

Sheriff - Coroner TIMOTHY J. LITTLE Undersheriff

MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 145, San Rafael, CA 94903

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JUN 2 9 2011

Area Code 415

June 23, 2011

MARIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

24-HOUR NUMBER 473-7233

FAX 473-4126

Farhad Mansourian Director of Public Works County of Marin 3501 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4189

Administration 473-7250

Civil 473-7282

Re: Critical Need to Replace MERA's Radio Amplifier System Located in County Jail

Dear Mr. Mansourian.

Communication Services

473-7243 Coroner

In December, 2008, MERA hired a consultant, DELTAWRX, to make recommendations to the MERA Board and Operations Committee regarding system coverage and system capacity issues that were experienced during the winter storms and flooding of 2005 and 2008. One of the recommendations included the implementation of additional channels on the East and West Trunked cells. Two additional channels were added on the East Cell, one additional channel was added to the West cell and one additional channel was added to the Sonoma Cell.

Courts 473-7393

473-6043

Emergency Services 473-6584

The channel expansion project has been completed and, as a result of the addition of new channels, intermittent coverage issues have been identified within the confines of the Jail. The intermittent coverage happens when the trunked system computer allocates one of the newly added expansion radio channels. These channels have not been added to MERA's amplifier system, located in the County Jail, which is used to reach those areas in the building which do not have adequate trunked system coverage. The amplifier system was not replaced as part of the trunked system upgrade and needs to be upgraded to accommodate the additional radio channels added during the system expansion.

Investigations 473-7265

Jail 473-6655

Major Crimes Task Force 884-4878

> PATROL 473-7233 RECORDS

> > Warrants 473-7297

473-7284

The Department of Public Works Communications Division has solicited informal quotes for a replacement unit. It is recommended that we use the same manufacturer as the present unit for system compatibility. The Communications Division also had inquired as to whether the present unit could be modified to meet the new requirements. Unfortunately, this is not possible, and the unit needs to be replaced to accommodate

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the additional channels. The estimated cost to replace the Jail Amplifier System is approximately \$47,000 and the Department of Public Works Communications Division can facilitate the installation at an estimated cost of approximately \$2,268. We recommend that this be implemented as soon as possible.

ROBERT T. DOYLE

SHERIFF-CORONER

RTD:sjb