

**2018-2019 Grand Jury Report**  
**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**Response to Specific Findings and Recommendations**  
**August 27, 2019**

## **FINDINGS**

### **Finding 1:**

#### **Inequality in the Application of the Grievance/Writ/Appeal Process and Staff Responses**

1. According to §9.1 of the Classification Policy (504.02), inmates who disagree with their AD-SEG placement status are only allowed the recourse of filing a grievance at the informal level. The policy requires a response to be given by the Classification Sergeant within 72 hours. Inmates placed in AD-SEG housing are not allowed to be present during the review of the grievance. As a result, they are not given the opportunity to make a statement or give any factual or mitigating reason(s) or evidence for their removal from AD-SEG status. They are not allowed to be present for any 30-day review. The inmate's/detainee's options are further restricted as the policy makes no provision to file a more formal appeal to a Lieutenant or Captain to protest his/her placement.

However, it is important to note that for all routine grievances inmates/detainees are allowed, per the Grievance/Writ Policy 507.02, Section 2.8.4, to appeal an issue up to the Commander (Captain) level.

Based on this policy, inmates/detainees may appeal any issue up to the level of Commander, except for an inmate/detainee appealing their AD-SEG placement status, who is restricted to only being allowed to file at an informal level.

### **Response to Finding 1:**

#### **Respondent disagrees partially with the finding.**

Respondent RCSD disagrees partially with the characterization by the Grand Jury that there is "*Inequality in the Application of the Grievance/Writ/Appeal Process and Staff Responses*" on the basis that it is inaccurate, incomplete and misleading.

Although Policy 504.02 permits an inmate who is opposed to their placement in Administrative Segregation to request an informal review of their classification status; Policy 507.02 permits all inmates, including those housed in administrative segregation, to file a grievance regarding any issue relating to their confinement, including their housing location.

Policy 504.02, requires a response to be provided by jail staff and does not specify a response from the Classification Sergeant within 72 hours.

Although inmates are not present during the review process, any inmate in any classification category, including Ad-Seg, may provide information on mitigating circumstances that may

