



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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COUNTY RESPONDS TO GRAND JURY REPORT ON LIBRARY FUNDS

On June 9, 2014, the Mendocino County Grand Jury released a report titled "The Mendocino County Free Library: How is It Doing After Measure A?" In the summary section, the report claims that some of the County's charges are legitimate, while others are not. The report elaborates on its claims in the "Facts" section about its investigation.

In response to the Grand Jury report's allegations, the Mendocino County Auditor-Controller Meredith Ford imparted "The Mendocino County Grand Jury report on the Library, issued on June 9, 2014, states that County Administration is charging illegitimate costs to the Library for indirect support. Interviewing the County Auditor would seem the most logical first step for a report like this, and I was not interviewed. The Library's 'costs of doing business' are legitimate incurred expenses, like any other Non-General Fund department. Even after reading the entirety of this report, I am still mystified as to why they would be deemed illegitimate."

Board Chair John Pinches also had the following to say: "I have personally reviewed the Library's budget documents and it is pretty clear that they are getting a real deal on its A-87 costs. The biggest concern is flat revenues for the property tax increment that goes to the Library."

The County Executive Office has 60 days to respond, and will address the claims made in this report.

Released by: 
Carmel J. Angelo
Chief Executive Officer