

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2025
Via Zoom

Commissioners Present: Marcie Bellicitti, Chair
Howard Pomerantz, Secretary
Stephen Betts
Victoria Burton Burke
Nora Manchester
Penny Blake
Andrew Cain
Deryk Clark
Kevin Rudich
Michelle Wu

Commissioners Absent: Vaishali “Shali” Sirkay, Vice Chair
Diana Traub
Patrick Lopez-Aguado
Neha Parthasarathi

Also Present: Kara Garasky, Superior Court
Jessica Gamez, Superior Court
Honorable Andrea Flint, Superior Court
Honorable Jose Franco, Superior Court
Maisy Morrison, BHSD
Veronica Robles, BHSD
Stephanie MacWhorter, BHSD
Violeta Garcia, BHSD
Mayra Vargas, BHSD
Vone Kegarice, Probation Department
Etelvina Alvarez, Probation Department
Victoria Contreras-Wolfe, Probation Department
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Department
Trina Gauthier, Probation Department
Jill Ugalde, Probation Department
Maria Yakoub, SCCOE
Mark Camilleri, SCCOE
Eugene Santillan, SCCOE
Ana Reyes, SCCOE
Jonathan Mosby, PDO
Damon Silver, PDO
Alex Adams, DAO
Lana Kreidie, IDO
Gracen Eiland, LACY
Lanphuong Le, Medical Services
Ruth Maurice, Victim Offender Mediation
Captain Nqui Scherry, SJPd
Matt Cammann, Seneca

Adriana Marquez, Community Solutions
Alexis Roman, YWFC
Isabella Espinoza, BOS D3
Aaron Voit, SSA
Ray Blockie, citizen
Susan Bates, citizen

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Bellicitti called the meeting to order at 12:20pm.

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

Swearing In: None.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Approval of Minutes: November 2, 2025 Minutes approved by all Commissioners present.

REPORTS

PRESENTATION: JPD ANNUAL DATA BOOK HIGHLIGHTS (Eduardo Aceves, Kimberly D’Ztako)

- Information on disparity gaps at key decision points by race/ethnicity in 2024
- Juvenile Hall detentions in CY 2024
 - 782 duplicated youth referred to Juvenile Hall
 - 40% were either not admitted to Juvenile Hall, or relapsed prior to detention hearing
 - 656 duplicated youth detained
 - 469 duplicated youth detained until detention hearing
- Child Welfare records for Probation population
 - Median age at first probation referral: 15
 - Median age at first CW referral: 5
- In 2024, 9 youth were committed to Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF)
 - 8 male, 1 female
 - 6 18 years or older, 2 under 18
- Principal service needs for males
 - Emotional factors 70%, relationships 56%, isolated situational 40%, social difficulties 37%, alcohol/drugs 37%, parental supervision 35%
- Principal service needs for females
 - Emotional factors 89%, family history 63%, relationships 61%, alcohol/drugs 53%, parental supervision 45%, school difficulties 37%
- Data limitations for arrest data
 - If the youth does not have a residential address available, they are not included on the map
 - Only available for youth residing in Santa Clara County (out of county youth are excluded)
 - Represents the location of youth residence at time of arrest, not where the offense occurs
- Census tracts with greatest number of arrests from 2021-2024

- East Gilroy, San Jose Northside, San Jose West San Carlos/Burbank, San Jose East Valley, San Jose Almaden Valley

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

- Finishing SYTF and James Ranch inspections.
- Started Welcoming Center inspection.

Presiding Judge: Judge Franco reported on the following:

- Judges are working on transition for 2026.
- Judge Flint working on transition to paperless.
- James Ranch and Juvenile Hall inspections are complete, and reports are on the website.

Dependency Court: No one present to report.

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

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

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

Alternative Schools Department:

Maria Yakoub reporting on the following:

- Osborne has had 3 high school students graduate so far this semester.
- Everyone has registered for spring semester classes.
- One youth is currently completing community college degree and has applied to 4 CSUs and 4 UCs.

Mark Camilleri reported on the following:

- Five graduates this year at the Ranch.
- LIUNA program finalized for this cohort.
- Students are creating dragon sculptures in art program.

Department of Family and Children's Service (DFCS): No one present to report.

Probation Department: Jill Ugalde reported on the following:

- SCC Probation and Public Health Department was selected as the 2205 CSAC Challenge Award recipient.

Dan reported on the following for Juvenile Hall:

- Current pop: 67 (62 male, 5 female)
- Held staff appreciation taco event.
- Nov 18 & 20 body scanner training from Tech 84.
- Megan Williams "the flower lady" visited to make flower arrangements with youth for Thanksgiving.
- Will host Christmas decorating contest in December.

SYTF report:

- Hired two interns
- In the process of hiring two new young people.

- Youth will be visiting Carpenter's Center in Morgan Hill.

Frank reported on the following for the Ranch:

- Current population: 26
 - 5 SYTF
- Youth participated in 49er experience.
- Youth met with JUMP program which partners with Nike.
 - Each youth was able to order a pair of Jordans shoes.
- Culinary staff made thanksgiving meal for youth.

Etelvina Alvarez reported on the following for institutions:

- Education services unit supported City of Gilroy's Spirits Night.
- SCC has met the required 60% threshold for survey 2025B.
- Was able to distribute thanksgiving meals to five families in need.

Behavioral Health: Veronica Robles had nothing new to report.

Medical Services: Lanphuong Le had nothing new to report.

Law Enforcement Agencies: Captain Scherry had nothing new to report.

District Attorney's Office: Alex Adams had nothing new to report.

Public Defender's Office: Jonathan Mosby reported on the following:

- Staffing changes in November.

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

Independent Defenders Office: Lana Kreidie had nothing new to report.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- None.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair Bellicitti adjourned to Executive Session at 1:22p.m. The next meeting will take place on January 6, 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,

Kara Vega