

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes—December 3, 2013
Fourth Floor Training Room
840 Guadalupe Parkway, San Jose, CA**

Commissioners Present: Penelope Blake, Chair
Raul Colunga, Vice Chair
Stephen Betts, Secretary
Raymond Blockie
Bonnie Charvez
Kimberly Dong, Youth Commission
Tracy Lauth
Nora Manchester
Calixto Manriquez
Jean Pennypacker
Pamela Serrano
Vincent Tarpey

Commissioners Absent: Dana Bunnett and Anita Sunseri

Also Present: Honorable Katherine Lucero, Superior Court
Honorable Jesús Valencia, Superior Court
Tamara Davis, Superior Court
Jenny Lam, Deputy County Counsel, County Counsel's Office (CCO)
Alice Smith, ACLU-Mid Peninsula
Karen Steiber, Attorney, Independent Defense Office
Chia-Chen Lee, Nurse Manager, Valley Medical Center (VMC)
Chris Arriola, Deputy District Attorney, District Attorney's Office
Karen Fletcher, Acting Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department
Rita Loncarich, Probation Manager, Probation Department
Jennifer Hubbs, Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS)/Receiving Center
Mariel Caballero, VRP Manager, Probation Department
Robert DeJesus, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department
Jose Franco, Deputy Public Defender, Public Defender Office
Kevin Rudich, Alternate Defender Office
Dan Lloyd, Department of Alcohol and Drug Services (DADS)
Alvaro Viramontes, Legal Advocate, YWCA
Diana Teves, Manager, Probation Department
David Epps, Alternate Defender Office
Steve Monte, Mental Health Department

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Guests Present: Chief Sheila Mitchell, Probation Department
Victoria Bustan Burke, Private Citizen
Baljit Nagi, Onsite Director, Pathway Society, Inc.

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Blake called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m. All persons in attendance stated their names and organizations. Chair Blake stated that Commissioners Bunnett and Sunseri, along with Judge Schwarz and Judge Tondreau, were in Southern California at the Beyond the Bench Conference.

Agenda Approval: On consensus of the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC), the agenda was approved, as submitted.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Review & Approval of Minutes: The following changes were made to the November minutes:

1. Commissioner Betts reported that Sue Nelson corrected her name from Dr. Nelson to Sue, and that Dan Lloyd made an adjustment to announcement regarding the State Department of Health Care Services: Effective January 2014, residential treatment will be available to individuals covered by Medi-Cal;
2. Judge Valencia stated that the heading for his name should be listed as Juvenile Justice Court, not Juvenile Dependency.

Moved by Commissioner Serrano and seconded by Commissioner Blockie, the minutes of November 3, 2013 were approved with the changes outlined above.

Presentation to Chief Sheila Mitchell: On behalf of the Commission, Chair Blake presented Chief Mitchell a certificate of appreciation recognizing Chief Mitchell's leadership and service to the youth of the community. Chair Blake expressed that Chief Mitchell has provided a rehabilitative model that includes reaching out to stakeholders and have all partners work together toward a mutual goal, and that model has been appreciated by the Commission and the stakeholders. Since 2004, Chief Mitchell has led the Probation Department and made the lives of the youth touched by the Juvenile Justice system better. Chief Mitchell stated her appreciation for working for Santa Clara County, and for the great work for kids done by the Commission. The collective accomplishments made throughout the County have provided better things for kids and families. Chief Mitchell also stated her excitement at Karen Fletcher serving as the acting Probation Chief, and Diana Teves serving as the interim Deputy Chief.

REPORTS

Chair's Report: Chair Blake reported on the following:

- We went to Board of Supervisors with the Ranch Report, which was accepted last month. The responses from all of the partners addressed issues that we raised, and many of these issues have been resolved.

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- We have begun the Juvenile Hall inspection, and it will be approved after the start of next year.
- Beginning in January, the law enforcement inspections will be done on a rolling schedule given that most agencies must be inspected.
- Participation in the RAIC process continues in the determination if and where the new receiving center will be.
- Members of the Commission have also been attending other stakeholder meetings, including the Quarterly Systems Collaborative meeting

Juvenile Justice Court: Judge Lucero reported on the following:

- Judge Lucero has been back in Juvenile Justice approximately six weeks, and reported that she is pleased to see daily in Court the concerted intervention to meet the individual needs of the youth from the various offices and agencies.
- On January 16, a Juvenile Treatment Court will be held off-site in Suite 950. This will be facilitated by a national staff person for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges grant, and will focus on the incentives and sanctions in Juvenile Treatment Court. Juvenile Treatment Court is mostly trying to do motivational work with youth, and is not a mini-adult criminal court.
- Judge Lucero continues to work with Probation bus passes accessible to juvenile probation and DEJ youth to help in getting them to services. They will be able to accomplish.
- On Thursday, the Foundation Director from the Sky's the Limit Foundation will watch Juvenile Treatment Court with the goal of helping our youth.
- The discussions with Cindy Chavez about having a mentor youth in Juvenile Treatment Court are continuing, and would require County funding.
- Judge Lucero met with Carmen Castellano with the Castellano Foundation has changed mission to include serving incarcerated youth of color. She is talking about putting together a collaborative for our Juvenile Justice youth.
- Judge Valencia had no report.

Dependency Court: Judge Lucero reported on the following:

- Judge Lucero presides over Juvenile Dependency calendars every other Friday in South County.
- Judge Schwarz is at the Beyond the Bench conference this month. It was requested that there be a Dependency Report at the next meeting.

Mental Health: Mr. Steve Monte reported on the following:

- The Competency Restoration Program is currently full with six youth on the waiting list. The wait time to receive services is 132 days as of December 1st, which is up 30 days from last month. A number of cases are close to resolution, but there have been no completions this last month as things wind through the Court.
- Mental Health is moving forward with interviewing candidates for the Restoration Counselor position. They have requested a new list of candidates due to a limited

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pool of internal candidates, likely due to the bilingual requirement of the coded position. The goal now is to extend an offer by the end of December. This is bumping out the time line a bit, but the process is moving forward through HR quickly. Mr. Monte will update the Commission on the recruitment next month.

Probation Department Juvenile Program: Chair Blake welcomed Ms. Karen Fletcher to her first meeting as the Acting Chief Probation Officer.

Ms. Rita Loncarich reported on the following:

- The Juvenile Hall population is steady from last month. As of this morning, it is at 146. James Ranch is lower than last month at 50.
- There were no special programs in November. December will include the Christmas holiday, and there will be several programs. A social for CBO's and volunteers on Thursday, December 12th; a unit decorating contest on Tuesday, December 17th; the annual Santa Claus visit to all of the units on Wednesday, December 18th; and a religious program by the Chaplain on Saturday, December 21st. Judges are needed for the unit decorating contest on December 17th if anyone is available. The contest is usually at about 1 p.m.

Mr. Robert DeJesus reported on the following:

- The change out of the phone system is moving forward, and should be completed by the week of December 16th. County telecommunications and Secure, the current provider, have both been cooperative and they have seen no glitches with the transition. They are hoping to start the New Year with no charges for phone calls to the youth. Chair Blake thanked Mr. DeJesus and the Probation Department for their efforts.

Ms. Karen Fletcher reported on the following:

- Judge Zepeda is finishing up her judges inspections so we should have that soon.
- There is a current announcement for a CRP Supervisors with December 9th as the end date for recruitment.

Department of Family and Children's Services/Children's Receiving Center (DFCS): Ms. Jennifer Hubbs reported on the following:

- Ms. Hubbs is the new program manager for the Children's Receiving Center, and is currently in week two of that position.
- Mr. Jaime Lopez has been handling an emergency and could not attend. He wanted the Commission to know that the Department is in transition, and so they have no numbers to report. Mr. Lopez anticipates that they will be able to distribute updated numbers to the Commission by the end of the week.
- The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, January 7, 2014 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Social Services auditorium.

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- The next workgroup meeting for the Receiving Center is Monday, December 16th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the California room at the Department. The focus of the workgroup is to brainstorm on barriers that must be broken down, and they are making progress. The main point is they know that they need to do everything to get a child into a home setting. The first option is to place the child with a relative or biological parent, and the second option would be a foster home. The piece left to do is looking at the existing Receiving Center and what role, if any, there is for a new Receiving Center. The goal of the workgroup is to have a presentation of the recommendations to the full stakeholders by the end of December. Anyone with feedback is welcome to contact Ms. Hubbs.

Department of Alcohol and Drug Services (DADS): Mr. Dan Lloyd reported on the following:

- The Department continues to work with the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) with the recertification process for school sites. The Department also continues to be involved with the integration for the Department of Public Health.
- They are recruiting for 1.5 vacant positions.

There is a City Council meeting on December 10th that includes the topic of the marijuana regulation initiative, with a focus on the location of dispensaries. Ms. Caballero added that the Council memo is available online now, and details out different options for the City Council which include an outright ban, restrictions on areas from schools and other locations, etc., and also talks about increased enforcement.

Law Enforcement Agencies: No report.

Medical Services: Ms. Chia-Chen Lee reported on the following:

- Ms. Lee has returned from leave.
- A new extra-help nurse has been hired for James Ranch, and is a male nurse. The Ranch has not had a male nurse in about five years, and they are pleased to have him.
- There is the push to reorganize the infirmary in Juvenile Hall. They are waiting on a couple of hospital beds, as they will be getting electric beds to replace the hand crank ones they currently have. Another upgrade is the installation of a shampoo bowl in the boy's infirmary. This is helpful when dealing with head lice or head wounds.

District Attorney – Juvenile Justice: Mr. Chris Arriola reported on the following:

- They are on pace to have more Parent Project sessions this year than ever before. The Parent Project helps parents with troubled youth. The first program in Elmwood this Fall had about thirty parents who are serving terms between six months and four years, many of whom were wards before incarceration. There has been positive feedback from the parents.
- They are still down one Deputy DA (DDA). The hope is to get someone by March or February.

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- On the paperless front, each DDA in the Juvenile Division is getting their own laptop, which will serve as their primary desktop as well. The DDA will take the laptop to Court with them. The DDA's have been using the laptops, and bringing their own personal laptop with fingerprint sign in. They are in the process of working out a deal with the Public Defender's (PD) Office to start dropping discovery electronically with the PD's Office and Alternate Defender Office (ADO).
- There were six or seven Direct File cases in November, with almost every one being an armed carjacking. These occurred all over the County. Details on Direct Files will come out in January in the 2013 Annual Report. The total Direct Files will likely be similar to last year, around thirty cases. Murder, attempted murder, and robbery were the main Direct Files. There may be a report at the JJSC website on all Direct Files and 707b's. Mr. Arriola also has a copy of the report.

Independent Defense Office: No report.

Alternate Defender Office: Mr. Kevin Rudich reported on the following:

- Tuesday, December 24th at Juvenile Hall and the Ranch will be the annual pizza party hosted by the ADO's and PD's Office.

Public Defender Office: Mr. Jose Franco reported on the following:

- The next Program and Preventions Meeting will be Friday, December 13th.

Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY): No report. Chair Blake stated that they are at Beyond the Bench as well, and should have a report next month.

Alternative Schools Department, COE: No report.

Victim Witness Assistance Center: No report.

YWCA Rape Crisis Center: No report.

Pathway Society, Inc.: No report.

Announcements/Correspondence: A memorandum regarding the Probation Department Population Sheet from Ms. Rita Loncarich and Ms. Diana Teves of the Probation Department was distributed and is attached.

Chair Blake thanked all in attendance for coming, and stated that next month's meeting should be back in the Crime Lab unless it is announced differently.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: On order of Chair Blake, the meeting was adjourned to

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Executive Session at 12:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 7, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

**Britney Huelbig
Recording Secretary**