

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION**  
**BYLAWS**

The Santa Barbara County Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJJPC) 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 set out in Sections 228, 229, 229.5, 230, 233 and 234 California Welfare and Institutions Code.

The bylaws of the Commission are as follows.

**ARTICLE ONE**

- 1.1** The Commission shall have no less than seven or more than fifteen members, two of whom shall be youth representatives as provided by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 225. Youth representatives shall be 14 to 21 years of age, providing such individuals are available and able to carry out a Commission member's duties in a manner satisfactory to the appointing authority.
- 1.2** 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 generally be for terms of four years. However, youth representatives shall be appointed for terms of two years. The Commission will, as much as possible, reflect the ethnic and geographic diversity of the County.
- 1.3** When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Commission for any reason, a successor shall be recommended by the Commission and appointed by the Presiding Judge. A member whose term expires may continue to serve ex-officio, at the pleasure of the Commission chair, until a new member is appointed. An ex-officio member shall continue to have all the rights accorded all members of the Commission. When a vacancy occurs for any reason other than the expiration of a term of office, the person appointed to fill that vacancy shall hold office for the expired term of his or her predecessor.

- 1.4 The Commission may by majority vote recommend to the Presiding Judge the appointment of any candidate for membership on the Commission or the reappointment of any commissioner whose term has expired.
- 1.5 All commissioners shall be citizens of the United States, the State of California, and the County of Santa Barbara.
- 1.6 Members of the Commission are required to attend all regular meetings unless excused for good cause by the Chair or the Executive Committee. Attendance shall be taken and recorded in the minutes of each meeting.
- 1.7 When any commissioner accumulates three unexcused absences during a single fiscal year, the Executive Committee of the Commission shall review that commissioner's participation, and may recommend that the full Commission further review it. Following that review, the full Commission may by a simple majority vote recommend that the Presiding Judge terminate the commissioner's membership.

## **ARTICLE TWO**

- 2.1 The officers of the Commission shall be the Chair, two Vice-Chairs, and the Secretary-Treasurer.
- 2.2 Nominations for any officer position may be made by any commissioner, with the prior consent of the nominee. The Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three commissioners to nominate officers at the annual election and to nominate people to fill any vacancy in an officer position.
- 2.3 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. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office, but may be re-elected to that office one year after completing a second consecutive term. The second term may be extended upon a majority vote of the Commission.
- 2.4 The officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Commission.
- 2.5 Any officer may be removed from office for good cause by a two-thirds vote of the full Commission. Good cause may include three or more unexcused absences from regular meetings of the Commission, violation of these bylaws, or other conduct that undermines the Commission's work. Before any vote to remove an officer, the commissioner in question shall have the opportunity to address the full Commission and discuss or contest the grounds asserted for removal.

### **ARTICLE THREE**

- 3.1** The Commission shall meet periodically as determined by the Chair, but no less than six times per year. Regular meetings of the Commission shall generally be held on the fourth Thursday of the month unless otherwise ordered by the Chair or the Executive Committee.
- 3.2** All JJDPC meetings 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.
- 3.3** Locations of meetings shall be determined by the Chair or the Executive Committee, with reasonable efforts to schedule them throughout Santa Barbara County.
- 3.4** Special meetings may be called by the Chair or the Executive Committee.
- 3.5** At any Commission meeting, a quorum is a simple majority of the current members of the Commission.
- 3.6** Meetings shall be conducted under the rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rule of Order*, except where those rules are not consistent with these bylaws or any special rules or order that the Commission may adopt.
- 3.7** 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**

The Commission's work is largely accomplished through individual committees 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 simple majority of the Commission members.

### **ARTICLE FIVE**

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. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent commissioners from publicly expressing themselves about juvenile justice or delinquency prevention matters. Such individual statements should include a disclaimer that the commissioner is speaking only in a personal capacity and not as a representative or spokesperson of the Commission.

### **ARTICLE SIX**

The Commission shall prepare and distribute a report on its activities annually. The report shall include an evaluation of the juvenile justice and delinquency situation in Santa Barbara County and suggestions for improvement. The Executive Committee shall designate one or more commissioners to draft the report which shall be presented to the full Commission for review, amendment, and approval by the Commission no later than October 31.

**ARTICLE SEVEN**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a two-thirds vote of the current members of the Commission, provided that the amendments have been submitted in writing before the Commission meets.

*These bylaws were originally adopted by the Commission at its regular meeting on October 7, 1993 and further amended on August 10, 2017 and April 21, 2022.*

04/21/22  
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Gabriela Ferreira, Chair \_\_\_\_\_ 