

Approved: [Signature]
Superior Court Judge

Date: 8/25/14

County Administrator's Response to
"Your County Wants You" Grand Jury Report

FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SONOMA

SEP - 5 2014

BY [Signature]
Deputy Clerk

FINDINGS

We agree with the finding:

F3. The County provides limited recognition of the work done by the boards, commissions, committees, and task forces, and their members.

We disagree wholly or partially with these findings:

F1. Sonoma County's online information on each board, commission, committee, and task force does not fully explain the qualifications necessary for appointment.

We disagree partially with this finding. For the Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are managed by Sonoma County departments, the information that explains the qualifications necessary does appear on the website. Sonoma County provides information for many Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are not managed by County staff, and the information provided on the website is provided by the agency that manages each entity.

F2. The decentralized nature of individual Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces precludes a uniform evaluation of their work.

We disagree with this finding. For the Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are managed by Sonoma County departments, the County can establish a process for annual reporting, providing an opportunity for a uniform evaluation of their work. Sonoma County provides information for many Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are not managed by County staff, and the County is not responsible for evaluating the work of these entities.

F4. Sonoma County's outreach efforts to encourage participation on the Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces are insufficient.

We disagree with this finding. For the Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are managed by Sonoma County departments, outreach efforts include not only the use of the website, but other outreach efforts based targeted to groups with an interest in the specific topic.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. On each website of the individual boards, commissions, committees, and task forces, the County Administrator's Office include information specifying the qualifications necessary for appointment.

Response: Recommendation R1 has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

For the Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces that are managed by the County, information regarding qualifications necessary for appointment is included. For the ones that are managed by outside agencies, such as the Sonoma County Tourism Bureau and the Golden Gate Bridge District, the County Administrator will also provide Board/Commission/Committee contacts in outside agencies with updated guidelines for website content, and will encourage updates to the County website from these outside entities.

R4. The County Administrator's Office provide increased visibility of and public access to board, commission, committee, and task force meetings and activities.

Response: Recommendation R4 has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

The County Administrator will work with the Information Systems Department to ensure board, commission, committee and task force meeting materials appear on the front page of the County Website's in the Calendar of Events. The office will explore other ways to make the activities of the outside Boards, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces more visible to the public.