



**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL – DOWNTOWN OFFICE**

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February 24, 2023

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**Re: Demand for Cold Weather Clothing**

Dear Ms. Mendelson:

The Sheriff's Office (SSO) has considered your demand that inmates in the County jails should be issued cold weather gear for at least a portion of the year as part of the standard issue to inmates. SSO believes that such an issue is unwarranted. The temperature in the Main jail, and at most inmate housing units at the Rio Consumes Correctional Center (RCCC), are temperature controlled.<sup>1</sup> SSO has conducted temperature readings throughout the Main Jail and discovered that all floors have temperature of at least 67.5° (Fahrenheit). In many units, the temperature was over 70°. Please see attachment A to this letter for a breakdown of the temperatures in the various floors and units.

SSO recognizes that on a few days per year, the temperature outside the facilities may not be warm enough for extended outdoor recreation. However, these are a relative few days in the year. In fact, the average daily temperature in Sacramento is 54° in January and above 60° for the rest of the year. (See Climate Sacramento - California and Weather averages Sacramento (usclimatedata.com).) It is the position of SSO that the relative few days per year of unseasonably cold weather do not necessitate the expenditure of providing every inmate in the custody of SSO cold weather garments as part of their standard clothing issue.

SSO will continue to provide such clothing to inmates when it is medically necessary.

<sup>1</sup> In some of the Dorm Units at RCCC, inmates are issued cold weather gear because the temperature settings are more difficult to regulate.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

LISA A. TRAVIS  
County Counsel

By: 

Rick Heyer  
Supervising Deputy County Counsel

cc: Chief Dan Donelli  
Capt. Vanessa Vaden  
Capt. Ed Yee

Attachment

All temperature in degrees Fahrenheit taken with a digital thermometer inside each pod and inside a random cell.

<b>2-East</b>	
100 Pod	70.8
103	71.9
200 Pod	70.2
211	70.2
300 Pod	71.1
304	74.4

<b>3-West</b>	
100 Pod	72
160	69.5
200 Pod	72.7
226	70.9
300 Pod	74.1
331	70.9

<b>3-East</b>	
100 Pod	73.2
113	71.7
200 Pod	74.2
215	73.1
300 Pod	72.7
323	72

<b>4-West</b>	
100 Pod	72.6
105	71.4
200 Pod	72.3
216	67.5
300 Pod	72.4
303	67.2

<b>4-East</b>	
100 Pod	71.9
122	73.2
200 Pod	73.3
209	70.9
300 Pod	70.9
308	71.7

<b>5-West</b>	
100 Pod	71.5
115	69.8
200 Pod	72.6
210	68.1
300 Pod	72.6
310	74.3

<b>5-East</b>	
100 Pod	72.7
124	71.4
200 Pod	72.7
201	71.6
300 Pod	74
312	72

<b>6-West</b>	
100 Pod	71.6
119	69.1
200 Pod	72.7
205	70.6
300 Pod	72.7
340	69.7

<b>6-East</b>	
100 Pod	72
101	68.8
200 Pod	71.9
213	69.5
300 Pod	75.3
307	70.9

<b>7-West</b>	
100 Pod	73.1
132	67.3
200 Pod	72.9
205	73.6
300 Pod	72.5
318	72.6
400 Pod	73.2
403	73.5

<b>8-West</b>	
100 Pod	71.2
101	67.9
200 Pod	72.5
210	68.5
300 Pod	71.5
COVID +	N/A
400 Pod	72.5
408	71.5

<b>7-East</b>	
100 Pod	72.7
101	68.8
200 Pod	72.6
216	70.7
300 Pod	73.3
316	72.6

<b>8-East</b>	
100 Pod	70.3
102	75.6
200 Pod	71.1
210	71.5
300 Pod	73.5
306	74.2