



**Juvenile Justice Commission and
Delinquency Prevention Commission
MINUTES of Joint Meeting
March 25, 2025 5:15 - 7:15 p.m.**

I. Preliminary Business

- a. Call to Order: Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:22 pm.
- b. Bo Unga, County Clerk, gave instructions for Spanish translation services.
- c. **Commissioners Present:** Chair Johanna Rasmussen, Vice Chair Administration, Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Membership, Ruchi Mangtani, Shakeel Ali, Jennifer Blanco, Paul Bocanegra, Ameya Nori (joined 5:39pm), and Kenneth Williams. A quorum was established.

Commissioners Absent: Whitney Geneviro, Niklas Klemmer, Tiffany Uhila-Hautau

Staff Present: Bo Unga, Kenny Chu, from County of San Mateo, Clerk's Office

Juvenile Court: Hon. Sharon Cho, San Mateo County Juvenile Court Judge

System Partners Present:

Private Defender's Office - Ron Rayes

District Attorney's Office - Nadia Hahn

Probation - John Keene, Jehan Clark, Moniay Wade, Nora Cullen, Sanam Aram, Becky Powers, Ivonne Bustos

OYCR (Office of Youth and Community Restoration) - Darius Parakh

BHRS (Behavioral Health & Recovery Services) - Regina Moreno

County Office of Education - Sarah Notch

FLY (Fresh Lifelines for Youth) - Melissa Poling, Tatiana Casteneda, Maria Delgado Cruz, ChrisBeth Cortez-Lopez

Children & Family Services - [absent]

Youth Liaison - [absent]

d. Meeting Agenda and Minutes

- a. **M:** Bocanegra **S:** Huber-Levy, to approve the Agenda for March 25, 2025. Passed unanimously.
- b. **M:** Huber-Levy **S:** Mangtani, to approve the February 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Passed unanimously.

e. Vote on the Candidacy of Jiya Venkatesh

M: Mangtani, to approve the candidacy of Jiya Venkatesh for Commissioner. Passed unanimously.



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II. Oral Communications-Public Comment: none

III. Updates From System Partners

a. **Private Defender**— report for March:

- s.602 assignments - 58 cases assigned: 18 detentions, 12 with 707(b)¹ allegations
- out of custody arraignments - 31 cases: 9 with 707(b) allegations
- assisted with record sealings - 9 cases (after probation terms completed, youth qualified to have records sealed under WIC 786 or 781)
- Youth Miranda Rights Hotline - 17 calls from arresting law enforcement agencies, 16 consultations: 9 youth aged 16-17 yrs/ 8 under 15 yrs; 14 minor youth elected to remain silent.

Re Miranda Protections for Youth (SB 203): Chief Keene took this opportunity to check in regarding any ongoing issues with youth questioned by departments after being booked into facilities. Mr Rayes noted that only one recent issue (last month), of which Chief Keene was already aware, where youth who had representation was called for questioning. In that case, Mr Rayes noted that probation had acted swiftly to protect the youth's rights. Chief Keene emphasized the importance of ensuring everyone in contact with youth at any stage of process is informed of youths' Miranda rights.

b. **Probation**— report for March:

Staffing update: to recap, Jehan Clarke is Dep. Chief, Juvenile Services; Moniy Wade is Dep. Chief, Institutions. New changes as of 3/31: Nora Cullen, current Asst. Dep. Chief, Juvenile Services, is returning to Adult Services; Becky Powers is taking over as Asst. Dep. Chief, Juvenile Services. Sanam Aram, current Superintendent, Institutions, is retiring; Ivonne Bustos is taking over as Superintendent, Institutions.

Probation:

- 163 youth at court/on diversion; 183 on supervision (346 total)
- 20 youth on EMD (electronic monitoring devices): 15 male/5 female, all SMC.

¹ 707(b) Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC): considered serious offences in the criminal justice system (robbery, murder, attempted murder).



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Juvenile Hall:

Total population: 35 youth - 33 male / 2 female (in three housing units)

- 5 male SYTF (Secure Youth Treatment Facility) youth
- 4 out-of-county youth (2 Santa Clara; 2 San Francisco)
- Racial composition: 26 Hispanic youth/ 2 African American/ 1 Pacific Islander/ 3 Other

Re Diversion Programs: Chief Keene noted Probation's goal to have no youth enter system, and to support intervention at local jurisdiction levels for police, school, and city-led diversion programs. There is an embedded probation officer with the San Mateo police department to facilitate growth of their diversion program. Currently, Redwood City and South San Francisco also have programs. City of Atherton is also in early discussions to develop a diversion program - unique space due to busing of youth into Atherton.

Re Request for Data: Chief Keene noted that they are working on a template to provide consistent monthly data to the Commission, and as it also needs to be compatible with Probation's current internal processes, it may differ from that provided in the past.

- c. **Youth Liaison Report** - on May 28, there will be a graduation for 4 high school and 3 college students.
- d. **County Office of Education** - Sarah Notch reported that the Career Technical Education master class session has concluded and was very successful. COE board members had the opportunity to observe results and this was very impactful. The session included writing books, programming drones, making board games, designing houses and landscaping. Also, in partnership with probation, students ran a CTE culinary cafe out of the professional kitchen. There was a 100% pass rate for food handler certification and for the culinary class.

COE is now over halfway through curriculum pilots for science and social studies and will present recommendations to the COE board in late spring for adoption.

- Commissioner Bocanegra asked about job referrals - Ms Notch noted that Jonas Barbour, Transition Services Coordinator provides support linking youth with employment contacts and referrals.



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- Commissioner Blanco requested that in the future Commissioners could be invited to CTE student presentations.
- e. **BHRS** - Regina Moreno noted that their student intern has finished her term, having provided valuable support on AOD and mental health services in juvenile hall. BHRS provides services for the 35 youth currently in the hall and for youth in the community who receive referrals from probation.

IV. FLY – Overview of Programs Offered in Juvenile Hall in SMC: Melissa Poling (Director, FLY SMC, SF), Tatiana Casteneda (Lead Case Manager, Secure Track Program), Chrisbeth Cortes-Lopez (Re-Entry Lead Case Manager), and Maria Delgado Cruz (Assoc. Director SMC, SF) provided an overview of the services that FLY provides in SMC juvenile hall.

FLY commenced working in SMC in 2005, and currently provide 6 programs in Hillcrest Juvenile Hall:

- **Law Program** (12 weeks) for all high school students in Hall - served 90+ youth in Hall over past year
- **Leadership Program** for all youth
- **REPS** (Rehabilitation, Education, & Planning for Success) for SYTF youth - currently have 7 youth, led by Harold Atkins at Success Center
- **Re-Entry Program** for 12-18 yr olds
- **Development Plan Goals** for all youth
- **STAY FLY Re-Entry Program** for 18-25 yr olds

V. Liaison Updates

a. Education Update

Commissioner Blanco shared the video of the 2024 OYE Conference in SMC, and shared details of the 2025 OYE Conference held on March 22nd at Canada College. She noted it is free and a valuable resource for youth leadership experience in our county and is open to all students, not limited to Latino students. Chair Rasmussen agreed that the Commission should have a table at the event next year, and planning for this should start early in 2026.



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VI. Inspection Updates

Chair Rasmussen noted that the inspection cycle this year will cover July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025. All Commissioners should sign up within the next 10 days for a specific inspection on the sign up roster document on the JJDC Google drive. Experienced Commissioners should sign up as inspection lead.

VII. Announcements

- Two Statewide JJDC meetings, convened by Chair Rasmussen, have already taken place; these meetings take place on the second Monday of each month at 12:00 - 1 pm by Zoom.
- The OYE 2024 video will be available to view by link on the JJDC website.

Chair Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 7:13 pm.

Karin Huber-Levy

Minutes submitted: 4/21/25 per Karin Huber-Levy, Vice-Chair, Administration