

ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 14, 2016

1:00 p.m.

Supervisor Richard Valle, Chair
Supervisor Scott Haggerty

Location: Board of Supervisors' Chambers – Room 512 – 5th Fl
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Update on Juvenile Probation Fees

[Attachment](#)

Esa Ehmen-Krause, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, and Steve Manning, Auditor-Controller, presented a PowerPoint presentation to update the Committee on Juvenile Probation fees charged by Alameda County.

Juvenile probation fees charged by the County are used to support services and programs that are not supported by grant funding, including the Freedom School and the Positive Communications Rites of Passage program in the juvenile hall. These programs have had positive outcomes for the youth and a reduction in funds could result in a negative impact on the ability for the Probation Department to fund the programs.

For the current fiscal year, the Probation Department projects to collect approximately \$195,000 in probation fees. The Probation Department's role is limited to the recommendation made by the court of the following fees:

Probation Investigation Fee	- \$250 (one-time)
Supervision Fee	- \$90
Drug Test Fee	- \$7.17
Lab Confirmation Fee	- \$21.51
Camp Sweeney Fee	- \$20.32 per day

The above fees are either ordered by the court or the client is referred to the Financial Hearing Officer to assess the ability to pay. The Financial Hearing Officer has the authority to adjust or waive the fees, based on a set of guidelines that considers income and household expenses. A reduction in fees or a variety of payment plan options is available to families who have difficulty paying the fees. A family that receives public assistance is eligible to have fines and fees waived, excluding restitution fees.

In addition to the programs offered by Juvenile Hall, the fines and fees being collected offset the expenses associated with the County's juvenile detention, including GPS monitoring fees and daily juvenile hall fees. There has not been an increase in juvenile fines and fees since the Board of Supervisors adopted the current fee structure in 2009.

In order to assist youth and families, the Probation Department will increase education and information to families about their rights, responsibilities and obligations, and the role of the Financial Hearing Officer.

Speakers

Rachel Draznin-Nagy, Ahmed Lavalais, Kate Weisburd, Maria Dominguez, Darris Young, Charles Eddy and Tash Nguyen spoke in support a moratorium on Juvenile Probation fees.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

Supervisor Valle stated that he will request of the President of the Board of Supervisor to agendize the matter of a moratorium on juvenile probation fees. In addition, he will request that the Probation Department, Auditor's Office and the County Administrator's Office move forward with a moratorium on juvenile fines and fees and work collaboratively to identify funding sources to support programs at juvenile hall that will be affected by the moratorium.

Supervisor Valle thanked the Berkeley Law Group for bringing this item to the attention of the Board of Supervisors.

II. Public Safety Realignment (AB 109) Year 5 Update

[Attachment](#)

Neola Crosby, Reentry Coordinator, Probation Department presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Public Safety Realignment Year 4 and Year 5 update.

The presentation included information on the realignment funding allocations, realignment population, recidivism rates and clients served in housing and employment services.

Lindsay Horstman, Public Defender's Office, reported on the Public Defender's Office Clean Slate Program. The Clean Slate Program began in the Public Defender's office in 2013. The Public Defender's Office later collaborated with the East Bay Community Law Center to assist clients with dismissed cases, termination of successful probations, reductions from felonies to misdemeanors and certificates of rehabilitation.

Sascha Atkins-Loria, Social Worker, Public Defender's Office reported on the Public Defender's activities related to social workers. The program is inspired by the Bronx Public Defender's Office model, which began using social workers to provide expertise to help judges understand the clients' circumstances.

At the request of the Public Defender's Office, a social worker interviews the client and documents challenges. The social worker then provides a recommendation for services and or activities to address the specific needs of the client.

Cardia Fitzpatrick, a client of the social workers' program in the Public Defender's Office, stated how the program has assisted in her recovery.

Rhonda Hailey, Housing Coordinator for Abode Housing Services, introduced her clients, Mandel Knight and Michelle Clark, who shared their experiences with the program.

Charles Turner, manager of the Oakland Private Industry Council's reentry program, introduced Jed Silver of Silver Community Development Solutions, to report on their collaboration in employment training.

Donald Frazier, Executive Director, Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS), reported on their economic empowerment program, which is funded through Public Safety Realignment funds.

Speakers

Darris Young stated that the recidivism rates are still too high however he commended Neola Crosby on her efforts. Mr. Young stated that the sale of LCA, the company hired to operate the Transition Day Reporting Center, to SuperCom is causing a great deal of concern in the community.

Charles Eddy, Urban Strategies, stated that he has asked the Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee to reconsider the decision to go from monthly to quarterly meetings. Mr. Eddy has proposed that dashboards be built into the procurement process. Mr. Eddy is concerned about the Transition Day Reporting Center, that it is not a “center” but a program.

Leslie Sommers, Director of Community and Government Relations, Leaders in Community Alternatives, (LCA), stated that LCA was recently acquired by SuperCom, a nationally traded company located in the country of Israel. SuperCom was impressed with LCA’s innovative ideas in relation to electronic monitoring and treatment programs and they would like to replicate LCA’s vision around the world. LCA will retain their name, their staff and their reputation. Linda Connelly will remain as President and Chief Executive Officer of LCA for at least the next three (3) years.

Purpose:

- Report progress**
- Advocacy or Education
- Request Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

This item is informational only and required no Committee action.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None