



# County of Santa Cruz

Sheriff-Coroner

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**Steve Robbins**  
 Sheriff-Coroner

January 11, 2006

Agenda: January 24, 2006

Board of Supervisors  
 County of Santa Cruz  
 701 Ocean Street  
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

## RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (RSAT) GRANT

Dear Members of the Board:

On December 6, 2005, the Sheriffs Office provided your Board with a status report regarding the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program. At that time, the Sheriff's Office was awaiting final action on the federal budget related to funding for the program in 2006. The Sheriffs Office has just received word that the grant monies have been reduced 70% from last year's amount. This letter is to provide background information and request a deferral to February 28, 2006 of the RSAT report back to provide an opportunity to discuss options regarding this program.

As your Board is aware, the RSAT program provides innovative, culturally competent treatment services for up to 40 inmates annually at the Santa Cruz County's Rountree Medium Security Facility. The program is funded by Federal pass-through grant funds and operated by the State Office of Emergency Services. The Sheriffs Office has contracted with PVPSA for the past two years to administer the program. Inmates participate for 6 months during their incarceration. Along with in-custody treatment, RSAT provides participants with essential on-going, community-based aftercare following release from detention.

The program currently has 35 participants. PVPSA's program statistics indicate that in the past year, 58 inmates have graduated and that approximately 60% of the participants are drug free in the first three months following release. The re-arrest rate for this high-risk offender group is less than half that of the general jail population.

The Sheriffs Office, with the assistance of the Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc. (PVPSA), has been authorized by your Board to reapply for the next round of RSAT funds for the 2005-06 grant cycle. The new grant period was to start October 1, 2005. The State Office of Emergency Services has informed the Sheriffs Office that the application period will be delayed, but it intends to cover the funding period of October 2005 through January 2006 to provide for continuation of this program.

Unfortunately, they also recently informed the Sheriffs Office that the funding for this program in 2006 was reduced by 70%. At this time, our office would like to request additional time to work with PVPSA and other departments regarding options related to this program.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board defer the report back regarding the RSAT Program to February 28, 2006.

Very truly yours,



STEVE ROBBINS  
Sheriff-Coroner

RECOMMENDED:

  

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**Susan A. Mauriello**  
County Administrative Officer

cc: Auditor-Controller  
Pajaro Valley Prevention Substance Abuse, Inc.  
County Administrative Office  
Sheriff-Coroner