*[This is an example of a statement showing compliance with the requirement for the grand jury to inquire into detention facilities. This type of statement can be included in an end-of-term consolidated report to show that the grand jury fulfilled its legal obligation.]*

**DETENTION FACILITY INQUIRIES STATEMENT**

**OVERVIEW**

Penal Code section 919(b) obligates the grand jury to “inquire into the condition and management of the public prisons within the county.” In 2022, the California Attorney General issued an opinion (No. 18-103) stating the term “public prisons” includes “local detention facilities,” and that a county or city jail is a typical example of such a local detention facility.

The purpose of this document is to provide information about how the Jefferson County Grand Jury fulfilled this duty.

While Penal Code section 919(b) requires this inquiry, it does not require the grand jury to conduct an investigation or to write a report about local detention facilities. In fact, a report cannot be written based solely upon an inquiry. To write a report, a full investigation is required and all the facts in the report must be verified. (See Penal Code section 939.9.)

**LOCAL DETENTION FACILITIES WITHIN JEFFERSON COUNTY**

There are four local detention facilities within Jefferson County, all of which are operated by the county: a jail, a minimum-security facility, and two detention facilities. The grand jury fulfilled its duty to inquire into these facilities through a variety of methods.

* Jefferson County Jail. On October 16, 2024, grand jurors were given an overview and tour of the facility by Sheriff’s Department staff.
* Jefferson County Minimum Security Facility. On January 8, 2025, jurors received an overview and tour from Sheriff’s Department staff.
* Jefferson County Eastern Detention Center. The grand jury reviewed documents requested from the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department and a Board of State and Community Corrections report about the facility dated June 15, 2024.
* Jefferson County Western Detention Center. The grand jury interviewed Sheriff’s Department staff regarding the facility.

**CONCLUSION**

The grand jury’s legal obligation to inquire into the condition and management of each local detention facility within the county was satisfied by touring the jail and minimum-security facility, reviewing documents regarding the Eastern Detention Center, and interviewing Sheriff’s Department staff regarding the Western Detention Center.