July 9, 2019

Pat Randolph, Foreperson
Marin County Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive #275
San Rafael, CA 94903


Dear Foreperson Randolph,

As required by Penal Code Section 933.05, I offer the following response to the 2019 Civil Grand Jury Report titled, "School Resource Officers Revisited."

This letter will serve as my response in my official capacity as the Sheriff-Coroner of Marin County.

**R1.** SRO programs in Marin County should be retained or expanded where they now exist. SRO programs should be established to cover those school districts where they do not exist.

Response:

This recommendation has been implemented. The Sheriff's Office has been and will be committed to maintaining the SRO program to serve the school districts in unincorporated Marin.

**R2.** Municipalities, school districts, and law enforcement agencies in Marin County should make SRO programs a high budgetary priority.

Response:

The Sheriff's Office values the SRO program. We are committed to the safety and security of the schools. A fulltime SRO is specifically tasked to provide services, resources and develop partnerships at all schools in unincorporated Marin. The SRO is provided at no cost to the schools and additional funding would be needed to expand from the current model.
**R3. To insure continuity, each SRO should be assigned to serve for at least a four-year term.**

Response:

We agree with R3, as the Sheriff's Office SRO traditionally serves a rotation that is approximately four years. This rotation is based on the needs of the organization and to provide consistency in service to the schools. The Sheriff's Office recognizes the benefits of developing relationships with both students and administrators.

**R4. The Marin County Sheriff's Office should have two additional full-time SRO positions.**

Response:

This recommendation needs further analysis. Due to current budgetary constraints, the Sheriff's Office does not have allocated funding for the additional SRO's to accomplish this request. The Marin County Sheriff's Office and the Marin County Office of Education are working together on a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Community Oriented Policing Services for the School Violence and Prevention Program (SVPP).

**R7. All SROs should complete SRO POST training by July 1, 2020.**

Response:

This recommendation is in progress and should be completed by July 1, 2020. When a POST certified SRO school becomes available, the SRO will be scheduled to attend this course.

**R8. Law enforcement agencies should fund additional training for SROs that will help them keep up with and handle their responsibilities.**

Response:

This has been implemented. The Sheriff's Office SRO attends advanced officer job specific trainings as they become available. The Sheriff's Office is committed to providing the SRO with a high level of training to further develop the SRO program and the employee.

The Marin County Sheriff's Office and the Marin County Office of Education are working together on a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Community Oriented Policing Services for the School Violence and Prevention Program (SVPP). This grant may provide funding sources for additional county wide SRO training and school safety planning.
**R12.** County law enforcement agencies should provide the time and facilities for the SROs to meet regularly to exchange information, ideas, and discuss new trends by October 1, 2019.

**Response:**

This recommendation will be implemented. While the SRO’s regularly communicate with each other, the Sheriff’s Office will facilitate a minimum of quarterly meetings. These meeting may take place at the Sheriff’s Office or at a location to be determined within the county to meet the needs of the work group.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Robert T. Doyle
Sheriff-Coroner