

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes-June 5, 2018  
DA Crime Lab Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
250 W. Hedding St.  
San Jose, CA 95110**

**Commissioners Present:** Penelope Blake  
Raymond Blockie  
Dana Bunnett  
Victoria BurtonBurke, Secretary  
Dante Duffel-Steen  
Gustavo Gonzalez  
Manasa Kumarappan (12:24 p.m.)

Nora Manchester  
Carmen Montano  
Jean Pennypacker, Chair  
Carol Rhoads  
Vincent Tarpey  
Lissa Thiele

**Commissioners Absent:** Ron Hansen, Courtney Macavinta

**Also Present:** Honorable Katherine Lucero, Superior Court  
Honorable Julianne Sylva, Superior Court  
Honorable Pat Tondreau, Superior Court  
Marcelo Quinones, County Counsel's Office  
Annie Pepper, Intern, Superior Court  
Molly Skjervan, Intern, Superior Court  
Anh Do, Intern, Superior Court  
Christina Munoz, Intern, Superior Court  
Kevin Rudich, Alternate Defender, Office of the Alternate Defender  
Steve Eckert, CEO, Alum Rock Counseling Center  
Veronica Rosles, Clinic Manager Juvenile Hall, Behavioral Health  
Francesca LeRue, Director, Department of Children and Family Services  
Chris Arriola, Deputy District Attorney, District Attorney's Office  
Karen Steiber, Attorney, Independent Defender's Office  
Telina Barrientos, Analyst, San Jose Independent Police Auditor's Office  
Bernadette Estes, Supervising Group Counselor, Juvenile Hall/Probation  
Elvira Alfaro, Group Counselor, Juvenile Hall  
Jay Hill, Supervisor, Juvenile Hall  
Elsa Jennings, Probation Manager, Juvenile Hall  
Griselda Medrano, Group Counselor, Juvenile Hall  
Erika Perez Supervising Group Counselor, Juvenile Hall/Probation  
Lay Saechao, Group Counselor, Juvenile Hall  
Andrew Cain, Directing Attorney, LACY  
Vone Kegarice, Probation Manager, Juvenile Probation Department  
Dolores Morales, Program Manager, Juvenile Probation Department  
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Supervisor, Probation

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018**

Jill Ugalde, Program Manager, Probation  
Nisreen Younis, Juvenile Supervisor, Office of the Public Defender  
Shawny Williams, Deputy Chief, San Jose Police Department  
Patricia Dolan, Sr. Program Manager, SUTS/CFCS  
Chia-Chen Lee, Medical Clinic, Valley Medical Center  
21 Students from Summit Public School – Tahoma

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Chair Pennypacker called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. All who were in attendance stated their names and organizations.

**Agenda Approval:**

Ms. Elsa Jennings corrected the agenda to clarify she would introduce the presenters and Juvenile Hall Group Counselors Elvira Alfaro, Griselda Medrano, and Lay Saechao. Moved by Commissioner Manchester and seconded by Commissioner BurtonBurke, the agenda as amended was approved unanimously.

**Public Comments/Oral Petitions:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Corrections: Page 6, under **Public Defender’s Office**, second bullet point “New hire” name is incorrect. Correct from *Lani Birostko* to *Lana Virostko*.

Moved by Commissioner Tarpey and seconded by Commissioner Thiele to approve the May 1, 2018 minutes as amended, was approved unanimously.

**Oath of Office:** Judge Tondreau administered the swearing in of Chair Jean Pennypacker.

**REPORTS**

**Presentation: Juvenile Hall Parent Handbook:** Elsa Jennings, Juvenile Hall Probation Manager, introduced Supervisor Lay Saechao, Senior Group Counselor Griselda Medrano, and Senior Group Counselor Elvira Alfaro.

Ms. Lay Saechao: The committee started 1.5 years ago with 12 members and 2 supervisors to address the concerns of parents who were receiving vague information from their youth. The program began with a survey given to parents to assess their interest in Juvenile Hall (JH) which led to an orientation and a handbook for parents. Currently, the handbook is in English and Spanish and the orientation is conducted in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Orientations are Saturdays 9 – 11 a.m. and 12 – 2 p.m. From February 2017 to February 2018, 196 parents attended the orientation. Pre and post surveys were given to parents. In the post-surveys, parents gave a higher rating to the facility because of the information provided at the orientation. Areas where parents still had questions were in Behavioral Health and Superior Court. Speakers/representatives from Behavioral Health have attended the orientations to address parents’ concern. The committee would like to reach out to the Court to arrange similar representation at orientation.

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018**

Ms. Elvira Alfaro: Presentations are held in JH in a special room, but parents do not go into any of the units. The orientation discusses youth in the system from beginning to end; the Mission Statement, what youth do, admission, where property goes, and medical clinic (parents are usually contacted to avoid double vaccinating). Dentists, dermatologist, and female doctors are also available and eye doctors are available offsite. Parents are shown pictures of housing units, where youth attend school, activities provided, and outside programs that come in. Visiting information is also provided to the parents. A brief overview of Juvenile Court is given. Record Sealing is explained at orientation. Youth attend Osborne School, a part of the Alternative Education Department, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. Youth receive three healthy meals and two healthy snacks from JH cooks. Parents are referred to the chaplain if they want a different person to provide their youth religious services. Parents are given phone numbers if they need other resources.

Ms. Griselda Medrano: Parents are contacted by phone and mail to provide information about the orientation and times and the different languages to hear the orientation. If parents want to visit their youth after the orientation, they are told to make the arrangements prior to arriving. Special accommodations are made for parents who work Saturdays or need a babysitter by providing other options to fit their schedule.

In response to Commissioner Gonzalez' question, Ms. Saechao stated parents do not receive tours of the facility yet, but the committee is trying to find a way to implement tours.

In response to Commissioner Montano's question, youth with severe mental health diagnosis are housed in a special area in JH. Pre and post surveys were also clarified as surveys given to parents before and after the orientation to examine the parent's knowledge of the facility.

The committee is working on a way to have the handbook available in places the parents may frequent, but would rather parents go to the orientation to make the face to face connection.

In response to Ms. Nisreen Younis' question, youth in high security units receive the same access to programs and services. The high security units may receive more access due to longevity in the facility.

In response to Commissioner Gonzalez' suggestion, the counselors have considered taping the orientation and adding it online, but must work out the logistics before implementing anything. Youth also receive an orientation.

**Chair's Report:** Chair Pennypacker reported on the following:

- There will not be a JJC meeting in July. The next meeting is August 7, 2018.
- Progress is being made on the Ranch inspection.
- JJC is at the end of its year and will elect officers during the Executive meeting. JJC will also review their goals and objectives for the year, what has been accomplished, and consider the goals and objectives for the coming year. JJC will report the outcome at their next meeting.
- Chair Pennypacker will write her Annual Report.

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018**

- Family First Prevention Services Act passed by congress February 8, 2018. This may be moving toward the elimination of congregate care. Ms. Francesca LeRue states the focus on prevention of children in the Welfare system may assist with after-care.
- JJC’s ad hoc group regarding the detention of youth under 14 years old continues to meet and monitor the issue.
- JJC continues to monitor the County’s efforts to relocate the RAIC.
- Commendations and Recommendations will not be reported due to Commissioner Macavinta’s absence but should be reported in August.

**Recommendations and Commendations for Juvenile Hall Report:** No report.

**Presiding Judge’s Report:** No Report.

**Juvenile Justice Court:**

Judge Lucero reported on the following:

- Court Systems Business meeting is June 13 at 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. to provide an overview of the Young Woman’s Freedom Center in D83. Jessie Nolan will be presenting.

**Dependency Court:** No report.

**Alternative Schools Department, COE:** No report.

**Probation Department – Juvenile Program:**

Vone Kegarice reported on the following:

- The Interim Deputy Chief Probation Officer for Juvenile Services is Giap Le.

Nick Birchard reported on the following:

- The parent orientation at JH is due to the collective information provided by the stakeholders that attend JJC.
- Hot August Nights will be July 28, and is now called Hot Summer Nights.
- Regarding construction, the dorm should be open in October, and the installation of security cameras is still being considered during the construction.

**Behavioral Health – Mental Health Services:** No report.

**Department of Family and Children’s Service/Children’s Receiving Center (DFCS):**

Francesca LeRue reported on the following:

- The numbers for Child Welfare have been holding steady.
- Regarding the RAIC, the Children / Senior / Family Commission meeting is on June 14, which should provide more information about the RAIC situation.
- There are 8 youth at RAIC; 1 is non-dependent youth (not determined to be a dependent child), 5 are dependent youth, and 2 are on the run.

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018**

- There are 28 new social workers which creates a low vacancy rate for the position overall.
- June 20 at the Silver Creek Golf Course, DFCS will cohost the first Annual Foster Care Graduation highlighting 64 foster youth graduating from high school or college. The partners are Silicon Valley Foundation, CASA, and Bill Wilson

**Behavioral Health – Alcohol and Drug Services:** No report.

**Law Enforcement Agencies:**

Deputy Chief Shawny Williams reported on the following:

- Part One Crimes are up. In San Jose, Violent Crimes are up 10%, Robbery 22% (driven by carjacking, particularly committed by juveniles), and Aggravated Assaults 10%.

Deputy Chief Williams clarified that San Jose crime is increasing and Oakland is decreasing. A majority of the crimes are committed by county residents. Sweeps have helped keep the number from rising. Social media has aided the increase in criminal activity, but it also helps law enforcement find the offenders. More guns are being used to commit these crimes.

Mr. Chris Arriola clarified that Santa Clara County and partner agencies have a standing committee which looks into how to educate the community about gun safety and suicide prevention among other gun topics.

Commissioner Thiele added discussions about youth should include feedback from youth.

Judge Lucero added Wednesday, August 15 at 3:30 p.m., the Race / Equity/ Justice meeting will feature a presentation from both the District Attorney’s Office and SJPD on the trends they see to start a discussion about the next steps.

Mr. Giap Le discussed the ongoing negotiations with a provider to begin affording services to 12-14 year olds. It is an evidence based program that has been effective in other jurisdictions.

Deputy Chief Williams clarified Commissioner Montano’s question by stating the school liaison officer and officers who teach Crime Prevention in the school help create a great collaboration with SJPD and schools, but he recognizes the relationship could be better.

Elsa addressed Commissioner Thiele’s concern about information in the handbook presented by the guest speakers by stating the issue of age has not been brought up, and that the information in the handbook is a general overview, not targeted at different age groups. If parents have questions, they are able to receive one-on-one information from a counselor.

**District Attorney’s Office – Juvenile Justice:** No report.

**Public Defender’s Office:** No report.

**Alternate Defender’s Office:**

Kevin Rudich reported on the following:

**Juvenile Justice Commission  
Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018**

- The COE graduation is Thursday, June 7 at 6:00 p.m.

**Independent Defender's Office:** No report.

**Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY):** No report.

**Medical Services:**

Chia Chen Lee reported on the following:

- Internet services were on and off bringing down the electronic medical records. Fax machines were being used as backups.

**Victim Services Unit:** No report.

**YWCA Support Services:** No report.

**Announcements/Correspondence:** None.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Adjourn to Executive Session:** Chair Pennypacker adjourned the meeting to the Executive Session at 1:24 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** August 7, 2018, DA Crime Lab Conference Room, 250 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, California. **NO PUBLIC MEETING IN JULY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Jones