

Additional Grand Jury Report SDOB Member Responses

Response to finding F1:

City and County leadership would benefit from first-hand knowledge obtained through inspection of the jail facilities and operations to enable them to better understand how policy changes affecting budget and operations for the Jails impact the operation of the Jails.

Estela Ortiz- I Agree, Every District Supervisor, Chief of Public Safety, and Mayor should walk through the jails and inspect the conditions. There is a lot of money allocated to public safety and we should be using it to ensure a safe healthy environment where individuals have basic needs met, proper water temperature, access to showers, clean sleeping quarters, and healthy food. Sheriff's Dept should facilitate an environment in which the various educational and rehabilitation programs can accomplish their mission. The environment should support **rehabilitation and successful re-entry into the community.**

Response to finding F3:

The Jails are dangerously close to capacity, and SFSO has not convened the Crowding Committee despite meeting the capacity triggers outlined in the SFSO Custody and Court Operations Manual, Policy 511.2.

E. Nataly Ortiz- I Agree. The manual states that:

Section 511.2 (p. 128) — covers the **10–15% bed vacancy requirement** for classification compliance, and also outlines the "Crowding Committee" trigger at 80% occupancy

Section 511.3 — referenced regarding facilities needs assessments

Against practical capacity (rated capacity minus the 10% operating margin SFSO's own manual calls for) of ~1,325 beds:

On Sept 1, 2026 the jail population is at $1,066 \div 1,325 = \sim 80.5\%$

Response to finding F13:

Incidents of below minimum staffing result in facility lockdowns or lesser mobility restrictions, cause suspended programming, reduce out-of-cell time, interrupt access to health services, impede visitation, and have other negative impacts on inmates, yet data on lockdowns is Unavailable.

E. Nataly Ortiz- I Agree. We hear this from incarcerated individuals, loved ones, and service providers.

Responses to recommendations:

R1-B: All members of the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board should inspect the San Francisco and San Bruno Jails by February 1, 2027 and at least once every two years thereafter. Any inspections involving one or more members of the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board should be conducted so as not to conflict with the Brown Act or Sunshine Ordinance.

Nataly Ortiz- I Agree, Every District Supervisor, Human Rights Commission and Mayor should walk through the jails and inspect the conditions.

R3-A: By November 1, 2026, SFSO should convene the Crowding Committee. In addition to the persons specified in Policy 511.2 (a)-(g), representatives of the District Attorney, San Francisco Sheriff's Department Oversight Board, and the BOS should also be invited.

Estela Ortiz- Agree, We should have someone from the public defender's office there too.

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R13-A: By March 1, 2027, the SFSO should implement a standardized tracking and reporting system that captures data: (1) for each lockdown or service reduction related to reasons other than subminimum staffing and, (2) for each lockdown or service reduction attributed to below minimum staffing. This system should include data on the affected facility, unit, date and duration of lockdown or service reduction, reason for lockdown, lockdown level and the staffing level at time of lockdown or service reduction, as well as the activities and services that were reduced, delayed, canceled, or suspended.

Estela Ortiz- Agree, and the incarcerated individual should be able to report via a survey on the amount of lockdowns that occur.