



**Juvenile Justice Commission and  
Delinquency Prevention Commission  
MINUTES of Joint Meeting  
June 24, 2025 5:15 - 7:15 p.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Johanna Rasmussen, Vice Chair Administration, Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Membership, Whitney Genevro, Shakeel Ali, Jennifer Blanco (joined 5:25pm), Paul Bocanegra, Niklas Klemmer, Asteris Ling, Trena Patton, and Jiya Venkatesh

**Commissioners Absent:** Ameya Nori

**Staff Present:** Sukhmani Purewal, County of San Mateo, Clerk's Office

**Juvenile Court:** Hon. Susan Etezadi, Presiding Judge Juvenile Court

**System Partners Present:**

Private Defender's Office - Ron Rayes

District Attorney's Office - Nadia Hahn

Probation - Moniae Wade, Becky Power

OYCR (Office of Youth and Community Restoration) - [absent]

BHRS (Behavioral Health & Recovery Services) - Regina Moreno

County Office of Education - Sarah Notch provided email report

FLY (Fresh Lifelines for Youth) - Melissa Poling, Luc Gnamien

Children & Family Services - [absent]

**I. Preliminary Business:**

- a. **Call to Order:** Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:16 pm.
- b. **Translation Services:** Sukhmani Purewal, County Clerk, gave instructions for Spanish translation services.
- c. **Swearing In of New Commissioner:** Trena Patton was sworn in as JJDPCC Commissioner by Judge Etezadi.
- d. **Agenda Review and Approval:**  
**M:** Bocanegra **S:** Huber-Levy, to approve the Agenda for June 24, 2025.  
Passed unanimously.

**II. Oral Communications-Public Comment:**

Rocsana Enriquez, former SMC JJDPCC Commissioner, commented regarding the need for accessible mental health services for youth in crisis, and described her personal experience with her son, noting that no in-county services were available for them and outdated provider information was given to them. Ms Enriquez advocated for early mental health intervention that is accessible and timely to support youth in crisis.



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**III. Updates From System Partners - reports for May:**

**A. Private Defender - Ron Rayes:**

- s.602 assignments - 38 cases assigned: 15 detentions, 6 with 707(b)<sup>1</sup> allegations
- out of custody arraignments - 20 cases: 2 with 707(b) allegations
- record sealings - assisted with 7 cases (after probation terms completed, youth qualified to have records sealed under WIC 786 or 781)
- Youth Miranda Rights Hotline - 18 calls from arresting law enforcement agencies, 17 consultations:
  - 12 youth aged 16-17 yrs/ 6 youth 15yrs and under - **NOTE: next month, data to be provided for youth under 14 yrs old**
  - all youth elected to remain silent

**Court update:** a decision was taken by the County, without the agreement of the juvenile court or system partners, to reduce court resources. Judge Cho has been reassigned to adult court. There will now be only one full-time juvenile court judge (Judge Etezadi) and one part-time (2 days per week) judge (Judge Jakubowski, a former juvenile court judge).

The impact of this will likely be felt in longer wait times for hearings, trials being reassigned to Redwood City Courthouse, and cases taking longer to complete as attorneys will need to be present in court in two locations. System partners were not asked for input into this decision and are not happy about this reduction in court resources.

**B. District Attorney - Nadia Hahn, for the period May 28-June 24:**

- 39 filings: 23 felonies/misdemeanors; 15 misdemeanor/infractions; 1 infraction.

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



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**c. Probation**— Becky Powers, Moniae Wade provided updates as of May 30:

**(I) Juvenile Services:**

- 358 youth on Probation (9 Probation Officers)
  - On Supervision: 196
  - At Court: 126
  - On Diversion: 36
  - 12 Gang orders
  - 1 placement
- Demographics:
  - Ethnicity: 99 Black/197 Hispanic-Latino/62 Other-Unknown
  - Gender: 269 male/ 88 female/ 1 transgender
  - cities overrepresented:
    - Redwood City: 64
    - San Mateo: 57
    - Out of County: 47

**(II) Institutions:**

- Juvenile Hall: (three housing units)
  - 29 youth as of May 30 - 28 male/1 female
  - 37 youth as of today - 34 male/ 3 female
    - Felony charges: 27 male
    - Misdemeanor charges: 1 male/ 1 female
    - 4 out-of-county (2 Santa Clara; 2 San Francisco)
    - **Ethnicity**: 21 Hispanic/Latino/ 3 African American/ 1 Pacific Islander-Hawaiian/ 2 White/ 2 Other
    - **Avg daily population**: 29 - 23 pre-disposition/4 post-disposition males & 1 pre-disposition female/ 1 post-disposition female
    - **Avg length of stay**: 74 days
    - For May: 23 bookings - 17 in county, 6 out of county; 21 releases
- Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF): 8 youth
  - 7 male/ 1 female



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- EMP (electronic monitoring program): 9 youth as of May 30; 11 youth as of today:
  - Felony offences: 1 male
  - Misdemeanor offences: 5 male/ 3 female
  - 5 in-county referrals (no out-of-county referrals)
  - 7 successful EMP completions
  - **Avg daily # youth** - 12: pre-dispo: 6 male/1 female; post-dispo: 4 males/1 female
  - **Avg length on EMP**: 35 days
  - Ethnicity: 9 Hispanic/Latino

**d. County Office of Education** - Sarah Notch was unable to attend due to a family emergency, but provided an email report:

- School is currently on break between summer sessions, and there is not too much to update.
- Further to Commissioner Blanco's question from the last meeting regarding an ethnic studies course to be offered to Hillcrest students through Project Change in Fall '25, Ms Notch confirmed that per the Project Change Internal Operations meeting notes and her confirmation with Aaron McVean, the ethnic studies course option for Hillcrest students will definitely be provided through Project Change next year.
  - Commissioner Blanco has heard that the dedicated teacher for this course is no longer available and agreed to follow up with Ms. Notch directly to confirm the status.
- Additionally, COE are gearing up for the second summer session at Hillcrest and will be running an Exploring Careers CTE program in addition to the traditional summer schedule.

**e. BHRS (Behavioral Health and Recovery Services):** Regina Moreno announced that Ornit Shohan is stepping away from her position for personal reasons and they are actively recruiting to fill this position. Also, BHRS has hired a new clinician, starting 7/21/25 in the hall. Commissioner Rasmussen asked about the status of hiring the AOD clinician funded by Probation; Ms Moreno is also actively recruiting for this position.



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**F. FLY (Fresh Lifelines for Youth):**

Melissa Poling presented an update on the Re-Entry Program: 26 youth are currently in the program and they are trying to enroll 5-10 more youth by cycling them in off of the waitlist. Two events were held in the final two weeks of this fiscal year: 4 youth attended an Alcatraz tour, and they had a Korean BBQ evening.

For SYTF case management: there are currently 11 youth in the (full) caseload, 1 female and 10 males. Students are creating a project in collaboration with a UC class on Odysseus, facilitated with a college professor teaching on Zoom.

Commissioner Ali asked if Commissioners could attend the students' presentations planned for the second week in July, and Ms Poling agreed to follow up on this. Commissioner Rasmussen inquired as to the successful implementation of computer access which was confirmed by Ms Poling to have gone smoothly.

**Public Comment:** Melissa Wilson, former JJDPC Commissioner, commented that she would like to hear from BHRS on their thoughts regarding Rocsana Enriquez' comments on accessing mental health services. Ms Regina Moreno of BHRS advised that she would be following up with Chair Rasmussen.

**IV. Presentation: Peer Point Diversion Program (Fresh Lifelines for Youth):**

Melissa Poling, Director for SMC FLY, and Luc Gnamien, Peer Point Program Manager, presented an overview of the Peer Point program in San Mateo County.

Peer Point is a restorative justice-based diversion program currently operating as a pilot program in high schools, seeking to divert youth from the juvenile justice system. The objective of the program is to provide alternatives to school suspension and arrest, and incorporates training youth to understand restorative justice practices, including taking accountability, healing and personal growth.

A recording of the presentation may be viewed here: [JJDPC Video - June 24, 2025](#). A copy of the presentation is also attached to these minutes.



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**V. 2025 Inspections Updates**

Chair Rasmussen announced that the dates for the Youth Services Center/ Juvenile Hall/SYTF inspections are scheduled for July 21st through 23rd.

The Educational Evaluations will be take place in September, when Canyon Oaks School and Hillcrest School are back in session.

**VI. Liaison Updates:**

- a. **Therapy Dog Program:** Commissioner Klemmer is progressing discussions to support a proposal for a therapy dog program in Juvenile Hall.
- b. **JJDPC Newsletter:** Commissioners Klemmer, Venkatesh & Ling discussed the team's progress to date working on a multi-media plan to incorporate email updates, blogs, podcasts and social media. A stated objective of this project is to promote a culture of compassion. All Commissioners are invited to contribute.
- c. **SF Juvenile Probation Commission:** Chair Rasmussen presented the resolution opposing the transfer of any youth to adult criminal court to this Commission, and the resolution passed unanimously. The DA in SF has filed 5 transfer requests in the past 10 months.
- d. **SF Juvenile Justice Commission:** Chair Rasmussen and Commissioner Bocanegra attended the Commission meeting with Mr. Arnold Morales, parent of a justice-involved youth, to present the resolution opposing the transfer of any youth to adult criminal court. As the Commission did not have a quorum that evening, the matter was referred to the next month's meeting for a vote.

**VII. San Mateo County Budget Update:**

A copy of the relevant sections of the County's Public Safety Budget was appended to the meeting agenda package for review. Chair Rasmussen noted that the budget included a kiosk at the Youth Services Center for ease of paying fines, however she noted that this location is not easily accessed by many families.



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**Public Comment:** Celina, a rising junior at Menlo School inquired as the progress made in preventing youth charged with crimes from being tried in adult criminal court. Chair Rasmussen provided an overview of the considerations and progress made to date and Commissioner Huber-Levy offered to share a paper detailing the changes in legislation which have supported the current status of requiring robust transfer hearings where the DA must prove that a youth is not capable of rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system before a judge will grant the order to require a transfer to adult court.

**VIII. Annual Retreat Planning Session**

Due to several conflicts with the August 9th date, a new date for the retreat needs to be set - a survey will be sent to Commissioners to find a date in September for the annual one day retreat.

**IX. Matters of Commissioner Interest**

- Chair Rasmussen shared that the OYCR website includes two new reports:
  - Please Don't Give Up on Us: Stories from Children & Youth Incarcerated in California ([https://oycr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/346/2025/06/OYCR-Report\\_Part\\_1-3\\_Accessible\\_6\\_16\\_25.pdf](https://oycr.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/346/2025/06/OYCR-Report_Part_1-3_Accessible_6_16_25.pdf)); and
  - SYTF dashboard to track the number of youth in SYTF programs across the state ([California Youth Committed to a SYTF - OYCR](#))

These materials may be found at <https://oycr.ca.gov>.

- Commissioner Blanco noted she attended the OYCR webinar regarding the Juvenile Justice Toolkit, which is also available on the OYCR website. She also noted that the LA COE has a robust ethnic studies program within the juvenile detention facility and offered to organize a presentation for our Commission on this.

Chair Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

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Minutes Prepared and Submitted: 7/10/25, Karin Huber-Levy, Vice-Chair, Administration