

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
FY 2015-2017 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 up to 15 volunteer citizens, at least two of which shall be youth Commissioners, who are persons between 14 and 21 years of age. Commissioners must be residents of Santa Clara County. At the end of the fiscal years 2015-2017, the Commission was composed of the following Commissioners:

Raul Colunga, Chair
Jean Pennypacker, Vice Chair
Ronald Hansen, Secretary
Penny Blake, Past Chair
Lissa Thiele
Victoria BurtonBurke
Bonnie Charvez
Kimberley Dong, Youth Commissioner
Gustavo Gonzalez
Nora Manchester
Courtney Macavinta
Carol Rhoads
Dana Bunnett
Vincent Tarpey
Anusha Agarwal, Youth Commissioner

Commissioners are sworn to four-year terms, except for youth Commissioners who are sworn to two-year terms. Over the past year, two Commissioners, Pam Serrano and Ray Blockie, resigned. One new youth member was added to an open term, which brings the Commission to a full 15 members.

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 at public forums.

COMMITTEES:

Executive Committee

Raul Colunga, Chair
Jean Pennypacker, Vice Chair
Ron Hansen, Secretary
Penny Blake, Past Chair

Membership Committee

Jean Pennypacker, Chair
Vince Tarpey
Penny Blake

Nominating Committee

Raul Colunga, Chair
Nora Manchester
Bonnie Charvez

Group Home Committee/Inspection

Jean Pennypacker, Chair
Anusha Agarwal (Youth Commissioner)
Bonnie Charvez
Lissa Thiele
Gustavo Gonzalez
Carol Rhoads
Victoria BurtonBurke

Law Enforcement Facilities

Inspection

Victoria BurtonBurke, Chair
Jean Pennypacker, Past Chair
Nora Manchester
Kimberly Dong (Youth Commissioner)
Vince Tarpey
Carol Rhoads
Bonnie Charvez
Ron Hansen

Children’s Receiving Center & Dependency

Nora Manchester, Chair
Penny Blake, Past Chair
Vince Tarpey
Lissa Thiele
Carol Rhoads

Juvenile Hall Inspection

Ron Hansen, Chair
Vince Tarpey, Past Chair
Nora Manchester
Anusha Agarwal (Youth Commissioner)
Kimberly Dong (Youth Commissioner)
Carol Rhoads
Victoria BurtonBurke
Courtney Macavinta
Penny Blake
Lissa Thiele

James Ranch Inspection

Carol Rhoads, Chair
Ron Hansen, Past Chair
Victoria BurtonBurke
Bonnie Charvez
Kimberly Dong (Youth Commissioner)
Vince Tarpey
Jean Pennypacker
Anusha Agarwal (Youth Commissioner)
Gustavo Gonzalez
Courtney Macavinta

Other assignments to follow

Ad Hoc Committees

All Commissioners as assigned as required

As a result of Commissioner turn-over, availability, or issues that required immediate attention, committee assignments and facilities inspection dates were modified during each fiscal year.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Commission established the following Goals and Objectives for 2015-2017:

1. Complete all scheduled inspections by June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017.
 - All required inspections were completed.
2. Conduct training for all new Commissioners within 60 days of appointment.
 - This was done.
3. Monitor monthly and report to the Juvenile Justice Commission all Incident Reports (IR's) filed at all detention facilities inspected during the year.
 - Monitoring occurs monthly, and the Commission continues to receive a monthly salient features report from the Probation Department.
4. Complete Court User Satisfaction survey and report before the end of 2016.
 - This survey was begun in July, 2014 and the team published an interim report in July, 2015. The final report was published in July, 2016.
5. Schedule regular reviews with the Board of Supervisors President to review Commission activities.
 - The Commission Executive team met with the Board of Supervisors President.
6. Schedule presentations to the Commission on juvenile justice issues.
 - The list of presentations is outlined below.

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 have established several means to communicate with the public and disseminate information about the Commission's work.

1. **Santa Clara County Superior Court website at:**
http://www.sccourt.org/court_divisions/juvenile/jjc/jjc_home.shtml 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 also available.
2. **Email the Commission at:** sccjjc@gmail.com

- 3. Attend 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 Parkway, San Jose, CA 95110.**

INSPECTION REPORTS:

The Commission undertook a Court User Satisfaction survey of the Juvenile Justice Court in July 2014. This ambitious project continued throughout the entire fiscal year and the final report was published in July, 2016.

The Group Home Inspection reports were published in August, 2015, and July, 2016.

The James Ranch Inspection report were published in August, 2015, September, 2016, and June, 2017.

The Juvenile Hall Inspection reports were published in April 2016 and March, 2017.

The Commission inspects all the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) that detained minors for any length of time during the preceding year. In 2015, the Commission inspected seven LEA, which the State reported as having held youth; in 2016, the Commission inspected eight LEA. The reports were published in February, 2016 and December, 2016.

The RAIC Inspection report was published in June, 2016.

All of the above reports and an archive of past reports can be found at this web address:
http://www.scscourt.org/court_divisions/juvenile/jjc/jjc_home.shtml

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Commission regularly attends standing committee meetings within the juvenile justice system. During fiscal year 2015-2017, the Commission was represented at each of the following 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 (when appropriate)
5. Board of Supervisors Children, Seniors and Families Committee Meeting (when appropriate)
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 (yearly)
10. RAIC Core team meeting (when scheduled)
11. RAIC stakeholder's meetings, including participation in the CORE meetings (quarterly)
12. Equity Project (monthly)
13. Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits (when appropriate)
14. Disproportionate Minority Program (DMC) Leadership Team (monthly)
15. Overfelt High School 95122 DMC Project (monthly)
16. Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) Evaluation Committee (when scheduled)
17. Violation of Probation (VOP) Committee (when scheduled)
18. Deferred Entry of Judgment Committee (when scheduled)
19. 707(B) and Direct File Committee (monthly)
20. CSEC (Commercially Sexually Exploited Children) Workgroup (monthly)
21. Social Services Advisory Commission (monthly)

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. New members can also review training material on the commission's document site, and past Commission reports on the Commission's website.

Commission members also attended Court sponsored training sessions throughout the year.

PUBLIC MEETING GUEST SPEAKERS & PRESENTATIONS

1. October, 2015 - Recognition of Robert De Jesus of the Probation Department
2. October, 2015 – Presentation by Mariel Caballero (Probation): *The 2014 Juvenile Justice Systems Annual Report*
3. November, 2015 - Presentation by Erica Elliott (Community Solutions): *CSEC Final Report*
4. December, 2015 - Recognition of Jose Franco of the Public Defenders Office
5. December, 2015 – Presentation by Debbie Pell (Bill Wilson Center): *California's Child Welfare, Continuum of Care Reform*
6. January, 2016 – Presentation by Kathy Martinez (Probation) and Lori Medina (DFCS): *AB 403: What's Ahead for Minors in Probation and Child Welfare*
7. March, 2016 – Presentation by Kermit Wong (Probation): *Overview of the Probation Terminated on Release (PTOR) Program*
8. May, 2016 – Recognition of Morgan Bricca, mural artist
9. June, 2016 – Presentation by Vone Kegarice & Jill Ugalde, (Probation): *Non-dependent Minors*
10. September, 2016 – Recognition of Pam Serrano, retiring JJC Commissioner
11. September, 2016 – Recognition of Dr Jerry Klein, retiring Medical Director of Juvenile Institutions
12. September, 2016 – Presentation by Cassidy Higgins and Carmen Andino-Talavera (FLY): *Court Appointed Friend and Advocate (CAFA) Mentor Program: A Collaboration between the SCC Probation Department and FLY*
13. October, 2016 – Recognition of Ray Blockie, retiring JJC Commissioner
14. October, 2016 – Presentation by Mariel Caballero (Probation): *The 2015 Juvenile Justice Systems Annual Report*
15. December, 2016 – Recognition of Chris Arriola, District Attorneys Office
16. April, 2017 – Presentation by Vone Kegarice (Probation), Margaret Ledesma (Behavioral Health), & Frank Matta (SSA): *Continuum of Care Reform Implementation in Santa Clara County*
17. May, 2017 – Presentation by Dr. Shelley Aggarwal (HHS): *An Introduction to Adolescent Development and the Stress Response: an Evidence Based Approach*

OTHER PROJECTS

In June 2016, the Commission held a retreat to discuss the work plan for 2016-2017 and to identify areas of interest for future studies and attention.

As one of the results of this retreat, an informal workgroup was established to review operations and the Commission's By Laws and Procedures. During 2016-2017, this workgroup developed detailed processes for the onboarding and training of new commissioners, a style sheet for inspection reports, a draft timeline for the inspection process, and a review of, improvements to, and training on the shared use of the Commission's Google document repository.

Approved by the Juvenile Justice Commission on November 7, 2017.



**Jean Pennypacker,
Commission Chair**