

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – February 3, 2026
Via Zoom

Commissioners Present: Marcie Bellicitti, Chair
Howard Pomerantz, Secretary
Stephen Betts
Victoria Burton Burke
Nora Manchester
Penny Blake
Diana Traub (late arrival)
Andrew Cain
Deryk Clark
Neha Parthasarathi (late arrival)
Michelle Wu (virtual)

Commissioners Absent: Vaishali “Shali” Sirkay, Vice Chair
Patrick Lopez-Aguado
Kevin Rudich (excused)

Also Present: Jessica Gamez, Superior Court
Honorable Christopher Van Meir, Superior Court
Britney Huelbig, Superior Court
Dwight White, Office of Independent Police Auditor
Patrick McBain, Office of Independent Police Auditor
Veronica Robles, BHSD
Etelvina Alvarez, Probation Department
Victoria Contreras-Wolfe, Probation Department
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Department
Trina Gauthier, Probation Department
Jill Ugalde, Probation Department
Gladys Tran, Probation Department
Frank Nesci, Probation Department
Melissa Garcia, Probation Department
Kristen Keller, Probation Department
Daniel Cortez, Probation Department
Ignacio Carriles, Probation Department
Maria Yakoub, SCCOE
Mark Camilleri, SCCOE
Jonathan Mosby, PDO
Damon Silver, PDO
Gracen Eiland, LACY
Lanphuong Le, Medical Services
Ruth Maurice, Victim Offender Mediation
Matt Cammann, Seneca
Isabella Espinoza, BOS D3
Melissa Suarez, DFCS
Robb Rodriguez, Gavilan College

Adam Sanchez, Starlight Community Services
Eva Gonzalez, FLY
Vianni Garcia, FLY
Joslyn Fasbro, Bill Wilson Center
Stephen Chen, Bill Wilson Center
Yesenia Hernandez, Bill Wilson Center
Heidi Schmittel - citizen

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Bellicitti called the meeting to order at 12:17pm.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved by all Commissioners present.

Swearing In: None.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Approval of Minutes: January 6, 2026 Minutes approved by all Commissioners present.

Special Announcements: Britney Huelbig discussed that recruitment is underway for the Civil Grand Jury. Civil Grand Jury has jurisdiction over public government offices, agencies and officials. Recruitment is for the citizens of Santa Clara County that are 18 years and older and U.S Citizens to serve a one-year term beginning July 1st, accepting applications through the end of March.

REPORTS

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

- Well into inspection season; SYTF, James Ranch, Law enforcement and scattered sites
- Juvenile Hall report ongoing, will be for last year. In next couple of months will begin the new Juvenile Hall inspection report
- There are several applicants for JJC

Presiding Judge: No one present to report.

Dependency Court: No one present to report.

Juvenile Justice Court: Judge Van Meir had nothing new to report.

Alternate Defender's Office: No one present to report.

Independent Defender's Office: No one present to report.

Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY): Gracen Eiland had nothing new to report.

Dependency Advocacy Center (DAC): No one present to report.

Victim Offender Mediation: Ruth Maurice had nothing new to report.

Alternative Schools Department:

Mark Camilleri reported on the following for James Ranch:

- Bee program started; This week starting with culinary teacher to harvest honey and creating dishes like hot honey chicken and honey mustard dressing.
- Looking forward in 2026 to keeping programs that are successful and looking for different programs to put in place to support students with they leave sites.

Maria Yakoub reporting on the following for Osbourne:

- Spring Semester has begun for colleges; several high school students have begun second business course through SJCC. Dual-enrolled students are earning college credits while in high school.
- Through “Envision your Pathway” students beginning a 5-week program to draft their own business plans and learning how to turn vision into viable business.
- They had an author visit from Keeona Harris who spoke about her book “Mainline Mama”

Department of Family and Children’s Service (DFCS): Melissa Suarez reported on the following:

- Struggling with lots of kids at the sites and finding placements; there are too many kids, all licensed beds are filled. Working on finding appropriate placement for youth; relative placements have increased from 19 to 33.8%

Probation Department:

Jill Ugalde reported on the following: Mentioned it will be business as usual during Superbowl Weekend

Trina Gauthier reported on the following for Juvenile Hall:

- Population is 56, which include 23 SYTF, 2 females
- Last month 1 youth from SYTF graduated from high school
- 1 youth from SYTF was offered a paid internship through probation

Ashanti Hayes reported on the following for James Ranch:

- Current population at 26; general population of 24. 2 youth in SYTF step down program. Only 1 female due to get out in May
- Programs: Staff continued guest speaker series. Kids are enjoying Beekeeper program
- Started Young Father’s Program. Conducted two meetings with 2 youth and have 3 more upcoming
- For 2026, due to budget constraints, department trying to keep services seamless for clients

Law Enforcement Agencies: No one present to report.

Behavioral Health: Veronica Robles had nothing new to report.

Medical Services: Lanphuong Le had nothing new to report.

District Attorney’s Office: No one present to report.

Public Defender’s Office: Jonathan Mosby had nothing new to report.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Bellicitti adjourned to Executive Session at 12:37 p.m. The next meeting will take place on March 3, 2026 via Zoom. Participants are also welcome to attend in person in the Independence Conference Room on the ground floor of 353 West Julian Street, San Jose.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Gamez