



SACRAMENTO COUNTY GRAND JURY NEWS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

Jessica McGuire, Grand Jury ProTem
McGuirJ@saccourt.ca.gov or (916) 874-7559

Grand Jury Finds: Late Night Main Jail Releases Reduced but not Eliminated

SACRAMENTO – The 2025-2026 Sacramento County Grand Jury found, in response to a prior Grand Jury report, that Main Jail late night releases have been reduced although there remains room for improvement. The Grand Jury’s report, titled: “Slowly Sunsetting Main Jail Late-Night Releases: Progress Made, but the Midnight Door Remains Open,” details the current status of late-night releases, and includes recommendations for improvement.

A seven-month investigation revealed a reduction in the number of late-night releases during which there are limited transportation options and other resources available for releasees. However, other California jurisdictions have more successfully reduced late night releases.

In a May 2023 Report, the Sheriff’s Community Review Commission revealed that, in 2022, the County released 27% of jail inmates between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Comparisons to other California Counties of roughly similar release counts indicated that Sacramento’s late-night release count was double that of other large counties.

The Grand Jury has found the Sheriff’s Office has reduced late-night releases by more than a third. However, the late-night releases still remain higher than those in other jurisdictions with similar release counts. With the closing of Sacramento County night court, further reductions in late-night releases are expected but they will not be eliminated.

The Grand Jury’s recommendations, along with the full report, are available for public review on the Grand Jury website: www.sacgrandjury.org.