSS, Grand Jury, Presiding Judge, Recorder

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
NET COUNTY COST	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment:	No
			For Fiscal Year:	22/23

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

Section 933(c) of the Penal Code requires that the Board of Supervisors comment on the Civil Grand Jury's recommendations pertaining to the matters under the control of the Board and that the response be provided to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, with a copy placed on file with the clerk of the public agency and the office of the county clerk.

Attached is a single document that includes the proposed response as required by the Board of Supervisors, the Department of Public Social Services, Human Resources, and County Counsel. In short, we agree with the findings and recommendations made by the Civil Grand Jury.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Civil Grand Jury Report re: Children Services Division
- B. Response to the Civil Grand Jury Report re: Children Services Division


Tina Grande 9/29/2022

RESPONSE TO 2021-22 CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT
Enhanced Organizational Culture and Leadership:
Children Services Division Dedicated to Protecting Riverside County Children

Following is the collective response of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, in cooperation with Department of Public Social Services (including the Assistant CEO of Human Services / Director of DPSS, and Assistant Director of DPSS Children Services Division), Human Resources and County Counsel, to the findings and recommendations included in the above referenced Civil Grand Jury Report pursuant to California Penal Code §§ 933 and 933.05.

FINDINGS

Grand Jury Finding #1:

ROLES and RESPONSIBILTIES: The Grand Jury found that roles and responsibilities have been clearly defined in accordance with the recommendation from the 2019 External Review Analysis and Process Improvement report. We also found that there is clear and consistent communication between supervisors and County Counsel. CPS and County Counsel are working together to provide the support and the tools they need for making timely decisions that will protect the children.

SSPs and managers reported that the working relationship with County Counsel has had the “biggest impact.” Executive management promotes a “Strict Structure” approach and a “line of sight” management philosophy, which includes supervisors meeting with their SSPs daily, and supervisors meeting with regional managers. As described in an interview, this is “more work, but better efficiency.”

Response to Grand Jury Finding #1:

Respondent agrees with the finding.

County Counsel:

The Child Welfare Division of the Office of County Counsel has worked to provide consistent and streamlined legal training, advice, and support to the Department of Social Services / Child Services Division (DPSS/CSD).

Child Welfare County Counsel Deputies are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, to assist Social Service Practitioners with legal questions, investigative questions, and seeking court intervention through protective custody warrants. As of February 2022, a single Deputy County Counsel is assigned to handle all daytime warrants countywide to ensure legal sufficiency of Probable Cause Statements and provide consistent legal advice to DPSS/CSD. In addition, other County Counsel Deputies remain on-call to provide further support during high volume periods and to ensure the most prompt and expeditious response to warrant review and issuance.

The County Counsel Deputies within the Child Welfare Division rotate on a weekly basis to provide coverage after-hours, on weekends, and holidays to assist DPSS/CSD staff with legal questions and assistance with obtaining protective custody warrants.