

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE/DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION
Juvenile Justice Center, Room C1002**

**MINUTES
November 9, 2011**

PRESENT: Kamal Nair, Chair Dr. Rosemary Darden, Commissioner
Sokhom Mao, Commissioner Rogelio Ham-Chang, Commissioner
Mary Gilder, Commissioner Marion Sims, Commissioner
Johnny Lorigo, Commissioner Bob Goetsch, Commissioner
Bill Thomasson, Commissioner Ben Tapscott, Commissioner

GUESTS: Honorable Trina Thompson, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court
David Muhammad, Chief Probation Officer
Esa Emen-Kraus, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Christian Muñoz, Superintendent of Juvenile Hall
Faith Battles, Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Andre Jackson, Unit Supervisor, Probation Department
William Patterson, EBMUD

ABSENT: Trakalya Goodwin, Youth Commissioner Lisa Hill, Superintendent of Juvenile Hall
Lois Brubeck, Commissioner Alona Clifton, Commissioner
Dr. Barbara Cannon, Commissioner Arnold Perkins, Commissioner
Mary Glenn, Commissioner

RECORDER: Teresa LaSalle, Probation Department

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Welcome, Chair Nair	Chair Nair welcomed everyone present.	
Introduction of Commissioners and Guests	Introductions were made by everyone present.	
Approval of October 12, 2011 Minutes	The minutes were approved as written by Commissioner Sims and a motion to approve was unanimous.	
Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court—Trina Thompson	Judge Thompson commented on the turnout of the meeting and recommended follow-up with the absentees. Commissioners whose terms have expired were acknowledged. Judge Thompson also encouraged commissioners and those working in youth agencies to assist with the Boys' and Girls' coat drive at the Market St. Club House. Gently used and new coats are being collected to give to children.	Chair or seasoned Commissioner to acknowledge outgoing Commissioners with a joint certificate from the Court and

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The Youth Summit at Merritt College was attended by Judge Thompson and the National Bar Association. The summit focused on how the law treats you differently when you reach 18. Youth shared concerns with their community not being safe and adults making policies and conducting forums but their voices are not being heard. Youth asked adults to come to their schools and talk about their own journeys and how they navigated from school to college and vocational training .

Probation.

AB12 is new legislation that allows minors to stay in foster care beyond the age of 18. Once they turn 18, they'll be called Non-Minor Dependents because they're no longer minors, but they're still dependents. Legislation will require kids to close the gap and become sustainable. Those that are eligible need to get their records sealed so that they are employable. Last year's Iron Chef event showed kids how to budget with \$150 to feed 150 people and how to work as a team and get along with others. Other creative ideas need to be developed to close the gap and fulfill the requirements of AB12.

The Judge will continue working with the California State Bar as she transitions out of juvenile court and will train attorneys on issues pertaining to early education and dismantling the pipeline from schools to prison. She will remain on the Coordinating Council for Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and focus on parents and sibling returning from deployment, particularly homeless women coming back from Iraq with PTS disorders and drug abuse problems. These issues need to be addressed in the assessment form so that those eligible receive services. If you know any families impacted by the military, let her know and she'll make sure Faith has the tool. SSA will be navigating this on the larger scale and Probation will also get a packet.

The key to dismantling the pipeline from school to prison is keeping kids in school and focusing on the disciplinary procedures that schools are using. Logan and Encinal High Schools are using two different models. We're hoping to make Encinal High School the model school. Encinal is concentrating on bullying and

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Juvenile Hall Tour	<p>cyber bullying and we're teaching schools to move away from zero tolerance and expelling kids to doing in-house suspensions and teaching the kids who are doing the bullying to take ownership.</p> <p>Copies of the National Bar Association booklet were passed around and pamphlets are also available for free by downloading them from the State Bar website.</p> <p>Chair Nair thanked Probation and DCPO Ehmen-Krause for giving the Commissioners a tour of the JJC. Another tour was requested for the new incoming Commissioners and for those who could not attend the last tour. DCPO Ehmen indicated a future tour can be scheduled on a Friday at noon.</p> <p>Commissioner Goesch thanked Probation for the tour and was impressed with the adult staff that he spoke with. Staff commented that the youth were taking responsibility and accountability for their actions and accepting their consequences. Comm. Goesch questioned where the disconnect was and why kids keep recidivating.</p> <p>Commissioner Thomasson agreed and also thanked Probation for the tour. He was impressed with the library and the librarian and the passion she showed for the kids. The Health Clinic was also impressive. It had everything there for a child who may not get those services at home because they may not have insurance. He was also surprised that the kids in the Max Unit were owning up to their crime.</p>	Chair Nair will schedule another tour at the JJC.
Chief Probation Officer – David Muhammad	<p>Chief Muhammad introduced Andre Jackson, a Unit Supervisor, who will oversee the Transition Center for Probation.</p> <p>Chief Muhammad thanked the Chair and the Commissioners. Probation is going through a transition period with new changes. We have a new executive team. The department hired a new Chief of Staff, Brian Richart, who runs Administration, Finance, ITU, HR, Training and the new Research and Data Management</p>	

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Unit. At Juvenile Hall, Esa Ehmen-Krause is the new Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) overseeing both Juvenile Hall and Camp Sweeney and Christian Munoz is the new Superintendent. John Keene is the new DCPO for Adult Services and DCPO Bonita Vinson oversees Juvenile Services. We created a new unit, Research and Data Management, and hired Marthea Alley to oversee the 7 member unit that will focus on data collection and analysis.

Probation has a new daily report showing who's at juvenile hall. There are four populations at the hall; those waiting for a detention hearing; those waiting for adjudication; those with a finding and waiting disposition; and those awaiting placement. Currently, there are 80-90 kids waiting for placement and we're averaging 26-28 days for disposition.

Judge Thompson stated for no time waiver cases, kids have to go to disposition within 20 days. Some have been waiting 3 months for placement and we're seeing deterioration in their conduct. Kids that need intensive services need to transition ASAP.

Probation has one unit focused entirely on cutting down the processing time. We have little control over out-of-state placements. Annie Casey Foundation has a program called Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and one of their principles is "Every Day Counts". We'll be hiring a full-time expeditor to follow each of the 90 kids awaiting placement, getting them where they're suppose to go sooner. It will also reduce our detention population. We're also exploring the use of "Token Economy" a behavior management program that uses a point score system. Based upon your behavior, you can earn or lose tokens. At the end of the week, tokens can be used to buy items at the canteen. We want to systematize what's happening in the units.

We want to expand the Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) program to include all kids at JH and Camp. This evidence-based practice program has proven to be very effective. We've started a "Unit of the Month" program recognizing the unit with the lowest number of

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incidents (fights), highest school attendance and participation in programs such as ART by rewarding the unit with pizza parties, hamburgers, and gaming console days. We want to incentivize and encourage achievement. We're also working with ACOE to improve education. An educator/consultant from New York visited last week to observed our schools at JH and Camp. The consultant will provide us with a report on his observations which will be later shared with this committee. The consultant had significant concerns with our Camp school and quality of staffing. Other concerns were matching the transcripts, matching their school credits, defined curriculum, number of staff, and quality of staff. The consultant will try and come back in January with a comprehensive questionnaire. Sheila Jordan was present and plans to continue to work with the consultant. ACOE has hired a new group of staff and they are aware of these issues and the need to improve.

We'll be starting the "Homework Hour" program with the Girls' Unit and 1 Max Unit. We expect to launch the program in approximately 45 days. ACOE will start issuing homework and volunteers will come in for 1 hour per day and help kids with homework and reading.

We're also increasing our alternatives to detention. In addition to electronic monitoring and home supervision, we've recently opened an Evening Reporting Center (ERC) at Youth Uprising in East Oakland and we'll be opening three more ERC's. We'll be submitting an RFP to open up ERC's in South Hayward, Central Oakland and West Oakland. Instead of locking up a child, they'll have to go to school every day. After school they'll report to the ERC and they'll get driven home by the ERC and be home by curfew.

A Missouri Model consultant is visiting Camp this week to assist us with implementing the model the Alameda County way. The kids at Camp will be separated into 4 quadrants of 15 youth per group. It's a group based, youth guided interaction model. Groups will talk through their pain, trauma, goals, etc. Groups will be run by trained staff. Youth will have to earn their way out of camp. Youth will have individual plans. They'll write

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life essays and talk about their goals and achievements. Each youth will have a JIO assigned as an advocate, along with a school staff advocate, mental health specialist and deputy probation officer. Deputies will conduct groups and service plans for youth at Camp. Youth will write a petition that must be signed off with 5 signatures.

We're raising the bar on the requirements for issuing a home pass. We want to improve the situation around AWOLs, and increase security where the kids leave camp from. We'll be implementing a policy "eyes on and ears on" where all youth must be within eyes and ears site. We have a full time probation liaison on board. His job is to address our AWOL population. We have 500 youth and 2,000 adults on probation with active warrants. We'll prioritize and start with the Camp warrants. Lastly, we're pushing for a new facility. We received \$35M from the state to build a new camp and the estimate to build the facility is \$54M. The Board of Supervisors supports the new facility so we'll be getting together on Dec. 16th with all the partners to figure out how we can fill the \$19M gap.

The state budget passed projecting increased revenues by collecting more taxes. If it turns out in December that we did not raise enough revenue, the Governor will pull the trigger and make more cuts in January to CSU's, UC's and DJJ. The state will charge counties \$125,000/yr per youth for every youth in DJJ. Alameda County has 49 youth in DJJ right now. These are our very serious offenders. If the Governor pulls the trigger in December we'll owe \$6.125M. We may have to recall these youth and find a place for them.

Commissioner Lorigo was pleased to hear that Probation will be looking more closely at youth entering JH in terms of going to school and transfers. Being a counselor for the Oakland school district, he's seen kids come back to school with improper credits and deficiencies preventing them from moving up to the next grade level. The child ends up giving up and dropping out. Commissioner Lorigo would like to volunteer his services to help review and evaluate transcripts for

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placement kids and kids transitioning back into school.

Placing DPOs on high school campuses was also discussed. A DPO will be placed at McClymonds and Youth Uprising. Deputies will also be placed at other high school campuses in Fremont, Hayward and Union City in addition to Horizon Center in Livermore and Human Services in Fremont.

ACOE is opening up a transition school next week at E14th and 5th, at the old OUSD adult site, for youth coming home from JH that cannot get into a regular school. This is a school just for young people.

Commissioner Lorigo volunteered his services to assist youth transitioning from JH to Oakland schools and assist their transition into the Oakland Athletic League (OAL). He has seen success with other youth transitioning into OAL.

Judge Thompson explained the transfer process for youth coming in from other counties. For transfer ins, the magistrate receives the case and has to determine if the custodial parent resides in ALCO or if the child is a dependent of Alameda County. The receiving county has to accept the case if it is determined that the child's resident of origin is Alameda County; otherwise, we can send the case back.

Commissioners Report:

Sokham Mao

Commissioner Sokhom hosted an AB12 colloquium in Berkeley. Presiding Juvenile Judge Thompson gave a presentation and Angie Schwartz from Alliance for Children's Rights, who helped draft the legislation, gave her insight on AB12. Two former foster youth, both college graduates, shared their experience in the foster care system and gave their perspectives and how AB12 can help facilitate a positive transition from foster care into adulthood. Additional information can be accessed at www.FosterMediaConnections.org. Judge Thompson commented about the grad school student who came back and pulled her siblings out of foster care and now she is the guardian of her siblings and also attending grad school. Comm. Sokham was commended by Judge

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Thompson for doing a brilliant job of moderating, organizing and stimulating conversation at the colloquium.

Faith estimates 500 youth will be eligible to participate. Stipends can pay for room, board and Medicare. Recently, a minor's counsel continued the matter to January so that his client could be eligible to receive benefits. It's an opportunity for youth turning 18 to take advantage of a resource that they're entitled to. Probation placement youth are also eligible. Now is a good time to start talking to youth about transition and permanency. Judge Thompson met with folks from the homeless project to begin identifying housing options for youth (shelters, temporary housing and permanent housing). Probation and SSA have been to meeting to discuss who will be the case manager entity for these youth. Alameda County is applying to extend the Title IVE Waiver for five additional years. The question will be whether AB12 will include the waiver. It could mean more money for support services.

JJDPC Planning Committee
for 2011-2012
Commissioner Gilder

Commissioner Gilder will be available to all incoming Commissioners for one hour before the start of December's meeting to address questions related to the opening of the new group home and the facility inspection process. Everyone needs to take advantage of this opportunity. The room will be reserved at 11 AM, an hour before the start of the next meeting. Commissioner Mao will also be available to answer questions and will compile a binder containing all group home inspections.

Gift Bags for minors at
Camp and Juvenile Hall

Commissioner Sims and Chair Nair will be doing the Christmas bags for kids at Camp and Juvenile Hall again this year. Chair Nair's community will do the same as last year. We need contributions from the Commissioners to support the project this year. Checks can be made out to Commissioner Sims and must be turned in today or as soon as possible. Gift certificates will also be given out to deserving youth.

Faith will pick

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50 blankets were donated from one of the community organizations. up the blankets.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting, December 14, 2011, at 12 noon

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2500 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro