



YOLO COUNTY CHAPTER

California Grand Jurors' Association

email: cgjayolo@gmail.com

website: <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>

April 24, 2013

Lisa A. Baker, Executive Director
Yolo County Housing Authority
147 W. Main Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Director Baker,

I am writing to you as a Yolo County resident and President of the Yolo-CGJA, a Chapter of the California Grand Jury Association, composed of Yolo County residents who are previous grand jury members. Our goals are to support the grand jury system and promote government accountability. One of our tasks is to follow up on prior grand jury recommendations.

The YCH published responses to recommendations in Yolo County Grand Jury report for the years 2009-10 indicating intent to take action. Although implementation might have occurred, the public at large and succeeding grand juries are not aware of it.

In its 2009-10 report, the Yolo County Grand Jury recommendation **10-19** was:

“Include tenant safety in job descriptions, including those for senior management, and incorporate disciplinary measures for staff who fail to identify or act on tenant safety problems.”

Here are relevant excerpts of the response from the YCH to recommendation **10-19**:

“Recommendations numbered: 10-19 require time for implementation but not for further study (see attached response)....”

“YCH response please see F-4 above”

“F-4: YCH response all job descriptions require that job functions be carried out in a safe manner and that safety concerns be reported to the Safety Committee or to management. In addition, all staff receive safety training a minimum of four (4) times per year. Finally, not all staff with the same job description are responsible for direct oversight of housing (e.g., voucher staff who provide private market subsidies). YCH staff are bound by the Risk Control Policy Statement and the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Plan (ACOP). YCH. *YCH will add language to its job description safety language to require staff to be in conformance with the applicable safety policies in the Risk Control Statement and the ACOP.*” (emphasis added)

In its 2009-10 report, the Yolo County Grand Jury recommendation **10-20** was:

‘Promote monitoring and awareness regarding tenant safety issues. Reporting should be coordinated with tenant councils to promote completeness.’

Here is the response from the YCH to recommendation **10-20**:

“YCH will continue to coordinate with residents and with the resident council on promoting awareness of resident safety issues. YCH will ensure that a portion of quarterly resident meetings is devoted to different aspects of safety awareness.”

Supporting documentation is online at <http://groups.dcn.org/yolocgja>, under the Specifics link.

Please provide us with a specific update on your response to these grand jury recommendations.

We would appreciate your response by June 30, 2013. You may send your response electronically to: Barbara Sommer at cgjayolo@gmail.com. Please note that we will share this letter and your response with the current 2012-13 Yolo County Grand Jury and the current presiding judge.

Sincerely,

Barbara Sommer
President, Yolo Chapter, CGJA
530.756.7553