

AD HOC COMMITTEE – SECURITY

Melinda O'Connor, Chair

Bob Mitchell

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AD HOC COMMITTEE SECURITY

Introduction

Grand Jury members from the Law and Justice committee toured the 911 call centers in Rialto and Victorville and found some security issues.

It was decided to form an Ad Hoc Committee to look into security and safety issues.

SECURITY ISSUES

BACKGROUND

This ad hoc was formed after a visit to the 911 call centers in Rialto and Victorville. The Ad Hoc Committee arrived at the Rialto center and entered the grounds through a malfunctioning gate then entered the building through an unlocked door.

The Ad Hoc Committee asked if the buildings would be able to hold up in a natural disaster and was told they would not. The Ad Hoc Committee asked about security measures such as alarms and cameras, and were told they had no cameras and the gate alarm had been disconnected years ago because of animals setting it off. If this facility was disabled, all communication with the Office of Emergency Services (OES), Cal Fire call center, and the Sheriffs 911 call center would cease. If the radio tower for the ham operator went down, the county's backup would be lost.

The committee interviewed management at each office in the facility. They were all in agreement that all the entities at this facility needed to be relocated to a permanent building. In an effort to see what other counties do to secure their emergency services members of the Ad Hoc Committee visited Riverside County's OES facility. They are in the process of building a new facility and moving. At this time, they also have problems with security. One of their issues was being in an old bomb shelter. The OES Director was able to share some of the things that will be included in the building to make is safe and secure. Some of these safeguards would be:

- Controlled Access
- Above Ground
- Single Story
- Shock Absorbers on the Building
- Perimeter Fencing
- Gated with Card Swiping Entrance
- Isolation of the Building

FINDINGS

Rialto

1. The magnetic lock on the gate was malfunctioning.
2. There were no cameras on site.
3. The fence did have an alarm but it was disconnected years ago because animals were setting it off.
4. The building would not withstand a natural disaster.

Victorville

5. The Victorville Center is attached to the courthouse.
6. There were no working cameras.
7. The door that is the employee's entrance at the 911 call center is close to the door used to release inmates. The employees have been accosted in the parking lot by these inmates asking for money or a ride.
8. The dispatch room is overcrowded and some of the work stations needed repair. Some keyboards were being propped up with pieces of wood and chairs were broken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

11-38 Move the Rialto facility to a permanent building. (Finding 4)

11-39 In Rialto, install cameras and repair the gates. (Findings 1, 2, 3)

- 11-39 In Victorville, install working cameras. (Finding 6)

- 11-41 In Victorville, provide every employee an escort to their vehicle. (Finding 7)

- 11-42 In Victorville, repair or replace broken workstations and chairs. (Finding 8)

<u>Responding Agency</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
Board of Supervisors	11-38 through 11-42	August 30, 2011



***A copy of this report, or more information on the San Bernardino County Grand Jury,
may be obtained by contacting:***

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