



**Santa Barbara County Superior Court  
County of Santa Barbara**

**JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION**

**Commission Meeting  
Thursday, July 25, 2019  
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Location: City of Buellton Planning Department  
331 Park St.  
Buellton, CA 93427

Chair Dominick Palera convened the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDCP) meeting.

**Meeting was called to order with roll call of the JJDCP Members at 9:30 am**

Present

Christy Morse  
Roland Kelly  
John Ledlie  
Dominick Palera  
Billi Jo Starr  
Donna Tanney

Absent

Rich Adam  
Gabriela Ferreira

**Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2019**

A motion was made by Ledlie, seconded by Kelly to approve minutes. Commissioner Morse pointed out that Commissioner Larrosi was on the list on attendees and should be removed. Minutes were to be corrected prior to posting.

**Public Comment**

None

**Teen Court Update**

- Ed Cue thanked the JJDCP for inviting him to present today. He previously over saw the educational component that was spearheaded by the JJDCP called Understanding the Juvenile Justice System.
- Ed provided the group with a review of Teen Court and how it has evolved into what it is today. The 2018 South County Teen Court Annual Report which was presented to the CADA Board was provided and reviewed with JJDCP.
- Referrals for Teen Court are received from Law Enforcement and schools. Previously the Probation Department was making referrals but with a change in the law they were no longer able to make referrals.
- The group discussed the cost of Teen Court which Ed believes is \$350. Youth referred to other services would be billed through Medi-cal if eligible.
- Senate Bill (SB) 191 came out last year and Probation was no longer able to refer youth to a program that charges fees. Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) Shawn Small stated that the bill orientated as it was believed youth should not pay fees for services that are ultimately paid for by their parents. This bill also eliminated Probation's ability to charge fees to supervise or house youth.
- Ed Cue stated he currently see youth having issues with marijuana and vaping resulting in having medical issues.
- Parents have been encouraged to attend Teen Court so they can see what is happening with youth to share with their children. The JJDCP Commissioners were encouraged to attend Teen Court.
- Ed was uncertain how referrals from Santa Ynez and Lompoc are being handled. Chair Palera stated he would invite Britt Stanley to a JJDCP meeting to advise how referrals from those areas are managed.

- Chair Palera asked if there is still a need for Probation to be notified of the Teen Court Referral. DCPO Small was uncertain of the current process but can get the information and share with the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Ledlie asked if there were no fees for youth to participate in Teen Court, as Ed explained the majority of the youth are covered by Medi-cal, would Probation refer youth to the program. DCPO Small stated he believes that we would be able to if there were no cost to the youth/family.
- Teen Court is for the front end youth trying to keep them out of the system, it is not designed for youth involved in the system.
- A question was asked about how to get the educational component back online and Ed Cue suggested the Commission contact Yolanda Leon with Judicial Council as they have financial resources.
- DCPO Small stated the decision about Teen Court referrals from Probation came prior to him coming on and if there is funding Probation Executives could give it consideration.

### **Juvenile Probation Department**

- DCPO Small stated the new juvenile assessment tool the Positive Achieve Change Tool (PACT) went live July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Pre-screenings are being completed regarding risks and the asset portion will be in the next couple month.
- The first cohort for the Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) will take place on July 31<sup>st</sup> with 30 participants from a variety of agencies/organizations throughout the county. The Commissioners have been invited to participate and Commissioner Ledlie offered to represent the JJDPC.
- The Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG) is moving forward. The contract for diversion services are being developed with the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (CADA) and for data collection by the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) and will be before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) by the end of August with a projected start date of the end of fall. YRG will divert the youth from the justice system and they will not be able to be referred into the system even if they do not successfully complete the diversion services.
- Probation continues to monitor the end of legislation year but the majority of items that were being watched do not appear to be moving forward this session.
- The 2019 Title 15 external education evaluation inspections were received and there was no concerns raised.
- Wrapping up the unit 5 second tier barriers with a plan to move on to unit 6 soon.
- On July 30<sup>th</sup> there will be three youth graduating from high school at the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH) and the Commissioners are invited to attend.

### **Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Morse is being active in mental health in the high schools. Chair Palera advised that the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District is looking at an option to have a drop in counselor. This will not eliminate the scheduled counselor appointment but in addition too. Commissioner Starr stated isn't this similar to the YSS that was previously provided through CADA.
- The group discussed the school based officers. Chair Palera advised that each of the schools provide funding for law enforcement to law enforcement personnel. Commissioner Starr stated that Probation had school based officers but uncertain if those are still being provided. It was determined that there are school resource officers which are law enforcement personnel on high school campuses and there were school based probation officers assigned, so they are two different individuals.
- The group home inspections scheduled for August. Noah's Anchorage is doing a major renovation messages have been left but Commissioner Morse has not heard back. The site is closed so an inspection will not be required.
- Serenity advised that they are ready for the inspection and previous items of concern have been cleaned up. They stated that they received their certification.
- Commissioner Starr has been teaching in county jail which has kept her very busy. Freedom for Youth is assisting one youth that will be graduating from high school at the end of the month at SMJH to relocate him to south county and he is enrolled in City College. There is a new Freedom for Youth Cottage behind Youth Interactive and there will be a Fiesta Art Walk event on August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Commissioner Kelly provided a handout on a class provided by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for new drivers, regarding the limitations that come with a provisional driver's license.

### **Next Meeting**

- Chair Palera advised that Chief Heitman is going to attend the next JJDPC meeting. The next JJDPC meeting will be held on August 22<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the City of Buellton Planning Department.