

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
FY 2012-2013 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 court law 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

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 the fiscal year 2012-2013, the Commission was composed of the following Commissioners:

Ray Blockie, Chair
Penny Blake, Vice Chair
Raul Colunga, Secretary
Stephen Betts
Dana Bunnett
Bonnie Charvez
Kim Dong, Youth Commissioner
Tracy Lauth
Nora Manchester
Gabrielle Navarrete, Youth Commissioner
Calixto Manriquez
Jean Pennypacker
Pamela Serrano
Anita Sunseri
Vincent Tarpey

Commissioners are sworn to four-year terms, except for youth Commissioners who are sworn to two-year terms. Over the past year, two Commissioners resigned, Ken Nelson and Bob Nunez.

The membership of the Commission should be representative of the community and should include representation from different geographical areas of the County. In order to achieve such diversity, the Commission has reached out to various organizations throughout the county and has promoted the Commission.

STANDING COMMITTEES ASIGNMENTS AND ANNUAL FACILITY INSPECTIONS

The Commission conducts annual inspections of the County's juvenile detention facilities and at least one group home. 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 2012-2013 Commissioner Committee roster, scheduled inspection dates, and status of each facility inspection are as follows:

Executive Committee

Ray Blockie, Chair
Penny Blake, Vice Chair
Pam Serrano, Past Chair

Nominating Committee

Pam Serrano, Comm. Chair
Kim Dong

Membership Committee

Penny Blake, Comm. Chair
Raul Colunga
Pam Serrano

Law Enforcement Facilities Inspection Committee

Nora Manchester, Comm. Chair
Dana Bunnett
Calixto Manriquez

Children's Receiving Center

Ray Blockie, Comm. Chair
Penny Blake
Pam Serrano
Raul Colunga
Stephen Betts

Juvenile Hall Inspection

Penny Blake, Comm. Chair
Pam Serrano, Co-Chair
Bonnie Charvez
Tracy Lauth
Anita Sunseri
Gabrielle Navarrete
Nora Manchester
Stephen Betts

James Ranch Inspection

Raul Colunga, Comm. Chair
Pam Serrano
Bonnie Charvez
Calixto Manriquez
Dana Bunnett
Tracy Lauth
Anita Sunseri
Kim Dong

Ad Hoc Committee

All Commissioners as Assigned

Group Home Committee

Ray Blockie, Comm. Chair
Bonnie Charvez
Vince Tarpey
Anita Sunseri

Facilities Master Inspection Schedule:

January 2013	Juvenile Hall
January 2013	Children's Receiving Center
April 2013	James Ranch
June 2013	Group Home
June 2013	Law Enforcement Facilities

As a result of Commissioner resignations, or availability, or issues that required immediate attention, 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 Jan 2013, and the Commission approved its final report in April 2013.

The Children's Receiving, Assessment and Intake Center Committee began its inspection in January of 2013 and the Commission approved the first report in January 2013. Because of the serious nature of the issues uncovered in the first report, the Commission re-inspected the Children's Receiving, Assessment and Inspection Center and approved an updated report in March 2013.

The Group Home Inspection Committee began its inspection of the Kooser House Adolescent Group Home in May 2013 and the Commission approved the final report on July 2013.

The James Ranch Inspection Committee began its inspection in April 2013 and the Commission approved the final report in July 2013.

The Law Enforcement Facilities Committee surveyed all the law enforcement operations in Santa Clara County and determined that no juveniles had been held more than 24 hours as reported to the Juvenile Court presiding judge in June 2013.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following is a list of goals and objectives created by the Commission for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The status of these goals and objectives is as follows:

1. Complete all scheduled inspections by June 30th, 2013.
Two of the annual inspections were not approved until July 2013. This was the result of a late start to one of the inspections and the second was due to the resignation of the inspection team leader. The substantial effort on the part of the Commission with its focus on the Receiving, Assessment and Intake Center issues helped contribute to two of the reports completion being delayed.
2. Publish a status report on all inspection recommendations no later than 180 days from the reports publication.
The Commission needs to develop a more structured approach to this process in order to meet its goal.
3. Conduct training for all new Commissioners within 60 days of appointment
Training was conducted for new Commissioners in January 2013 by Judge Tondreau, the Presiding Judge Juvenile Court, and Jenny Lam, the Commission's Counsel.
4. Monitor and report to the Juvenile Justice Commission all Incident Reports (IRs) 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. Schedule regular quarterly meetings with the Board of Supervisors president to review Commission activities.
Commission members met once with the Board of Supervisors President or their policy aides and with other Supervisors to discuss various juvenile justice issues during the 2012-2013 fiscal year. In addition, the Commission addressed the Children's, Seniors and Families Committee, and the Public Safety and Justice Committee.
6. Schedule presentations to the Commission on juvenile justice issues
The Commission had two presentations during the fiscal year that included representatives from the District Attorney and Juvenile 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:

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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commission regularly attends standing committee meetings within the juvenile justice system. During fiscal year 2012-2013, the Commission was represented at each of the following regularly scheduled juvenile justice meetings:

1. Juvenile Court Systems (monthly)
2. Dependency 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, Seniors and Families Committee Meeting (monthly)
6. Case Systems and Processes Committee (monthly)
7. Programs and Preventions Works Group Committee (monthly)
8. Juvenile Justice Systems Collaborative Committee (quarterly)
9. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (quarterly)
10. South County Youth Gang Task Force Committee (quarterly)

TRAINING

All newly appointed Commissioners attend a three-hour orientation and training session. The Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court and the Commission's County Counsel attend this meeting and provide an overview and description of the Commission's responsibilities. Members of the executive team reviewed the Commission's procedures in a separate training session with Commission members. Commission members also attended Court sponsored training sessions throughout the year.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES

During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Commission either continued its strong involvement or became an active member in the following County Juvenile Justice programs and projects with our partners from the Probation Department, Department of Family and Children Services, Public Defender's, District Attorney and the Juvenile Justice Court.

1. Dually Involved Minors Project
2. Disproportionate Minority Program (DMC) Leadership Team
3. Pot Of Gold Project
4. Court User Project
5. Competency Restoration Project that was started in May 2013 and completed in October, 2013
6. Overfelt High School 95122 DMC Project
7. Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) Evaluation Committee
8. Violation of Probation (VOP) Committee
9. Deferred Entry of Judgment Committee
10. 707(B) and Direct File Committee
11. Equity Project Policy, Training and Outreach Committees

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved the update of the Juvenile Hall kitchen and cafeteria after a recommendation from the Juvenile Justice Commission's annual Juvenile Hall Inspection the previous year.

The Commission published a joint editorial in the San Jose Mercury with the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Justice Court on the status and our recommendations concerning the Children's Receiving, Assessment and Intake Center.

PUBLIC MEETING GUESTS SPEAKERS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Chris Arriola, Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office

2. Robert DeJesus, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Santa Clara County Juvenile Probation Department
3. Judge Loftus Recognition Award

Approved By the Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Commission

On December 3, 2013

Ray Blockie, Chairperson FY 2012-2013

Penelope Blake, Chairperson, FY 2013-2014