



JOHN D'AGOSTINI
SHERIFF - CORONER - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR
COUNTY OF EL DORADO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

May 27, 2020

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury
Presiding Judge of the El Dorado County Superior Court
1354 Johnson Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

RE: El Dorado County Grand Jury Case 19-04, May 8, 2020 Policing Those With Behavioral Health Issues

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury,

This Office has received and reviewed a report by the El Dorado County Grand Jury relating to the "Policing Those With Behavioral Health Issues, Case 19-04, dated May 1, 2020."

Sheriff's Response to the Grand Jury Findings

F1. While not mandated by POST, the Sheriff's Office provides its deputies with Continuing Professional Training in Crises Intervention Training.

The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

F2. The Sheriff's Office has not established an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training for Crises Intervention Training course hours or for Refresher Training Crises Intervention Training.

The Sheriff disagrees wholly or partially with this finding.

The Sheriff's Office has an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training hours. All deputies who have not received their Crises Intervention Training through a POST approved academy, have received a POST approved six (6) hour Crises Intervention Training though not required by POST. All deputies assigned to the Crises Intervention Team as a collateral

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duty are required, by the Sheriff's Office, to receive Continuing Professional Training by attending a thirty two (32) POST approved Crises Intervention Training Course, though not required by POST. All Field Training Officers receive Continuing Professional Training through an eight (8) hour POST approved course as mandated by law. The Sheriff's training program exceeds POST requirements with regard to Crises Intervention Training.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office has developed an eight (8) hour STC and a forty (40) hour POST Crises Intervention Training course that will be submitted for State approval.

- F3.** The Sheriff's Office has established innovative and effective programs for dealing with persons with behavioral health issues.

The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

- F4.** County Jails' mental health screening and evaluations exceed standards established by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

The Sheriff agrees with this finding.

Sheriff's Response to the Grand Jury Recommendations

- R1.** The Sheriff's Office should establish an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training for Crises Intervention Training course hours and Refresher Training Crises Intervention Training.

The recommendation has been implemented.

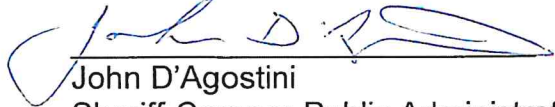
The Sheriff's Office has an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training hours. All deputies who have not received their Crises Intervention Training through a POST approved academy, have received a POST approved six (6) hour Crises Intervention Training though not required by POST. All deputies assigned to the Crises Intervention Team as a collateral duty are required, by the Sheriff's Office, to receive Continuing Professional Training by attending a thirty two (32) POST approved Crises Intervention Training Course, though not required by POST. All Field Training Officers receive Continuing Professional Training through an eight (8) hour POST approved course as mandated by law. The Sheriff's training program exceeds POST requirements with regard to Crises Intervention Training.

- R2.** The County Sheriff's Office should explore the expansion of HOT into the City of South Lake Tahoe Police Department.

The recommendation will not be implemented.

The recommendation suggests that the Sheriff's Office determine the expansion of a Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) into the jurisdiction of the City of South Lake Tahoe. The decision to initiate or develop a Homeless Outreach Team rests solely with the City of South Lake Tahoe and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department. The Sheriff's Office will assist and collaborate with the City of South Lake Tahoe and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department to help determine their specific needs for a Homeless Outreach Team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John D'Agostini", is written over a horizontal line.

John D'Agostini
Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator