

**RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM**

**Report Title:** Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement

**Report Date:** February 11, 2014

**Public Release Date:** February 18, 2014

**Response by:** May 12, 2014

**FINDINGS**

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: F1
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: F2 and F3

**(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ have been implemented.  
**(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)**
- Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.  
**(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)**
- Recommendations numbered R.1 and P.3 require further analysis.  
**(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)**
- Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

**(Attach an explanation.)**

Date: 4/8/14 Signed: 

Number of pages attached \_\_\_\_\_



# MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 145, San Rafael, CA 94903

ROBERT T. DOYLE  
Sheriff - Coroner  
MICHAEL J. RIDGWAY  
Undersheriff

April 8, 2014

Nadine A. Muller, Foreperson  
Marin County Civil Grand Jury  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 275  
San Rafael, CA 94903

## Reference Response by Sheriff-Coroner Robert T. Doyle to the Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled "Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement"

Dear Foreperson Muller:

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05, I am responding to the above-mentioned Grand Jury Report

### **F1. On-officer cameras have been found to reduce citizen complaints and increase officer safety, but only three law enforcement agencies in the County are using these cameras.**

- I agree with this finding.

### **F2. Financial constraints are the reasons most cited by the law enforcement agencies that have not purchased modern audiovisual equipment.**

- I partially disagree with this finding. I am not aware of the cost implications of other jurisdictions, but whether or not we equip ourselves with audiovisual equipment, funding is not an issue.

### **F3. As of this report, the Sheriff's Department has not expressed an interest in purchasing body cameras.**

- I wholly disagree with this finding. When I met with the Grand Jury, Sergeant Fred Marziano of our Technology Services Unit accompanied

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me. I clearly remember that both Sergeant Marziano and I explained that we have been evaluating the use of audiovisual body equipment. Sergeant Marziano explained very thoroughly that up until this point we have been concerned about the quality and durability of the equipment as well as the storage of the data. It should be noted that when I received the draft of the report, it indicated that there are five days in which to contact the Grand Jury if the report contained any mistakes. I contacted Foreperson Nadine Muller and explained my concern with the Grand Jury's findings. I was told that the report would not be changed.

**R1. The Grand Jury recommends that the Sheriff's Department and all police departments in the County use on-officer cameras.**

- I cannot speak for other agencies in the County, but as far as the Sheriff's Office is concerned, this recommendation requires further analysis. In addition to my comments in F3, we have had conversations with at least two companies that manufacture audiovisual equipment. I would say that in the next several months we will select a geographical patrol area and test equipment to determine if we will permanently implement the technology.

**R3. The Grand Jury recommends that the Sheriff's Department request funds from the Board of Supervisors for on-officer cameras and pursue grants and other funding sources.**

- As I mentioned in F2, funding for such technology is not an issue. At the point and time that we determine that we will implement the equipment, there are a number of funding sources available. It will not require requesting funds from the Marin County Board of Supervisors.

Yours truly,



ROBERT T. DOYLE  
SHERIFF-CORONER

RTD:sjb



# MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 200, San Rafael, CA 94903

ROBERT T. DOYLE  
Sheriff - Coroner  
MICHAEL J. RIDGWAY  
Undersheriff

September 30, 2104

Jack Nixon, Foreperson  
Marin County Civil Grand Jury  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 275  
San Rafael, CA 94903


Dear Mr. Nixon:

I received your letter dated September 24, 2014, regarding 2013-2014 Civil Grand Jury Report "Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement".

I refer you to the second part of Recommendation 1 whereby in my response I indicated that we would be testing equipment in one of our patrol areas. In the next few days that test will begin in our Substation in Marin City.

I hope this answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT T. DOYLE  
SHERIFF-CORONER

RTD:sjb

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## Marin Chapter California Civil Grand Juror's Association

January 27, 2015

Robert T. Doyle  
Marin County Sheriff-Coroner  
1600 Los Gamos Dr. #200  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Sheriff Doyle:

We are writing to you as members of the Implementation Review Committee of the Marin Chapter of the California Civil Grand Jurors' Association. Our Association's goals are to support the civil grand jury system and promote local government accountability. Our Chapter is composed of former Marin County Civil Grand Jurors. One of the tasks of the Implementation Review Committee is to follow-up on responses to prior Grand Jury recommendations to ascertain the status of their implementation.

Specifically, we are following up on a response to a recommendation in a letter dated September 30, 2015 concerning the Marin County Civil Grand Jury's February 18, 2014 report titled **"Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement"**.

In that letter, you responded to Recommendation 1 of this report as follows:

**Recommendation 1:** The Grand Jury recommends that the Sheriff's Department and all police departments in the County use on-officer cameras.

**Response:** "I refer you to the second part of Recommendation 1 whereby in my response I indicated that we would be testing equipment in one of our patrol areas. In the next few days that test will begin in our Substation in Marin City".

We are following up on this response. Specifically, what equipment was used in the test? Has the testing been completed and if so, what was the result? Finally, based on this test, is the Sheriff's Department planning on implementing an on-officer camera system?

We would appreciate a response from you at your earliest convenience and no later than February 27, 2015. Please send your reply by email to the undersigned, Tom Borden at [tomborden7@gmail.com](mailto:tomborden7@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly,

Tom Borden  
Co-Chair, Implementation Review Committee  
Marin Chapter, California Grand Jurors' Association  
Ph: 415-710-1837

**EMAIL**

February 9, 2015

From: Sheriff Robert Doyle

To: Tom Borden

Grand Jury Report: Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement

Tom,

Since my earlier response to the Grand Jury's report, "Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement," we have actively deployed two different body worn camera systems to the field in an attempt to identify which technology platform best suits the needs of my department. Those two camera systems are produced by Taser International and Viewu. Both have been in the field for several months and both are being worn by select deputies assigned to our Marin City Sub-Station. Additional camera systems are being vetted now to see if they too warrant a field test as well.

In addition to the on-going camera beta tests, executive and management staff members have been actively researching best practices by contacting a number of different California law enforcement agencies who have a history of using body worn cameras, as well as those who have more recently deployed them to the field. Undersheriff Ridgway is in fact attending a conference later this week on civil rights and government tort law, because a main element of that symposium will focus on the use of body worn cameras by law enforcement.

Behind the scenes, staff will be attending a February 19<sup>th</sup> Tech Summit hosted by Taser International so they can study the data storage issues related to the deployment of body worn cameras and others have been assigned to participate in a February 5<sup>th</sup> webinar covering policy considerations for law enforcement agencies who are planning to deploy body worn cameras to the field as well.

As I'm sure you can appreciate, deploying a new piece of technology in an agency of our size, particularly one that involves such significant

policy, data storage, and cost challenges as this one does, is not as simple a problem to solve as it might be for some of the smaller agencies in Marin. As an example, the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office recently entered into a contract with Taser International to supply cameras for each of their patrol deputies. While the cost of the cameras themselves was rather manageable, the cost of storing the data those cameras were expected to produce drove the cost of the project to over 1 million dollars.

Thank you for your continued interest and please know that I remain committed to ensuring as much transparency in our operations as possible.

**From:** Tom Borden [<mailto:tomborden7@gmail.com>] **Sent:** Tuesday, January 27, 2015 12:03 PM **To:** Sheriff Robert Doyle **Cc:** Rich Treadgold; Helene Marsh **Subject:** Grand Jury Report: Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement

Dear Sheriff Doyle;

Please find attached, a letter regarding the report "Get the Picture? Audiovisual Technology and Marin Law Enforcement" published on February 18, 2014. I'm writing to you as a former Grand Juror and current representative of the Implementation Review Committee of the Marin Chapter of the California Grand Jurors' Association (MCCCJGA).

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Tom Borden  
Co-Chair, Implementation Review Committee  
Director, Marin Chapter of the California Grand Jurors' Association  
Tel: 415-710-1837

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***Email***

June 10, 2015

From: Fred Marziano  
To: Tom Borden  
Subject: Body Cameras

Mr. Borden:

The following is the information I told you that I would forward to you, in my earlier email.

As you mentioned in your email to the Sheriff, the Marin County Sheriff's Office conducted paper evaluations on several different camera systems that are commonly used by law enforcement agencies throughout the country. As a result, we opted to conduct a detailed physical evaluation of two system over the course of several months. During that evaluation period, we also attended a symposium in Sacramento regarding the use of body worn cameras, which was attended by law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

The final results of our evaluation process overwhelmingly showed that one vendor was able to meet the needs of our agency. We then requested the vendor to attend a meeting of Sheriff's Office command staff to provide a presentation and to discuss the associated costs and issues with moving forward, which was completed approximately 3-4 weeks ago.

At this point we are in the process of creating a potential use policy, as well as determining the best way to involve the community in discussions and/or providing them with information regarding our intent to move forward with this technology. We are also discussing how best to work with the records retention process and release of captured data if presented with a request

through the Freedom of Information process. We are also trying to determine the best approach to deal with the costs associated with this process.

While I am not sure if you have direct questions, I would be more than happy to discuss this further with you. Please feel free to contact me at any time should you want or need additional information.

Fred

Fred Marziano  
Sergeant

Marin County Sheriff's Office  
Technology Services Unit  
1600 Los Gamos Dr. #200  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
415-473-7445 (desk)

Email

November 20, 2015

From: Fred Marziano

To: Tom Borden

Mr. Borden:

We have finalized much, and will be completing the rest of the work I detailed to you before, in the very near future. In addition, we are currently working with the County Administrator to identify a funding source to pay for both the initial purchase of equipment, as well as the on-going costs associated with a body worn camera system.

I hope that helps in your endeavors.

Fred

Fred Marziano

Sergeant

*Marin County Sheriff's Office*

*Technology Services Unit*

*1600 Los Gamos Dr. #200*

*San Rafael, CA 94903*

*415-473-7445 (desk)*