

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM: 3.102  
(ID # 25573)**

**MEETING DATE:**  
Tuesday, July 30, 2024

**FROM :** EXECUTIVE OFFICE

**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Approval of the Response to the 2023-2024 Site B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (Site-B) A Win-Win for Riverside County and Directive for the Response to be Sent to the Grand Jury, Presiding Judge, and County Clerk-Recorder.; All Districts. [\$0]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, with or without modification, the attached response to the 2023-2024 Grand Jury Report: Site B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (Site-B) A Win-Win for Riverside County; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to immediately forward the Board's finalized responses to the Grand Jury, the Presiding Judge, and the County Clerk-Recorder.

**ACTION:Policy**

Juan C. Perez, Chief Operating Officer

7/25/2024

---

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Gutierrez, seconded by Supervisor Perez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Date: July 30, 2024  
xc: E.O., Grand Jury, Presiding Judge, Clerk-Recorder

Kimberly A. Rector  
Clerk of the Board

By:   
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	<b>Current Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Next Fiscal Year:</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>Ongoing Cost</b>
COST	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NET COUNTY COST	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A</b>			<b>Budget Adjustment:</b>	No
			<b>For Fiscal Year:</b>	23/24- 24/25

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

Penal Code Section 933(c) requires Board of Supervisors comment on the Grand Jury's recommendations pertaining to matters under the Board's control. In addition, responses must be provided to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court within 90 days of receipt of the report.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- ATTACHMENT A. 2023-2024 Grand Jury Report: Site B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (Site-B) A Win-Win for Riverside County**
- ATTACHMENT B. Grand Jury Response: Site B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (Site-B) A Win-Win for Riverside County**
- ATTACHMENT C. Riverside County Sheriff's Office Grand Jury Response: Site B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (Site-B) A Win-Win for Riverside County (June 3, 2024)**

  
Tina Grande 7/24/2024

  
George Trindle, Chief ASST COUNTY COUNSEL 7/23/2024



## RIVERSIDE COUNTY GRAND JURY

(951) 955-8990 OFFICE • (951) 955-8989 FAX

May 15, 2024

Riverside County Board of Supervisors  
Clerk of the Board Kimbelry Rector  
4080 Lemon Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

Subject: 2023-2024 Grand Jury Report: Riverside County Civil Grand Jury 2023-2024 Report: SITE-B-SHERIFF'S INAMTE TRAINING & EDUCATION BUREAU (SITE-B) A WIN- WIN FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Dear; Kimberly Rector, Clerk of the Board

Please note that Penal Code Section 933 et seq. specifies that you file a response with the following agencies within ninety days.

**Judith C. Clark, Presiding Judge**  
**Superior Court of California, County of Riverside**  
4050 Main Street  
Riverside, CA 92501

**Riverside County Grand Jury**  
Post Office Box 829  
Riverside, CA 92502

**Riverside County Clerk-Recorder**  
2720 Gateway Drive  
Riverside, CA 92507

Further, it specifies that this report be kept **confidential for a minimum of two working days** prior to public release. The contents of this report will be made public after the close of business **May 20, 2024**

Sincerely,

Don Smith, Foreperson  
2023-2024 Riverside County Civil Grand Jury

P.O. Box 829 – Riverside, California 92502

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
CIVIL GRAND JURY  
2023-2024  
REPORT**



**SHERIFF'S INMATE TRAINING &  
EDUCATION BUREAU**

**(SITE-B)**

**A WIN - WIN FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

**This was updated 04-17-24**

## **Final Draft**

### **SUMMARY**

This report highlights the Riverside County Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau (SITE-B), located at Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility (SCF) in Banning, and John J. Benoit Detention Center (JBDC) in Indio. In its efforts to reduce recidivism (the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend), SITE-B provides incarcerated individuals valuable and relevant work skills. Those skills are taught through a comprehensive educational and vocational curriculum, grounded on research-based principles providing for a successful transition into the community.

The U.S. Bureau of Justice statistics state that approximately 60% of formerly incarcerated individuals struggle with unemployment (Wang and Bertram 2022).<sup>1</sup> The California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (CDCR), in its latest published recidivism report, states that fewer individuals released from prison reoffended. Data showed that the recidivism rate for people in fiscal year 2019 declined by 2.7% over the previous year to 41.9%. This is attributed to inmates who earned credits from participation and completion of rehabilitative programs. Inmates with programing credits had substantially lower conviction rates, 39.2% versus 45.6%. The struggle with unemployment is a contributing factor to recidivism.

Securing viable employment leads to many benefits, including improved self-esteem and a stable lifestyle. Employing former inmates also has benefits for employers, which include access to a larger applicant pool and reduced training costs when hiring candidates who have earned certification through SITE-B. (Bayaud Enterprises and Employment Matters).<sup>2</sup>

There are some individuals lacking vocational skills suitable for gainful employment. These skills provide for basic living expenses, housing, transportation, and food. With poor employment prospects, returning to illegal activities is an easier means of making money to provide for themselves and their families, based from inmates' initial screenings.

Some individuals leaving the jail system are motivated to return to illicit activities. Some of the reasons that formerly incarcerated individuals commit new crimes are:

- Lack of education and employment opportunities
- Substance abuse and addiction
- Social and family influences
- Economic inequality and poverty

Inmates who graduate from SITE-B have a better opportunity of gaining employment. Successful reentry into society after incarceration is reliant on six factors: health, employment, housing, skill development, mentorship, and social relationships.<sup>3</sup>

SITE-B, in its efforts to provide currently sought-after skills, is the impetus in providing a more favorable outcome for formerly incarcerated individuals, and for the Riverside County (RIVCO) to develop productive, tax-paying citizens. This breaks down into the following analysis:

- A win for the formerly incarcerated individual to earn a basic wage
- A win for potential employers to have a greater labor pool with the skills and certifications already acquired
- A win for Riverside County and its citizens in supporting SITE-B by mitigating the burden of recidivism

Recidivism will continue until jails start investing in programs based on education, vocational training and behavior modification disciplines. SITE-B, with its many programs for educational and vocational opportunities, offers those inmates who successfully complete their courses, a chance to achieve sustainable employment. SITE-B services are provided with no money from RIVCO's general fund.

## **BACKGROUND**

SITE-B was founded in 1998 at the SCF in Banning, California. It has an operating budget of \$4,131,641 as of Fiscal Year 22/23. These funds are derived from the Inmate Welfare Fund (IWF), consisting of the following areas:

- Greybar Printing
- Commissary Sales
- Commissary Telephone
- Barista Program

While the funding covers all of the Site-B inmate programs, it does not cover staffing salaries and benefits. California AB109 funding, totaling \$6.5M, is used for staffing salaries and benefits. Funds vary each fiscal year due to the unpredictable nature of funding (RIVCO internal memorandum dated 2-26-24). It has offered various training, vocational, and academic opportunities for over 25 years.

The first training educational programs for the inmate population at SITE-B were classes designed to address alcohol and substance abuse issues.

SITE-B added more training programs geared toward providing inmates an opportunity to learn work skills. The programs currently offered consist of construction, welding, landscaping, graphic technology, digital printing, occupational technology skill training, laser engraving, barista training, concrete/masonry, and culinary and bakery training.

Other skills training and educational opportunities include courses to earn a general education diploma (GED), college degrees, food handler certifications/cards for those in the culinary and bakery programs. California Occupational Safety Health Administration (CAL-OSHA) certifications are earned for industries requiring construction and related trades, as well as forklift operations. This training is conducted under the guidance of certified instructors. (Refer to Addendum 1 and Addendum 2 for additional details for each of these training classes).

Currently, there is no information available to the public regarding SITE-B training programs on any of the following:

- Riverside County main website
- Riverside County public access cable station
- Riverside County Sheriff's website
- Riverside County Sheriff's weekly podcast
- Riverside County Sheriff's social media platforms

Once an inmate has been released from custody, the Sheriff's Office has no further legal authority or oversight. Those released early who have not completed their program or certification may find it difficult to obtain employment in that field, while those who stay to complete their training may have a better opportunity for success in the community. Furthermore, the training and skill sets learned may be useless if the inmate does not have access to stable housing, food, and transportation.

SITE-B provides access to a reliable support system for inmates to augment the chances for successful transitioning into the community. This support system is a collaboration of various agencies including:

- Riverside University Health System-Behavioral Health (RUHS-BH)
- Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)
- Project Connect Homeless Solution-City of Riverside
- Riverside County Department of Child Support Services (DCSS)
- Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)
- Riverside County Probation Department
- Riverside County Economic Development Agency (EDA)
- Employment Development Department (EDD)
- California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- College of the Desert (COD)
- Riverside County Courts
- Riverside County Workforce Solutions
- Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE)
- Law Offices of the Public Defender, County of Riverside

The EDD has identified over 400 employers in the Inland Empire willing to hire individuals with a criminal record. The EDD and SITE-B have reached out to major

coffee house chain managers, major distribution centers, hotels, restaurants and other businesses to speak to SITE-B management. The network draws on expertise across departments, with all team members working toward a common goal. SITE-B uses a modified version of this process in bringing together RIVCO departments to act as a cohesive unit to assist the efforts of SITE-B.

### **Criteria for eligibility into the Site-B Program**

Acceptance into the SITE-B program involves the correctional classification staff reviewing the following criteria:

- In-custody behavior
- Health conditions which limit the ability to benefit from specific programs
- Out-of-county felony warrant(s). Out-of-county felons are often unable to complete a program prior to being transferred.
- Escape risk
- Criminal charges
- Status of sentencing

Once the classification unit determines that an incarcerated person qualifies and meets the program criteria, the following procedures apply:

- A classification deputy meets with the inmate to inquire if they want to participate in the program
- The inmate signs the agreement that explains the rules of the program (see Addendum 3)
- Medical staff examines the inmate to determine if they are medically cleared

Should the inmate pass the screenings, a report is submitted to the SITE-B Classification Sergeant for entry into the program.

### **METHODOLOGY**

Several on-site visits, interviews, and observations were completed.

#### **Site Tours:**

- Five (5) visits to SITE-B, SCF, and JBDC - culinary/baking program
- Additional meetings were arranged with staff connected to SITE-B including interviews with SITE-B correctional staff.

#### **Observations/Interactions:**

Each program component was visited and discussed in detail.

- SITE-B culinary and bakery training conducted at JBDC
- Sheriff's Outpost (barista training)



- Greybar Printing
- Landscaping
- Construction and a forklift training program
- Certification and other programs

#### **Interviews:**

- Riverside County Sheriff's Office, Executive Staff
- Program Managers, SITE-B
- Counselor Supervisors, SITE-B
- Occupational Training Supervisors, SITE-B
- Component Supervisory Staff, SITE-B
- Correctional Staff, SITE-B
- Classification Sergeants, SITE-B
- Training Competencies Staff, SITE-B
- Training Staff and Executive Staff, SITE-B
- RIVCO Probation Department
- Correctional Staff, JBDC/SCF
- Chefs/Inmates at JBDC (Culinary/Bakery program)

#### **Documents:**

- SITE-B Manual, Policies and Procedures, and Standard Operating Procedures
- Internal memoranda

### **DISCUSSION**

One area of concern for former inmates is a systemic bias of employers refusing to hire persons with a criminal record. It is believed they would be detrimental to the business, reputation, and its employees. It may prevent job applicants from finding employment.

California's **The Fair Chance Act**,<sup>4</sup> also known as the "Ban the Box" law, is a response to this issue. This law generally prohibits an employer with five (5) or more employees from inquiring about an applicant's criminal history before making an offer of employment. There are some exceptions: criminal background checks are necessary and appropriate for law enforcement agencies and other sensitive employment areas. This law defines the criteria for determining if a criminal conviction is sufficient to deny employment based on specific job requirements.

The federal **Fair Hiring Act**<sup>5</sup> gives a tax credit ranging from \$1,200 to \$9,600 per Fair Chance applicant hired within one year of release. There is also a state tax credit ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 per participant who has been homeless within the last six (6) months. There are also grants for training programs in high growth industries at community colleges and trade schools to provide apprenticeships. Employers have a monetary incentive to hire such candidates.

**SITE-B offers training in the following areas:**

- Culinary Arts including Baking
- Barista Training
- Vocational and Occupational Programs
- Construction
- Landscaping
- Cabinetry
- Welding
- The Greybar Print Shop
- Laser Engraver

**SITE-B academic and other self-help programs include:**

- Adult Basic Education through High School
- College Courses
- Drug and Alcohol Programs
- VET (Veterans Enrichment and Transition) Program
- RESET (Reentry Services Enhancing Transition)
- ABCs Reading Project

**FINDINGS**

**F1:** SITE-B offers many academic, vocational and self-help programs that provide the inmates an opportunity to improve their success and self-sufficiency.

**F2:** There is currently no tracking of the success rates after inmates complete the SITE-B training programs. Once the inmate is released the Sheriff's Office has no jurisdiction. Therefore, there is a lack of verifiable and quantifiable data to measure the success rates regarding SITE-B training programs.

**F3:** There is no information available for the public or potential employers to access SITE-B information.

**F4:** RIVCO has resources for assisting released inmates. However, it is up to the inmate to take advantage of those resources.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**R1:** The Sheriff's Office is to work with the RIVCO's Public Information Officer to develop a plan for utilizing all available media platforms to inform the public and potential employers of the programs offered at SITE-B. The plan is to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Based on Findings: **F1, F3**  
Financial Impact: Minimal  
Implementation Date: January 1, 2025

**R2:** The Sheriff's Office should coordinate the creation of a data collection system regarding SITE-B program participation, certification rates, program costs, and subsequent new convictions among SITE-B graduates.

Based on Findings: **F1, F2, F3**  
Financial Impact: Minimal  
Implementation Date: February 1, 2025

## REQUIRED RESPONSES

Riverside County Board of Supervisors

- Findings: F2, F3
- Recommendations: R1, R2

Riverside County Sheriff's Office

- Findings: F2, F3
- Recommendations: R1, R2

## INVITED RESPONSES

Riverside County CEO

- Findings: F2, F3
- Recommendations: R1, R2

SITE-B Commander Administrative Services Manager II

- Findings: F2, F3
- Recommendations: R1, R2

## Sources

1. <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2022/02/08employment/>
2. **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** [bayaudenterprises.org/the-link-between-employment-and-self-esteem](http://bayaudenterprises.org/the-link-between-employment-and-self-esteem)
3. [https://harvard.edu/sites/default/files/2023-02/op\\_policy\\_program\\_2019\\_reentry\\_policy.pdf](https://harvard.edu/sites/default/files/2023-02/op_policy_program_2019_reentry_policy.pdf)
4. <https://www.google.com/search?q=fair+chance+act+california&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari>
5. <https://www.google.com/search?q=fair+hiring+act+federal&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari>

# ADDENDUM 1

## VOCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SKILLS TRAINING

The following programs offer extensive and comprehensive vocational training that provides the necessary skills to prepare participants for entry level positions in the various vocational trades upon reentering society. These vocational programs include culinary, barista, printing, laser engraving, construction, carpentry, welding, landscaping and forklift certification. These trades are all pertinent for today's workforce skills.

### Culinary Arts

Program date 2022, course is six (6) weeks for cooking and six (6) weeks for baking

Culinary Arts participants can, upon completion, earn culinary certificates. This program incorporates food safety training and participants can also earn a food handlers card. To obtain a food handlers card requires 8 hours of instruction.

In addition, there is a bakery program which trains participants in the full spectrum of making a variety of baked goods. This program is supervised by a professional chef, an instructor from the College of the Desert contracted by the John Benoit Detention Center (JBDC). Participants who complete this training will be eligible for employment at bakeries or restaurants where baked goods are produced.

The bakery program will become a cost-cutting measure, as baked goods will be available to all Riverside County Detention Centers and possibly any county, or non-profit entities through contracts. This will eliminate the cost of purchasing these items from outside vendors. The current annual costs for all RIVCO detention centers for their entire baked goods purchases is \$744,164.<sup>1</sup>

### Barista Program

Program date 2022, course is four-weeks

The Sheriff's Outpost coffee shop offers a complete barista program where participants receive a comprehensive training curriculum in the coffee industry. This program, under the supervision of barista-trained correctional staff, is certified through The Specialty Coffee Association. This is a four (4) week course that includes information on where various coffee beans are grown, why certain types of beans make better brews for various coffee drinks, and the basic science of the operations of a working barista. Participants can also earn a food handlers card for ready employment upon release.

### **Greybar Print Shop**

Program date 2000, course is eight weeks

The Greybar Print Shop, a program established in 2000, provides vocational training on state-of-the art digital printers for participants completing the Print Graphics coursework. Participants in this program learn graphic design software programs, digital operating systems, and print production to develop both marketable and fundamental job skills.

The Greybar Print Shop is both a training facility and commercial print shop, delivering professional quality printing to the Riverside County Sheriff's Office, other county agencies, and any number of non-profit organizations. Such printing services include posters, letterheads, business cards, certificates, and other such stationery items. There is also a specialized laser printing program.

### **Laser Program/Plasma and Engraver**

Program start 2023, course varies three to six weeks

The laser training programs overlap somewhat and have similar technology, but may be applied differently in the training programs. Both the plasma table used in the welding program, and the engraver, use software driven programs which direct the laser where to cut or engrave. Both are similar in concept in that the design must be made on the computer and the laser is programmed based on the software. The plasma table is able to cut shapes from heavy metal, wood, and other elements to create many projects, while the engraver may cut shapes of smaller size and less thickness. The engraver also engraves images on multiple surfaces such as wood, leather, metal, acrylics, and more.

The training includes learning computer skills, which may include graphics and digital technology and the ability to calculate the laser intensity required for the desired outcome: cutting versus engraving, design quality, etc.

The participants learn to work with different mediums, designs, and combinations of materials for one product.

### **Construction**

Program date 2000, course is 160 hours

This course consists of training in the following:

- Proper tools and technologies in today's workplace
- Tool and jobsite safety
- Construction math
- Blueprint interpretation and construction-related reading comprehension
- Construction tools (use and safety, basic plumbing and electrical)
- Masonry technologies
- Wall and framing systems
- Basic plumbing

- Basic electrical
- Drywall and painting
- Finish carpentry

### **Cabinetry**

Program date 2000, course is 160 hours

This course includes:

- Design in cabinet making
- Material options for cabinets
- Creativity and functionality of cabinet features and uses
- Measurements and math for cabinetmaking
- Blueprint, sketches and drawings, interpretations, and accuracy
- Sawing skills
- Nails, fasteners and adhesives
- Kitchen cabinets and roughing in sinks, stoves, and dishwashers
- Drilling, boring, and shaping
- Abrasives and sanding machines
- Production of cabinet joints
- Applying finishing material

### **Welding**

Program date 2000, course is 160 hours

This course includes:

- Oxy/Gas
- Welding Technology (Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW))
- Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)

Upon completion of welding and/or construction courses, participants can obtain certification through Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), a 10-hour course. In addition, participants can also obtain certification through Hard Hat, a 4-hour course that pertains exclusively to construction training, and certification through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCR).

### **Landscaping**

Program date 2000, course is four-to-six-weeks

This course includes:

- Landscape design and construction (sprinklers, timers, pipes, drip irrigation, layouts, design plans)

- Planting and care (watering, feeding, fertilizing, pest-control, annuals, and perennials)
- Lawns (planting, mowing, and maintaining)
- Trees and bushes
- Landscape lighting
- Weed control
- Xeriscape options (including rocks and drought tolerant plants, flowers, and bushes)

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

### **Education**

Program date 1977, ongoing

Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) operates Desert Edge School (DES) within the detention facilities. DES is an adult school accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), providing Adult Basic Education (ABE), and vocational training. Students may enroll in academic courses to obtain a high school diploma or prepare for the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). In addition, students may avail themselves of college courses to pursue a degree.

Career Technical Education (CTE) courses develop advance skills for such occupations as construction technology, welding technology, computer information systems, and print/graphics technology.

### **VET (Veterans Enrichment and Transition) Program**

Program date 2016, course is twenty-weeks

The VET Program addresses specific needs of incarcerated veterans to reduce the likelihood of reoffending and reincarceration. Some of the needs addressed include alcohol and/or drug dependency, loss of family and support, homelessness, and lack of employment. The VET Program incorporates cognitive-based therapeutic curriculum, lifestyle balance, trauma, grief and loss support groups, vocational education classes, and transition planning for reentry. This program works collaboratively with the Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies providing services for veterans.

### **ReSET (Reentry Services Enhancing Transition)**

Program date 2020, course is on-going

The ReSET Project (Reentry Services Enhancing Transition Project) is designed as a comprehensive approach to develop and provide an individualized plan prior to release. The goal of the ReSET Project is to establish a stable, self-sufficient, and sustaining transition process. SITE-B programs provide awareness, assessments, preparation, and planning to identify those risks, needs and resources for a successful reintegration into



the community. Incarcerated individuals have access to workshops focusing on job search skills (including building a resume), and interviewing techniques among others.

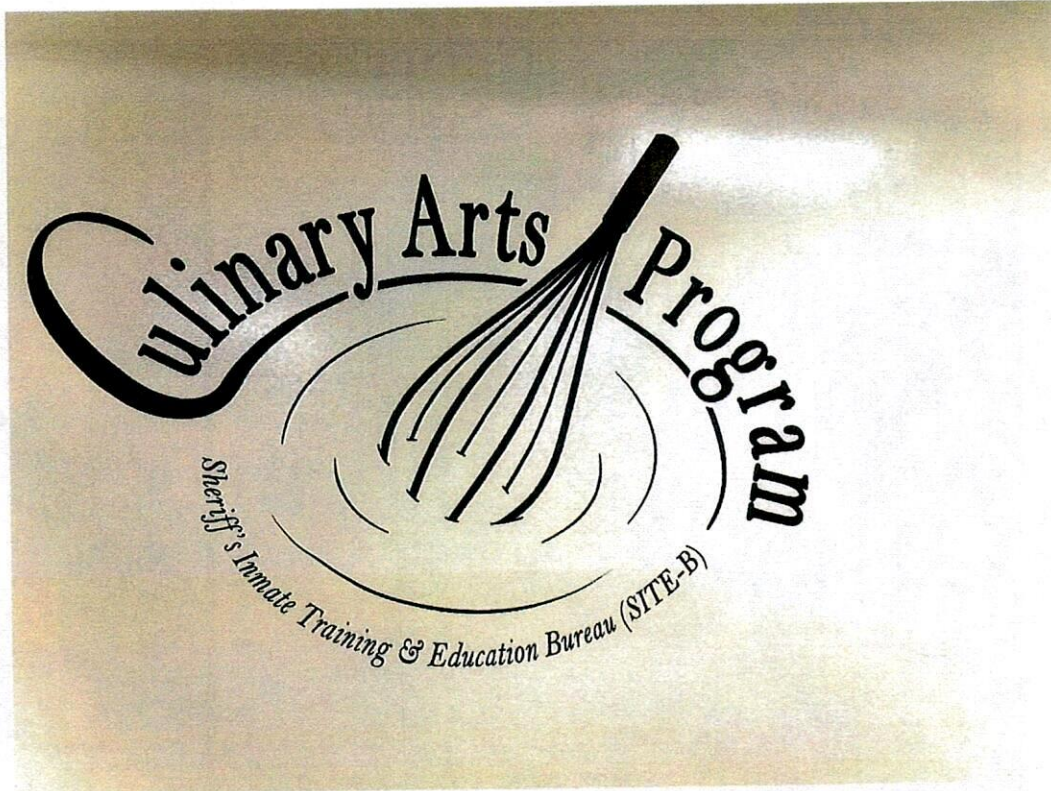
The ReSET Project also serves as an aid, with resources, for stable housing, employment, finances, transportation, education, family reunification and obtaining a California ID card. Other services include assistance with medical, dental, and mental health support to help reduce the cycle of re-offending. In addition, this program takes the holistic approach of helping the entire person.

### **ABCs Reading Project**

This is an on-going program

The Audio Book Children stories (ABCs) project engages incarcerated individuals who have a parental or custodial role with a young child age ten and under, to record (in their own voice) an audio book to be sent to their child while they are in custody. The SITE-B counseling team works with inmates to help reinforce family reunification goals and the project is used toward re-establishing family relationships and support. Each book is accompanied with a letter from SITE-B regarding the message of the book, purpose of this project, and contact information for the counselor. This project provides a means for families to stay connected through a positive experience.

**ADDENDUM 2**  
**Culinary Arts Program**  
*Photographs Courtesy of Riverside County Sheriff's Office*



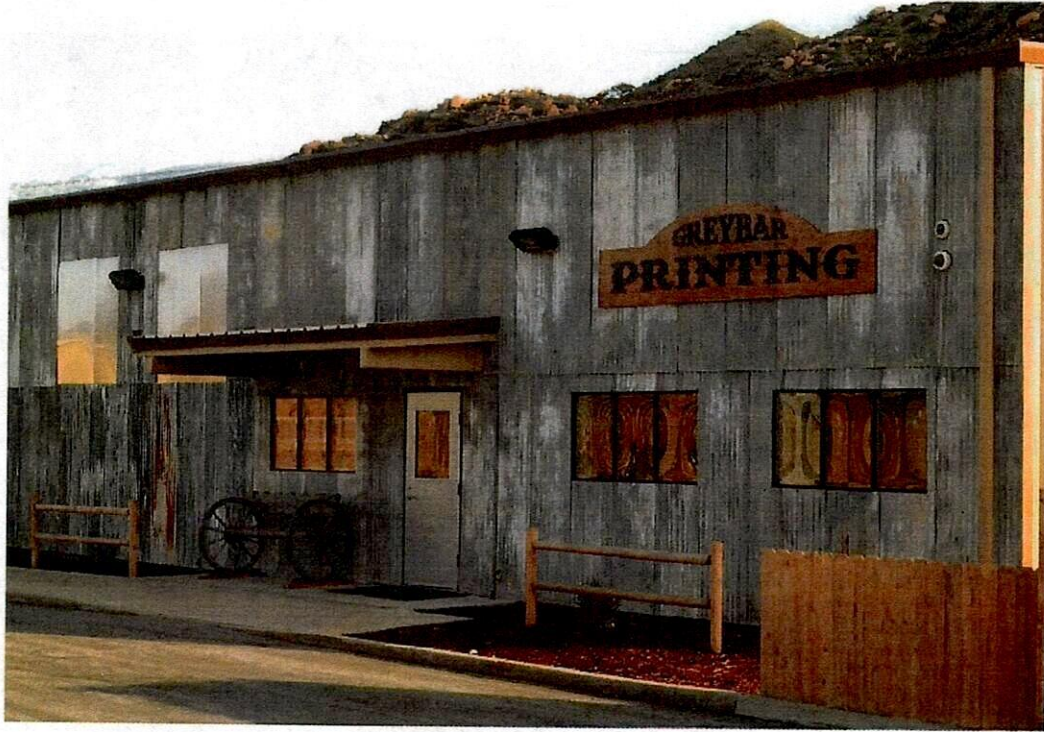
# CULINARY



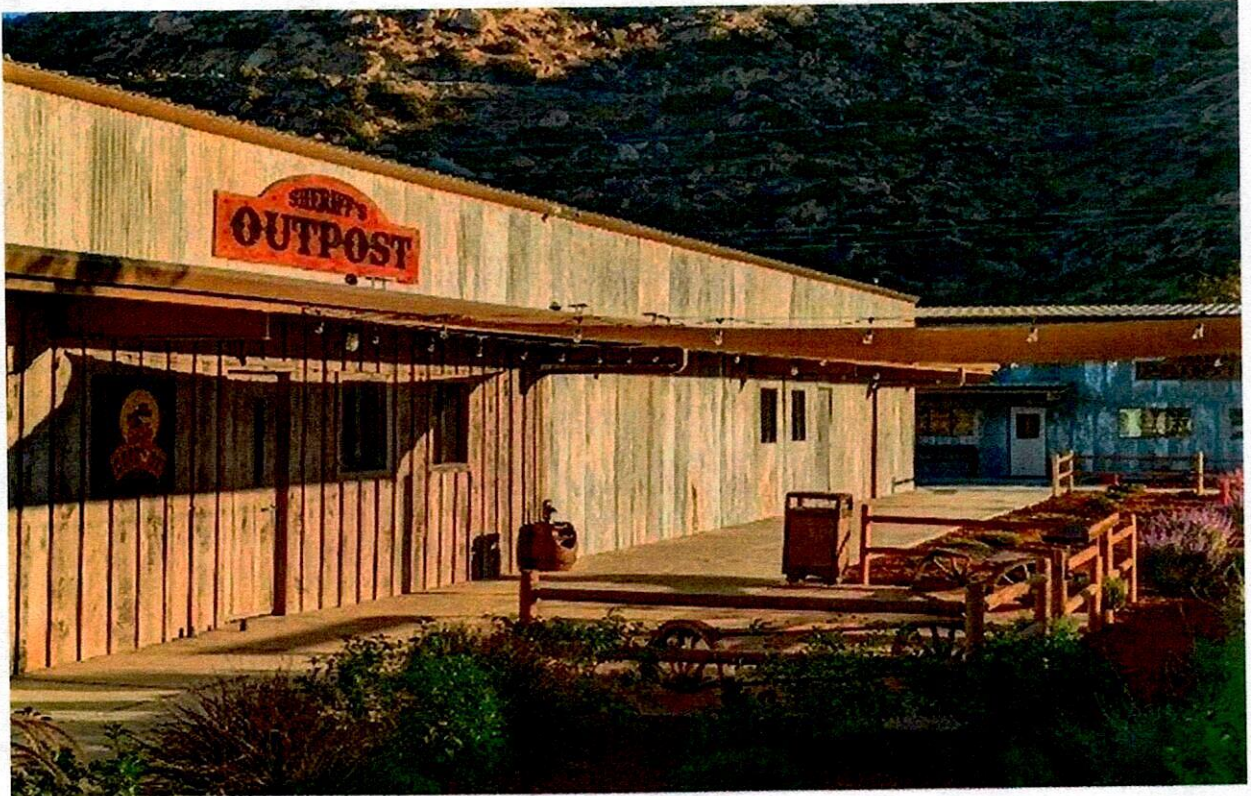
# Bakery



# Greybar Printing



## Sheriff's Outpost (Barista Program)



# ENGRAVING



# ENGRAVING





# Construction



# Construction



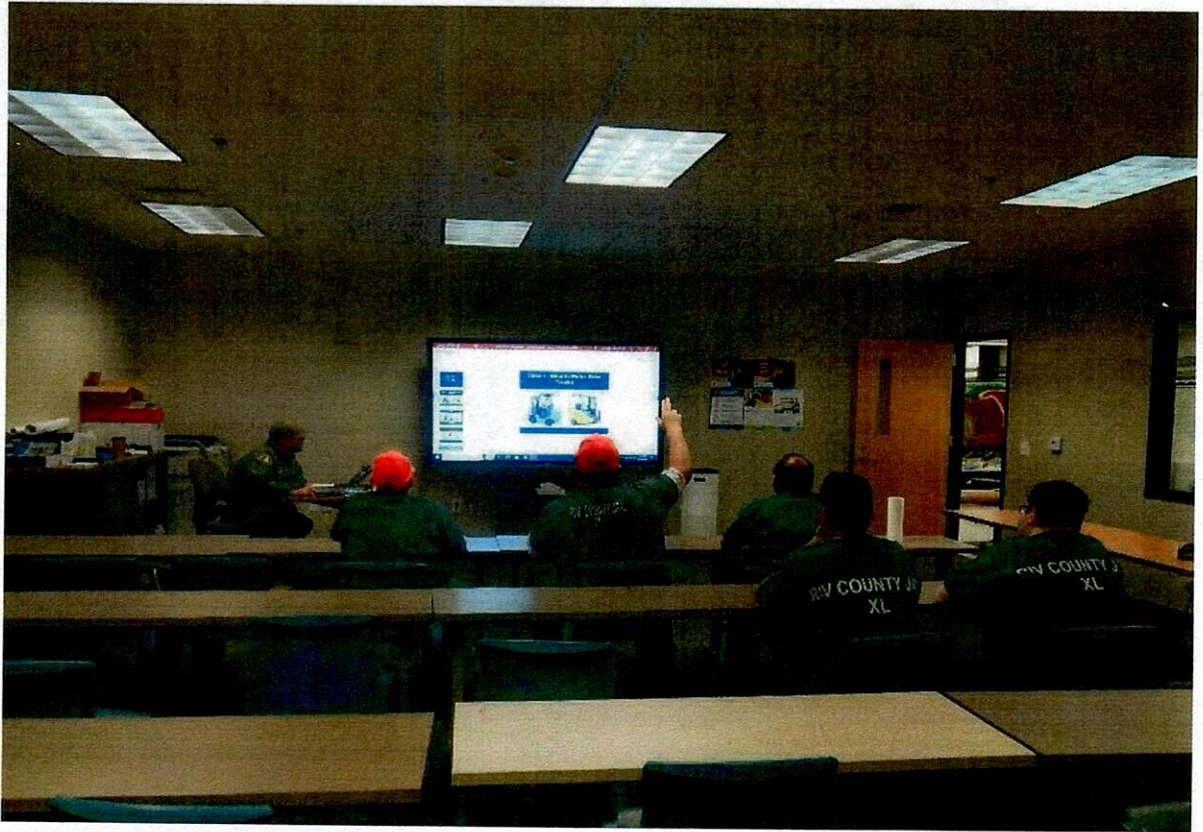
# Welding



# Landscaping



# CLASSROOM



# VETERANS MEMORIAL



## **ADDENDUM 3**

### **SITE - B**

1. RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S INMATE TRAINING AND EDUCATION BUREAU PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FORM
2. RIVERSIDE COUNTY RE-ENTRY RESOURCE GUIDE

Report Issued: 5/15/2024

Report Public: 5/20/2024

Response Due: 8/20/2024



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
Sheriff's Inmate Training and Education Bureau

***PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FORM***

The Sheriff Inmate and Education Bureau (SITE-B) promotes an environment of responsibility and accountability. Participants are expected to demonstrate positive attitudes and actions as well as work proactively towards their own success. Compliance with facility and program rules is required. Participants are assigned to the housing unit and program on a voluntary basis. Participants can expect significant involvement from the Sheriff and other educational and training partnering staff in the day-to-day operation of the housing unit and program.

Based on this understanding:

- I entered this program to develop entry-level skills to secure future employment, rehabilitation, and training opportunities.
- I will run an honest program, make a sincere effort to maintain positive relations with other members of the program and staff, and will be a contributing member of the program.
- I understand that I may meet in an outdoor or classroom setting for approximately 6 hours a day, Monday-Friday. I may participate with peers, instructors, deputies, trainers, and correctional counselors.
- In signing this document, I acknowledge this program may require physical demands, which could include the use of my abdominal and lower back muscles, such as:
  - lifting heavy objects (up to 50 pounds)
  - walking and standing for long periods of time
  - performing strenuous physical labor under adverse field and weather conditions; and lifting, pushing, and carrying objects
- In addition to the above physical demands, I understand this program may require good manual dexterity, multi-limb coordination, and acceptable vision and hearing.
- As part of the training and education I receive, I understand that I may participate in group interaction, complete workbook assignments, handouts, etc.
- I understand jail staff reserves the right to conduct a strip search upon movement to/from the housing unit or upon the completion of any assignment, and I consent to such searches.
- By participating in this program, I am consenting to cooperate with random urine drug testing.
- I agree to participate and cooperate fully with the program and its rules.
- I understand the program incentives are given to participants as a reward for positive behavior and can be taken away for rule violations.
- I understand that I may receive a certificate of completion only after successful completion of the program.

I agree to participate and cooperate fully with the assigned program and its rules. I understand that I may be terminated from the program if I violate facility or program rules, do not actively participate in any aspect of the program, or for any other reason that could result in the unsuccessful completion of the program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Name                      Booking #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Start Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Signature and Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## HEALTH CARE

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Riverside University Health System (RUHS) Behavioral Health  
(800) 499-3008

RUHS PHARMACY  
(800) 621-0131

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
(800) 827-1000

RUHS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER  
(800) 720-9553

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION

RUHS SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION & TREATMENT  
(800) 499-3008

THE SALVATION ARMY  
(800) SAL-ARMY  
(800) 725-2769

NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE?  
CARES LINE  
(800) 499-3008  
SUICIDE HOTLINE 958

## SHELTER, CLOTHING & OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

MARTHAS PLACE AND KITCHEN  
(760) 424-8438

LIGHTHOUSE 300 ALBERNETHY BLVD  
(951) 571-3533

VALLEY RESTAURANT SHELTER  
(951) 766-7476

THE SALVATION ARMY  
(951) 677-1324

PATH OF LIFE HOUSING  
(951) 462-9822

COACHELLA VALLEY PEOPLE'S CHOICE  
(760) 347-3512

SAVING HOMES  
(760) 396-9100

For general resources  
[FINDHELP.ORG](http://FINDHELP.ORG)  
or call 211



HWS



## RIVERSIDE COUNTY RE-ENTRY RESOURCE GUIDE



## BENEFITS

If your benefits have been discontinued due to incarceration, please contact the departments below for guidance on how to reinstate your federal and state aid.

### BOOK AND RELEASE LETTERS

Needed in order to reinstate Social Security benefits  
(951) 955-2430

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

(800) 772-1213  
[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

### FOR MEDICAL CALFRESH GENERAL ASSISTANCE CALWORKS RELATED QUESTIONS

(877) 410-8827  
[www.benefitscal.com](http://www.benefitscal.com)

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

(800) 827-1000

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

### EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (EDD)

(800) 480-3287  
[www.EDD.gov](http://www.EDD.gov)

### WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

(833) 391-0507  
[www.rivcoworkforce.org](http://www.rivcoworkforce.org)

### CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (CEO)

(909) 380-8822  
[www.ceo.rivco.org](http://www.ceo.rivco.org)

## HOMECONNECT (800) 498-8847

If you are currently homeless or at-risk of homelessness, please contact the HomeConnect Hotline to be connected to a Housing Navigator and learn more about the resources available to you.



## NEED LEGAL HELP?

### PROJECT CONNECT

(951) 405-8080

### STARTING OVER, INC.

(951) 898-0862

### PUBLIC DEFENDER

(951) 955-6000

## PROBATION/PAROLE

### PROBATION

(951) 955-2830

[www.rivcoprobation.org](http://www.rivcoprobation.org)

### PAROLE

(909) 468-2300

[www.cdcr.ca.gov](http://www.cdcr.ca.gov)

### ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING AND MONITORING

If you were required to report to, or enroll in one or more alternative sentencing monitoring programs such as BIP, Anger Management, Parenting, Community Service, Community Labor, H.A.M.M., T.E.M.P.O., please contact Inland SoCal United Way

(951) 329-4709

[inlandsocaluw.org/courtreferral](http://inlandsocaluw.org/courtreferral)

**2023-2024 Grand Jury Report  
Site-B-Sheriff's Inmate Training & Education Bureau  
(Site B) A Win-Win for Riverside County  
May 15, 2024  
Riverside County Board of Supervisors**

**GRAND JURY FINDINGS:**

**Grand Jury Finding #2:**

**F2: There is currently no tracking of the success rates after inmates complete the SITE- B training programs. Once the inmate is released the Sheriff's Office has no jurisdiction. Therefore, there is a lack of verifiable and quantifiable data to measure the success rates regarding SITE-B training programs.**

**Response to Grand Jury Finding #2:**

Respondent disagrees partially with the finding.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Office response dated June 3, 2024, states that tracking terminates once the inmate is released as the Sheriff no longer has jurisdiction; However, the Riverside County Probation Department assists in tracking employment data for prior Site-B participants released on active supervision. It is important to note that there is no formal mechanism to observe or track former inmates once released from supervision either directly into the community or after being released from supervision by the Probation Department. There are challenges with self-reporting, differing definitions of success and privacy concerns.

**Grand Jury Finding #3:**

**F3: There is no information available for the public or potential employers to access SITE-B information.**

**Response to Grand Jury Finding #3:**

Respondent disagrees partially with the finding.

While the public or potential employers may not have access to confidential information regarding in-custody Site-B participants, information regarding Site-B programs are available as described by the Riverside County Sheriff's Office response dated June 3, 2024.

## **GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **Grand Jury Recommendation #1:**

**RI: The Sheriff's Office is to work with the RIVCO's Public Information Officer to develop a plan for utilizing all available media platforms to inform the public and potential employers of the programs offered at SITE-B. The plan is to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval.**

**Based on Findings: F1, F3**

**Financial Impact: Minimal**

**Implementation Date: January 1, 2025**

### **Response to Grand Jury #1:**

Recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented. The implementation time frame is noted in the response.

The Executive Office Communications team regularly collaborates with all county departments on communications campaigns, with identified message strategies and tactics. Many of these collaborative communications plans aim to inform the community on matters pertaining to public safety, health, safety net services, public works projects and recreation initiatives that impact or support residents' quality of life. In addition, the Executive Office supports individual departments on matters of significant impact or importance to the community and other stakeholders.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department has a Media Information Bureau that develops and disseminates campaigns and messages on behalf of their department. The Sheriff's Media Information Bureau and Executive Office Communications team are consistent and cooperative partners on public safety communications campaigns involving multiple departments, successfully completing award-winning campaigns together.

The Executive Office Communications team will identify opportunities to collaborate with the Media Information Bureau to elevate the educational rehabilitation and training opportunities available to inmates in-custody with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. Upon completion, the final campaign assets will be shared with identified traditional media partners, posted on appropriate county social media platforms, as well as provided to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

The implementation date is December 31, 2024.

### **Grand Jury Recommendation #2:**

**R2: The Sheriff's Office should coordinate the creation of a data collection system regarding SITE-B program participation, certification rates, program costs, and subsequent new convictions among SITE-B graduates.**

**Based on Findings: F1, F2, F3**  
**Financial Impact: Minimal**  
**Implementation Date: February 1, 2025**

**Response to Grand Jury #2:**

Recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented. The implementation time frame is noted in the response.

In the Riverside County Sheriff's response dated June 3, 2023, the Sheriff provides a date of February 1, 2025, for research on new convictions by Site-B graduates to be implemented. Please refer to the Sheriff's department for further detail.

The response as it relates to graduates of Site B who have not reoffended requires further analysis. As previously stated, there are challenges of collecting data post-release unless there is recidivism. These challenges include relying on self-reporting, differing definitions of success and privacy concerns. The Board of Supervisors and the Executive Office will continue to work with key departments to collect and utilize available data for necessary program and policy development.



# Riverside County Sheriff's Office

## *Chad Bianco, Sheriff-Coroner*

---

4095 Lemon Street • Riverside • California • 92501  
www.riversidesheriff.org

June 3, 2024

Dear Riverside County Civil Grand Jury

The following is the response to the Riverside County Civil Grand Jury 2023-2024 Report: SITE-B Sheriff's Inmate Training and Education Bureau (SITE-B) A win-win for Riverside County.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Finding 2**

There is currently no tracking of the success rates after inmates complete the SITE-B training programs. Once the inmate is released the Sheriff's Office has no jurisdiction. Therefore, there is a lack of verifiable and quantifiable data to measure the success rates regarding SITE-B training programs.

### **Response to Finding 2**

Respondent, RSO, agrees with Finding 2. The Sheriff's Inmate Training and Education Bureau (SITE-B) has been exploring partnerships and meeting with community colleges in Riverside County for job placement linkages and potential tracking opportunities. SITE-B will continue to seek linkages with the Riverside County Employment Development Department for job placement and tracking for employment to assist with determining success. SITE-B partnered with the Riverside County Probation Department and the Riverside Executive Office to determine success rates through employment for the fiscal year 22/23, however, the Riverside County Probation Department was unable to gather sufficient data to validate success.

### **Finding 3**

There is no information available for the public or potential employers to access SITE-B information.

### **Response to Finding 3**

The Respondent, RSO, wholly disagrees with Finding 3. The following information can be found on the Riverside County Sheriff's Office website and is available to everyone, both the public and potential employers:

Riverside County Sheriff's Office website/Corrections Operations/SITE-B/List of Programs  
RSO Podcast Episode 18 - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGNbz5com\\_98bg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGNbz5com_98bg)

On the internet, the grand opening of the Culinary Arts Program is featured on KESQ

- [College of the Desert, RIVCO Sheriff's Department cook up partnership on inmate culinary program - KESQ](#)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Recommendation 1**

The Sheriff's Office is to work with the RIVCO's Public Information Officer to develop a plan for utilizing all available media platforms to inform the public and potential employers of the programs offered at SITE-B. The plan is to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. (Implementation date 1/1/2025).

### **Response to Recommendation 1**

The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented prior to the recommended implementation date of January 1, 2025, by means of the below described plan:

The Riverside County Sheriff's Media Information Bureau is responsible for authoring creative and innovative marketing materials, recruitment advertising, public relations campaigns, and other community outreach programs. This bureau also supports community requests, news media, social media, and historical documentation.

The Riverside County Public Information Officers are responsible for public relations campaigns and community outreach programs for all other county offices within Riverside County. They also support community requests, news media, social media, and information from the County Board of Supervisors.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Media Team and the Riverside County Public Information Officers will collaborate to highlight the great work of the deputies within the Riverside County Sheriff's Corrections Division and the educational rehabilitation programs offered to those serving time in custody. This joint effort will showcase the programs that are offered within the Riverside Sheriff's Corrections Division SITE-B.

### **Recommendation 2**

The Sheriff's Office should coordinate the creation of a data collection system regarding SITE-B program participation, certification rates, program costs, and subsequent new convictions among SITE-B graduates. (Implementation Date: 2/1/25)

### **Response to Recommendation 2**

The recommendation for SITE-B to collect and report data on program participation, certification rates, program costs, and program costs is in place. This data is recorded by SITE-B and is reported to the chief over Corrections and to the Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee, which is overseen by the Riverside County Probation Department.

The recommendation for SITE-B to research new convictions among SITE-B graduates has not yet been implemented but will be implemented by the recommended implementation date of February 1, 2025.

Sincerely,

Chad Bianco, Sheriff

Donald Sharp, Undersheriff  
Riverside County Sheriff's Office