

RESPONSE FORM: 2023-2024 Marin Civil Grand Jury Report

Report Title: Who's Minding the Store
Respondent/Agency Name: Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk
Submitter Name: Shelly Scott Title: Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk

FINDINGS

- Agree with the findings numbered: _____
- Disagree *partially* with the findings numbered: F2
- Disagree *wholly* with the findings numbered: _____

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

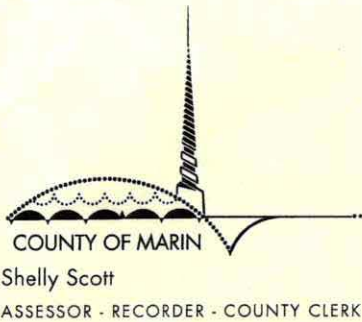
RECOMMENDATIONS

- 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 _____ 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 R4 and R5 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an **explanation**.)

Date: 7-25-25 Signed: Shelly Scott

Number of pages attached: 3

Type text here



OFFICE OF SHELLY SCOTT
ASSESSOR - RECORDER - COUNTY CLERK

Marin County Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk

**Response to Findings and Recommendations from
Grand Jury Report**

"Who's Minding the Store?" – June 27, 2025

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS

FINDINGS

F2. Because the Marin County Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk's Registry of Agencies does not include all of the information mandated by California Government Code section 53051, the public and relevant government agencies are not able to completely track and verify the details of these agencies. The absence of this information makes it difficult for the public to make informed decisions about how well those agencies are being run.

Response: Partially Disagree

The Marin County Clerk acknowledges the importance of the issues outlined in this report. We share the commitment to governmental transparency and agree with providing the public with the ability to access agency information. At the same time, it is important to clarify the statutory responsibilities and legal limitations that govern the County Clerk's role with respect to the Registry of Public Agencies.

Pursuant to Government Code §53051, public agencies operating within Marin County are required to file a Statement of Facts with both the California Secretary of State and the Marin County Clerk within 70 days of commencing operations. These filings must include the agency's legal name and mailing address, the names and addresses of governing body members, and the name, title, and address of each presiding officer. When changes occur within agencies, they must submit amended filings within ten (10) days of any changes.

Mailing Address:
PO Box C
San Rafael, CA 94913

Assessor/
Administrative Office
Suite 208
Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903
415 473 7215 T
415 473 6542 F
assessor@marincounty.org

Recorder
Suite 232
415 473 6092 T
415 473 7893 F
recorder@marincounty.org

County Clerk
Suite 234
415 473 6152 T
415 473 7184 F
countyclerk@marincounty.org

Business/Personal Property
Suite 208
415 473 7208 T
415 473 2730 F
assrpersprop@marincounty.org

CRS Dial 711
www.marincounty.org/arcc

The County Clerk maintains a hard copy of the Registry of Public Agencies, available for public inspection during regular business hours. Additionally, our office provides an online index that includes the agency name, filing date, and type of filing. However, in accordance with Government Code §6254.21, personal identifying information of governing body members cannot be published online.

It is also important to note that the Clerk's office does not have statutory authority to enforce filing compliance or impose penalties for noncompliance. Our role is limited to accepting and maintaining the filings as provided by law. While we remain committed to facilitating access and transparency, we must operate within the boundaries of our mandated functions and legal authority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R4. By December 31, 2025, the Marin County Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk should add the following information to each special district and joint powers authority listed on its Registry of Public Agencies:

- The official mailing address of the governing body of the public agency
- The name and residence or business address of each member of the governing body of the public agency
- The name, title, and residence or business address of the chairperson, president, or other presiding officer, and clerk or secretary of the governing body of the public agency

Response: Disagree

While we understand the interest in expanding access to agency information by providing this information to the public, it is important to note that these details are already included in the Statement of Facts/Roster of Public Agencies Filing. Roster filings are available for public inspection in our office during regular business hours, as required by Government Code §53051.

Although our office maintains an online index that provides the agency name, the filing date, and the type of filing, pursuant to Government Code §6254.21, we are prohibited from posting personal identifying information online including residential addresses. In balancing transparency with legal and privacy obligations, we must continue to follow these statutory requirements while focusing our resources on core mandated services.

R5. By December 31, 2025, the Marin County Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk should add hyperlinks to the websites of the special districts and joint power authorities listed on the Registry of Public Agencies and accurately update this Registry annually.

Response: Disagree

While we appreciate the intent behind this recommendation and recognize the value of improving access to information through hyperlinks, our office operates with limited staff and resources. Our small team is focused on meeting critical statutory responsibilities—such as processing marriage licenses, business filings, and professional registrations.

Given current staffing levels, we are unable to take on additional duties that would require ongoing maintenance and oversight outside of our mandated functions. We must prioritize core services to ensure the public continues to receive timely and accurate support.