

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY JUNENILE JUSTICE/DELINQUENCY**  
**PREVENTION COMMISION**

**BY-LAWS**

The Santa Barbara County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission was established by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in 1990 under authority of California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 233. Its predecessor organizations were the Juvenile Justice Commission, mandated by Section 225 of the same code, and the Delinquency Prevention Commission authorized by Section 233 of the same code.

The duties and function of the commission are stated in Sections: 228,229,229.5,230,233 and 234 California Welfare and Institutions Code.

The by-laws of the Commission shall be as follow:

**ARTICLE ONE**

1. The Commission shall have not less than seven or more than fifteen members, two of whom shall be youth representatives as provided by Welfare and Institutions Code Section 225. Youth representatives shall be between fourteen and twenty-one years of age, providing there are available persons between fourteen and twenty-one years of age who are able to carry out the duties of a commission member in a manner satisfactory to the appointing authority.
2. The Presiding Judge of the Santa Barbara Superior Court with the concurrence of the Presiding Judge of the Santa Barbara Juvenile Court shall appoint Commission members. Appointments shall be for four years excepting youth representatives who shall be appointed for two years. The Commission will be representative of the ethnic makeup of the County and will maintain representation from all geographical areas as closely as possible.

3. Upon a vacancy occurring in the membership of the commission and/or upon the expiration of the term of office of any member, a successor shall be recommended by the commission and appointed by the Presiding Judge. When a member's term expires they may continue to serve as an ex-officio member at the pleasure of the Chairperson until a new member is appointed. The ex-officio member shall continue to have all the rights accorded a member of the commission. When a vacancy occurs for any reason other than the expiration of a term of office, the appointee to fill such vacancy shall hold office for the expired term of his or her predecessor.
4. The Commission may by majority vote recommend to the Presiding Judge the *appointment of any candidate or candidates for membership on the Commission* or the reappointment of any commissioner whose term has expired.
5. All commissioners shall be citizens of the United States of America and the State of California as well as resident of the County of Santa Barbara.
6. Attendance at all regular meeting of the Commission is required of all commissioners unless excused for good cause by the Chair and/or the Executive Committee. Attendance of all members shall be taken and recorded in the minutes of each meeting.
7. When any commissioner accumulates three unexcused absences during a single fiscal year, the *Executive Committee of the Commission* shall review that commissioner's participation in the work of the Commission. The Executive Commissioner's may recommend that the full Commission further review the Commissioner's participation. Thereafter, the full Commission may by majority vote recommend that the Presiding Judge terminate the commissioner's membership.

## **ARTICLE TWO**

1. The officers of this Commission shall be the chair, the two vice-chairs and the secretary-treasurer.
2. Nominations for any officer position may be made by any Commissioner but only with the prior consent of the nominee. A nominating committee of at least three commissioners shall be appointed by the chair to nominate officers at the annual election of officers and to nominate persons to fill any vacancy in an officer position.
3. Annual election of officers shall be held at the Commission's regular December meeting. Nominations will be made at the October meeting. Officers' terms shall be for one year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office but may be re-elected to that office one

year after the completion of his or her second consecutive term. The second term may be extended upon a majority vote of the Commission.

4. The officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Commission.
5. Any officer may be removed from office during his or her terms of a two-thirds vote of the full Commission.

### **ARTICLE THREE**

1. The Commission shall meet periodically as determined by the Chairperson, but no less than six times a year. Regular meetings of the Commission shall be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month unless otherwise ordered by the chair or the Executive Committee. When the regular meeting date falls on a holiday, the meeting shall be held on the Thursday following the holiday.
2. All meetings of the Commission shall be open meetings as required by statute except that the Commission, when necessary, may hold closed meetings on juvenile justice matters as provided by Section 11121 of the California Government Code.
3. Locations of meetings shall be at the discretion of the chair and or/the Executive Committee who shall make reasonable efforts to schedule them as appropriate throughout Santa Barbara County.
4. Special meetings may be called by the chair and/or the Executive Committee.
5. At any meetings a quorum is a simple majority of the current members of the Commission.
6. Meetings shall be conducted under the rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rule of Order Newly Revised except where those rules are not consistent with these by-laws or any special rules or order that the Commission may adopt.
7. The Executive Committee shall have authority to act for the Commission between meetings. The Executive Committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and report its actions to the next meeting of the full Commission.

### **ARTICLE FOUR**

1. The work of the Commission is largely accomplished through committees and through individual commissions working on projects and tasks assigned by the chair. All commissioners are expected to participate in this work. The committees shall be proposed by the Chair and approved by a majority of the Commission.

## **ARTICLE FIVE**

1. Public statements including press or media releases of information on behalf of the Commission shall be issued only by the chair or his or her designee.
2. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent commissioners from expressing themselves as individuals on juvenile justice or delinquency prevention matters. Such individual action should, where appropriate, include a disclaimer that the Commissioners are speaking only for himself or herself and not as a representative or spokesperson the Commission.

## **ARTICLE SIX**

1. The Commission shall prepare and distribute, at least annually, a report on its activities. The report shall include an evaluation of the juvenile justice and delinquency situation in Santa Barbara County and suggestions for improvement.
2. The Executive Committee shall designate a commissioner or commissioners to draft the report which shall be presented to the full Commission for review at the Commission's October meeting.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN**

1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a two-third vote of the current members of the Commission providing the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting of the Commission.

Adopted by the Commission at its regular meeting on October 7, 1993 and amended on August 10, 2017

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dominick Palera", written over a horizontal line.

**Dominick Palera Chair**