# SANTA CLARA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION FY 2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The Juvenile Justice Commission of Santa Clara County is a state-mandated, court-appointed authority. The broad purpose of the Commission is to inquire into the administration of the juvenile justice system in the county. The Commission is dedicated to the promotion of an effective juvenile justice system operated in an environment of credibility, dignity, fairness, and respect for the youth of Santa Clara County.

## **COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP**

#### Commissioners:

Pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code 225, the Juvenile Justice Commission shall consist of 15 volunteer citizens, two of which shall be youth Commissioners who are persons between 14 and 21 years of age. Commissioners must also be residents of Santa Clara County. At the end of fiscal year 2011-2012, the Commission was composed of the following Commissioners:

Ray Blockie, Chair Penny Blake, Vice Chair Raul Colunga, Secretary Pam Serrano, Past Chair Dana Bunnett Bonnie Charvez

Stephanie Dong, Youth Commissioner

Tracy Lauth

Nora Manchester

Calixto Manriquez

Gabrielle Navarrete, Youth Commissioner

Ken Nelson

Robert Nunez

Anita Sunseri

Vince Tarpey

Commissioners are sworn to four-year terms, except for youth commissioners who are sworn to two-year terms. Over the past fiscal year, two Commissioners resigned, Vinod Mehta and Mary Ryan.

The membership of the Commission should be representative of the community and should include representation from the different geographical areas of the County. In a effort to achieve such diversity, the Commission has reached out

to various organizations throughout the county and has as promoted the Commission.

# STANDING COMMITTEES ASSIGNMENTS AND ANNUAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS

The Commission conducts annual inspections of the County's juvenile detention facilities and at least one group home. The Muriel Wright Inspection was cancelled due to its consolidation with the James Ranch facility. All Commissioners are required to participate in these inspections and to document their findings in written reports, which are sent to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Executive Committee, which is made up of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Past Chair, select the members of the inspection teams. The 2011-2012 Commissioner Roster, scheduled inspection dates, and status of each facility inspection are as follows:

## **Executive Committee**

Ray Blockie, Chair Penny Blake, Vice Chair Raul Colunga, Secretary Pam Serrano, Past Chair

## **Nominating Committee**

Pam Serrano, Past Chair Bob Nunez Stephanie Dong

## **Membership Committee**

Penny Blake, Chair Raul Colunga Bob Nunez

## **Group Home Committee**

Pam Serrano Vince Tarpey Bob Nunez

## **Juvenile Hall Inspection**

Nora Manchester, Comm. Chair Bonnie Charvez Tracy Lauth Anita Sunseri Penny Blake Ray Blockie Dana Bunnett Bob Nunez Ken Nelson Stephanie Dong Calixto Manriquez Gabrielle Navarette Vince Tarpey

## **James Ranch Inspection**

Penny Blake, Comm. Chair Dana Bunnett, Co chair Anita Sunseri Stephanie Dong Raul Colunga Calixto Manriquez Bob Nunez Vince Tarpey Tracy Lauth

#### **Law Enforcement Facilities**

Dana Bunnett, Chair Calixto Manriquez Stephanie Dong Vince Tarpey

## **Dependency Committee**

Penny Blake, Comm. Chair Calixto Manriquez Nora Manchester

# **Children's Receiving Center**

Penny Blake, Comm. Chair Anita Sunseri Calixto Manriquez Stephanie Dong

#### **Ad Hoc Committee**

All Commissioners as assigned

# **Facilities Master Inspection Schedule:**

November 2011 Iuvenile Hall

Feb 2012 Children's Receiving Center
Dec 2011 Law Enforcement Facilities

March 2012 Group Home April 2012 James Ranch

(As a result of Commissioner resignations, or availability and a Probation Department facility closure (Muriel Wright), committee assignments and facilities inspection dates were modified during the fiscal year.)

## **Facilities Inspection Report Status:**

The Juvenile Hall Inspection Committee began its inspection in November of 2011, and the Commission approved its final report on Feb 7, 2012.

The Children's Receiving Center Committee began its inspection in November of 2011 and the Commission approved the final report on January 3, 2012.

The Group Home Inspection Committee began its inspection of the Genesis Group Home in March 2012 and the Commission approved its final report on June 5, 2012.

The Law Enforcement Facilities Inspection Committee began its inspection of the Gilroy, Santa Clara and San Jose juvenile detention facilities in April of 2012 and the Commission approved its final report in May 2012.

The James Ranch Inspection Committee delayed the start of its inspection due to the closing and consolidation of the Muriel Wright facility into the

James Ranch facility. The James Ranch Inspection was started in May 2012 and the Commission approved its final report on August 7, 2012.

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The following is a list of goals and objectives created by the Commission for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The status of these goals and objectives is as follows:

- 1. Complete all scheduled inspections by June 30, 2012
  - All inspections with the exception of the James Ranch facility were completed by June 30. The James Ranch inspection was delayed due to the consolidation of the Muriel Wright facility with the James Ranch. The final inspection did include a review of the consolidation of the two facilities.
- 2. Publish a status report on all inspection recommendations not later than 180 days from report publication.
  - The Commission needs to develop a more structured approach to complete this goal.
- 3. Conduct training for all new Commissioners within 60 days of appointment.
  - Training was conducted for new Commissioners in November 2011, which was done by Judge Tondreau, the Presiding Judge, and Greta Hansen, the Commissions Counsel. Two members of the executive committee also provided training on Commission procedures.
- 4. To monitor and report to the Juvenile Justice Commission all Incident Reports (IR's) filed at all detention facilities inspected during the year.

  Two commissioners visit the Juvenile Hall monthly and report to the full Commission at the monthly executive session the results of their review.
- 5. Conduct monthly visits with minors in Juvenile Hall during which minors will be informed about the Juvenile Justice Commission and its role as advocates for minors within the juvenile justice system.
  - Monthly visits have been conducted on a sporadic basis.
- 6. Establish workplan committees to review and provide recommendations to the JJC on juvenile justice issues.
  - The Commission established five workplan committees, Medical, Education, Processes, Administration and Programs to be used for the review of juvenile justice issues and to make recommendations to the Commission.
- 7. Schedule regular quarterly meetings with the Board of Supervisors president to review Commission activities.

The Commission met with Dave Cortese and George Shirakawa a total of four times during the fiscal year to discuss juvenile justice issues and concerns.

8. Schedule presentations to the Commission on juvenile justice issues.

The Commission had four presentations during the fiscal year, which included the District Attorney and representatives from the Probation Department.

## COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC

In a continuing effort to make the Commission accessible to juvenile justice partners, the general public, youth served within the juvenile justice system, and the parents and relatives of those minors, the Commission has established several means to communicate with the public and disseminate information. The Commission can be contacted in the following ways:

- Santa Clara County Superior Court website at <u>www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/juvenile/jjc.htm</u>; (information on this site includes the responsibilities and duties of the commission, public meeting details and achieved facilities inspection reports. Commission membership applications for both adult and youth are available on this site.);
- 2. Email the Commission at <a href="mailto:sccjjc@gmail.com">sccjjc@gmail.com</a>;
- 3. In person at the monthly public meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 12:15pm in the Santa Clara County Crime Lab in the first floor conference room located at 250 W. Hedding St., San José, CA.
- 4. Phone the Commission at its confidential phone number 1-408-278-5993.
- 5. U.S. mail at Juvenile Justice Commission. 840 Guadalupe Pky. San Jose, CA 95110.

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

## **Standing Committee Meetings:**

The Commission regularly attends standing committee meetings within the juvenile justice system. During fiscal year 2011-2012, the Commission was represented at each of the following regularly scheduled juvenile justice meetings:

- 1. Juvenile Court Systems (monthly)
- 2. Dependency Court Systems (monthly)
- 3. Child Abuse Council Interagency Collaborative Committee (monthly)

- 4. Board of Supervisors Public Safety and Justice Committee (monthly)
- 5. Board of Supervisors Children, Families and Seniors Committee (monthly
- 6. Silicon Valley Council of Non Profits (monthly)
- 7. Case Systems and Processes Committee (monthly)
- 8. Disproportionate Minority Committee (monthly)
- 9. Programs and Preventions Works Group Committee (bi-monthly)
- 10. Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Committee (quarterly)
- 11. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (quarterly)

Commissioners also periodically attend the quarterly San Jose Mayors Gang Task Force.

#### **TRAINING**

All newly appointed commissioners attend a four-hour orientation and training session. The Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court and the Commission's Counsel attended this meeting and provided an overview and description of the Commission's responsibilities. In addition, members of the executive team reviewed the Commission's procedures in a separate training session.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

The Commission strives to be an active participant in the programs and projects made available to the minors in the juvenile justice system. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, Commissioners attended the following special events;

- 1. Beyond the Bench Seminar Feb 2012
- 2. Attended CITA Court Sessions
- 3. Health and Safety Fair 10/2011
- 4. Juvenile Probation National Victims Week event
- 5. Probation Department Equity Program Training Session
- 6. San Jose San Jose Crime and Gang Prevention Summit
- 7. Probation Department Plans and Programs Presentation
- 8. Santa Clara County Child Abuse County Symposium
- 9. Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Conference

## **PUBLIC MEETING GUEST SPEAKERS**

Vone Kegarice, Supervising Probation Officer, gave a presentation on the Special programs Unit of the Probation Department.

Mike Simms, Probation Department, gave a presentation on the EDGE Program at the Probation Department.

Jermaine Hardy, Probation Department, gave a presentation on the WRAP services program at the Probation Department.

Jeff Rosen, Santa Clara County District Attorney, gave a presentation on the Juvenile Justice activities within in the District Attorney's office.

|     | Approved By the Sant | a Clara County | Juvenile Justice |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Com | mission              |                |                  |

| on                  |       | , 2012      |
|---------------------|-------|-------------|
|                     |       |             |
|                     |       |             |
| Ray Blockie, Chairp | erson | <del></del> |