



San Francisco Sheriff's Department

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

May 19, 2017
Reference: 2017-063

To: All Personnel
From: Sheriff Vicki L. Hennessy
Re: Rumor Control

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vicki L. Hennessy".

I write to correct information that was reported in the San Francisco Examiner on May 18, 2017.

The article, particularly the headline, "Sheriff proposes moving inmates out of County Jail" and the caption of the accompanying photograph creates the impression that there is a plan currently in motion to close County Jail #4 and move the prisoners elsewhere. **This is not true.**

What is true is that the closure of the Hall of Justice is a topic of much discussion among several City departments. City Administrator Naomi Kelly has publicly stated that she has directed her staff to plan for the closure of the building in 2019. The Board of Supervisors' Budget Analyst is working on a report detailing the cost of closing the building. The Re-Envisioning the Jail Replacement Work Group is set to issue its report to the Board of Supervisors on June 13. As you may remember, the Work Group was convened after the Board chose to reject a state grant that would have partially funded a replacement facility for the Hall of Justice jails, and directed the Sheriff and the Director of Public Health to explore with the Work Group ways in which the jail population might be reduced to the point where a replacement facility will not be necessary. Also in the news recently is the poor condition of California's state courts buildings, including San Francisco's Hall of Justice.

The Sheriff's Department has been involved in discussions which have included the possibility of housing inmates out of county, but there have not been any proposals, offered by our department, for such a movement. This is a plan that I remain opposed to.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.