



CITY OF STOCKTON

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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April 29, 2003

The Honorable George J. Abdallah, Jr.
Presiding Superior Court Judge
Superior Court of San Joaquin
Third Floor County Courthouse
Stockton, California 95202

ASSESSOR STOCKPHER
COUNTY CLERK
GARY W. HARRIS
03 MAY 12 AM 9:29
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
BY *[Signature]*
DEPUTY

RESPONSE TO FINDINGS: FINAL REPORT – SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY CASE #0702, CITY OF STOCKTON ANIMAL CONTROL

I am in receipt of the findings and recommendations contained within the final report of the San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury with respect to its inquiry into the aforementioned case.

Enclosed, please find the City of Stockton's response, pursuant to Section 933.05 of the California Penal Code.

EDWARD J. CHAVEZ
CHIEF OF POLICE

EJC:dc

Enclosure

cc: Gary Podesto, Mayor
City Council
Mark Lewis, City Manager



**RESPONSE TO FINDINGS: FINAL REPORT – SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
CIVIL GRAND JURY CASE #0702, CITY OF STOCKTON ANIMAL CONTROL**

Pursuant to Section 933.05 of the Penal Code, the following are the City of Stockton's responses to the findings and recommendations of the San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury with respect to Case #0702, City of Stockton Animal Control:

FINDINGS:

1. The San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury (SJCCGJ) found that the "dead animal drop" (a 55-gallon drum, which occasionally overflows) located in the front of the shelter is not enclosed and is visible from the street.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

2. On both visits, we found that cleaning was in progress and it appeared that the cleaning policy was being followed. The general appearance of the facility was clean and the animals had fresh food and water in their cages.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

3. The fee charged to rescue groups to take animals from the shelter is consistent with policy and is imposed to recover a small portion of the cost of sheltering the animal. These fees are set by the City Council, in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

4. The public is not denied access to adoptable animals. By policy, quarantined, sick, or injured animals are housed separately and are not available to the general public. Stray animals are kept separate for four days to allow time for owners to claim them and if they are not claimed, they are made available for adoption, if they pass a temperament test.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

5. The new building was scheduled to open June 19, 2002; however, due to safety concerns and lack of staffing, this did not happen. The floors were

not finished properly and were too smooth when wet, which made them very slippery and hazardous.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

6. Four new positions were authorized to be filled for Animal Control Assistants. However, qualified persons could not be found for these positions until October 2002. These employees are currently receiving on-the-job basic training and are required to pass certification requirements.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The "dead animal" drop-off container be enclosed to prevent view from the street.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be completed within 60 days.

2. Construction of the cattery area be completed.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented and the cattery is fully operational.

3. The necessary repairs to the facility be completed in a timely manner.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented and all safety issues associated with the Animal Shelter expansion have been addressed.