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00-02 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council conduct a study of the safety issues related to the new I-80 bicycle undercrossing and determine and meet the law-enforcement needs before a serious incident occurs. (Finding #4)

00-03 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that in order to achieve better racial harmony in the community and to deal with race related matters more effectively, the Davis Police Department provide formal and periodic training to their sworn officers for racial tolerance and other cultural awareness aspects. (Finding #7)

00-04 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council seriously study the issues relating to proper fire-arms training needs and facilities for its police force and make sure that the police force does not fall behind in fire-arms training and meets or exceeds standards mandated by law. (Finding #5)

00-05 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council study the practicality and fairness issues as related to parking enforcement in privately owned lots (especially in shopping plaza lots) and make sure that the ordinances are enforceable in a fair and just manner. (Finding #6).

00-06 The Yolo County Grand Jury believes that the entire Yolo County will benefit when the Davis Police Department adopts the new 900 MHz communication frequency. (Finding #8)

RESPONDENTS

Davis City Council
Davis City Manager
Davis Chief of Police

West Sacramento Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the West Sacramento Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. The West Sacramento Police Department appears to be functioning properly, appropriately, smoothly, and harmoniously. The

department seems to have a full grasp and control on the law-enforcement situation in their city.

2. It appears that the West Sacramento Police Department's morale and harmony has improved significantly, under the new Chief of Police.
3. The West Sacramento Police Department appears to be fully aware and familiar with the additional law-enforcement needs and problems that would arise as a result of the baseball park that is currently under construction.
4. The West Sacramento Police Department has done a good job of including racial minorities in their force in order to maintain a good rapport with various racial minorities in their community.
5. The West Sacramento Police Department has done a very good job of public relations.
6. The West Sacramento Police Department allows their officers to take the patrol cars home.

RECOMMENDATIONS

None

RESPONDENTS

West Sacramento City Council
West Sacramento City Manager
West Sacramento Chief of Police

Winters Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the Winters Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. It appears that the Winters Police Department is currently operating with fewer sworn officers than necessary. The department is still operating with the same number of sworn officers as when the city population was 2,500, relative to the current population of 5,500 or more.
2. The Winters Police Department is to be commended for doing an outstanding job considering they are seriously understaffed and under-equipped.
3. Operation of Winters Police Department with fewer officers is jeopardizing the safety of both citizens as well as sworn officers.

4. Winters Police Department lacks training and necessary equipment to collect and preserve evidence that may be effectively used in court trials.
5. Since the Winters Police Department has the lowest pay scales and retirement benefits in the county, the Winters Police Department has an exceptionally difficult time recruiting sworn officers for its force.
6. The Winters Police Department has not yet switched to the new 900 MHz frequency as mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (although not in violation at this time).

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-07 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Winters City Council and the Winters City Manager's office should study the situation of its police force and find ways to increase the number of sworn officers. (Finding #1, 3 and 4)

00-08 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Winters City Council should seriously study the pay scales and the benefits package for its sworn officers. It is further recommended that the pay scales and benefits be brought up to a comparable level with other law enforcement agencies in Yolo County. (Finding #5)

00-09 The Yolo County Grand Jury believes that all of Yolo county will benefit when the new 900 MHz communication frequency is adopted by the Winters Police Department. (Finding #6)

RESPONDENTS

Winters City Council
Winters City Manager
Winters Chief of Police

Woodland Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the Woodland Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. After apparent employee dissatisfaction of several years in the past, the Woodland Police Department now appears to be improving in terms of morale, enthusiasm, effectiveness, and loyalty.
2. The Woodland Police Department largely