

The 2015 – 2016 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury

For Immediate Release

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For more information contact:

Maria Millsaps, Grand Jury Foreperson

805.568.2291

News Release

## **LOS PRIETOS BOYS CAMP**

### **EFFECTIVE, BUT UNDERUTILIZED**

The 2015 – 2016 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury studied the operation of the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC). The Jury found that the facility is well-run and constitutes a major community asset. The Jury also found that the facility is currently operating well below its maximum capacity and recommends that more youth could be served for minimal additional cost. Presently, the LPBC is not open to female juveniles. As the number of female juveniles in incarceration has increased in recent months, the LPBC could be expanded to include females in this program. The Jury found that there is a mentoring program in place for youthful offenders who live in the South County. A similar program should be made available to those who live in the North County. The Jury made six recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, which has 90 days to respond.

The Jury has written a report on its investigation titled “Los Prietos Boys Camp, Effective, But Underutilized”. The report may be found on its website at [www.sbcgj.org](http://www.sbcgj.org).

The Santa Barbara County Grand Jury is a basic part of government within the judicial branch. The Grand Jury acts independently, yet is under the general control of the Superior Court Presiding Judge to assure that it acts in accordance with the Penal Code of the State of California.

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