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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOHN B. CRUZ, et al., NO. F 93 5070 JFM P STATUS CONFERENCE REPORT Plaintiffs, OF PLAINTIFF vs. August 12, 1993 Date: Time: 9:00 a.m. COUNTY OF FRESNO, et al., Courtroom: No. 8 Defendants.

Plaintiffs offer the following Status Conference Report.

Main Jail 1.

Defendants proposed to plaintiffs that a pilot project be

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sought through the Board of Corrections to determine the constitutionally appropriate population level of the Main Jail. It was further agreed that plaintiffs' counsel would have informal and formal access to the Board of Corrections and would have access to all documents submitted to the Board of Corrections seeking the pilot project. This was in accordance with the Preliminary Injunction Order of July 12, 1993.

Plaintiffs' counsel believes that this is a better option than litigation to determine the constitutionally appropriate population level of the Main Jail.

Plaintiffs' counsel have sought the advice of their expert, W. Raymond Nelson, who has reviewed the Pilot Program submitted to the Board of Corrections. Mr. Nelson is in agreement with the process and believes that the operation of the Main Jail in accordance with the pilot project would be constitutionally acceptable.

## 2. South Annex

Plaintiffs' counsel delayed asking the Court for a Preliminary Injunction limiting the population of the South Annex to the Board-rated capacity while a remodeling project was done that would possibly permit some variation on the Board-rated capacity. The last time plaintiffs' counsel inspected the South Annex, they concluded that the population levels in that facility are not acceptable. At present there is a question as to whether Fresno County will continue to operate the South Annex. Should Fresno

 County decide it is not financially viable to operate this facility and close it, the issues relating to that facility would become moot.

On the other hand, plaintiffs' counsel do not believe that conditions in that facility should continue. It is a dismal place, shocking to the conscience, and although the improvements have been of some help, it continues to fall far below the standards that plaintiffs' counsel find acceptable.

Accordingly, plaintiffs' counsel intend to move within the next month or two for a Preliminary Injunction asking the Court to order that the South Annex operate in its Board-rated capacity. Should plaintiffs' counsel receive definite notification that the South Annex will be closed by a date certain, then the filing of a Motion for Preliminary Injunction will not be necessary. Plaintiffs counsel, however, have determined that it is better to ask for the Preliminary Injunction now rather than wait for such uncertain events as the failure of a sales tax ballot proposal and whatever subsequent actions the County of Fresno would take to accommodate the losses of hoped for revenue.

Dated: August 10, 1993.

Paul W. Comiskey

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within cause; my business address is 2308 J Street, Sacramento, California.

On the date reflected below I served the attached STATUS CONFERENCE REPORT OF PLAINTIFF on all parties in said cause, by sending via facsimile a true copy thereof as follows:

Wes Merritt
Deputy County Counsel
County of Fresno
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 500
Fresno, CA 93721

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on August 10, 1993 at Sacramento, California.

Laurel Fryer-Smith