



**Juvenile Justice Commission and
Delinquency Prevention Commission
MINUTES of Joint Meeting
July 29, 2025 5:15 - 7:15 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Acting Chair, Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Membership, Whitney Genevro, Shakeel Ali, Jennifer Blanco (joined 5:18pm), Paul Bocanegra (joined 5:23pm), Asteris Ling, Trena Patton, and Jiya Venkatesh; Chair, Johanna Rasmussen, participating remotely.

Commissioners Absent: Niklas Klemmer

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

Juvenile Court: Hon. Susan Etezadi, Presiding Judge Juvenile Court absent due to family emergency.

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) - [absent]

County Office of Education - [absent]

FLY (Fresh Lifelines for Youth) - Maria Delgado Cruz, Tatiana Castenada

Children & Family Services - [absent]

I. Preliminary Business:

a. **Call to Order:** Acting Chair Huber-Levy called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

b. **Translation Services:** Sukhmani Purewal, County Clerk, gave instructions for Spanish translation services.

c. **Approval of Minutes from May & June Meetings:**

M: Ling **S:** Genevro, to approve the minutes for the May 27, 2025 meeting. Passed unanimously.

M: Rasmussen **S:** Genevro, to approve the minutes for the June 24, 2025 meeting. Passed unanimously.

d. **Agenda Review and Approval:**

M: Ling **S:** Nori, to approve the Agenda for July 29, 2025. Passed unanimously.

II. Oral Communications-Public Comment:

Melissa Wilson, former SMC JJDPC Commissioner, commented regarding the youth she is currently tutoring in Juvenile Hall and asked for the Commission to



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look into opportunities for step-down programs (less restrictive placements) for youth as there do not seem to be access to good opportunities currently.

III. Updates From System Partners - reports for June:

A. Private Defender - Ron Rayes:

- s.602 assignments - 46 cases assigned: 16 detentions, 9 with 707(b)¹ allegations
- out of custody arraignments - 22 cases: 1 with 707(b) allegations
- record sealings - assisted with 4 cases (after probation terms completed, youth qualified to have records sealed under WIC 786 or 781)
- Youth Miranda Rights Hotline - 28 calls from arresting law enforcement agencies, 28 consultations:
 - 24 youth aged 16-17 yrs/ 4 youth aged 15 yrs and under: **1 youth aged 15 yrs and 3 youth aged 13 yrs.**
 - all youth elected to remain silent

B. District Attorney - Nadia Hahn, for the period June 25-July 29:

- 29 filings: 24 felonies/misdemeanors; 5 misdemeanor/infractions.

Oral Communications-Public Comment:

Melissa Wilson, former SMC JJDPC Commissioner, asked for clarification of the term, “expungement”. Ron Rayes explained that in the juvenile justice system, the common and relevant process is a “sealing” of the records, which automatically begins at the end of probation. The process begins with the Private Defender’s Office, then proceeds to the judge, and finally the order is sent out to other agencies to seal the records. When the court seals the record it means the case no longer exists for most purposes and does not legally need to be reported or disclosed. For more information, see the CA Courts: [Guide to Sealing Juvenile Court Records](#).

¹ 707(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 June 30:

(I) Juvenile Services:

- 360 youth on Probation (9 Probation Officers)
 - On Supervision: 206
 - At Court: 127
 - On Diversion: 27
 - 12 Gang orders
- Demographics:
 - Ethnicity: 37 Black-African American/ 195 Hispanic-Latino/ 34 White/64 Other-Unknown
 - Gender: 275 male/ 85 female
 - cities overrepresented:
 - Redwood City: 65
 - San Mateo: 59
 - Out of County: 50

(II) Institutions:

- Juvenile Hall: (three housing units)
 - 29 youth as of June 30 - 28 male/1 female
 - 37 youth as of today - 34 male/ 3 female
 - Felony charges: 28 male / 1 female
 - Misdemeanor charges: 1 male/ 1 female
 - 4 out-of-county (2 Santa Clara; 2 San Francisco)
 - **Ethnicity**: 27 Hispanic-Latino/ 4 Black- African American/ 1 Pacific Islander-Hawaiian/ 1 White/ 4 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 June: 26 bookings - 20 in county, 6 out of county; 28 releases
- Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF): 8 youth
 - 7 male (all post-disposition, felony charges)/ 1 female



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- EMP (electronic monitoring program): 9 youth as of June 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)
 - 8 successful EMP completions
 - **Avg daily # youth** - 12: pre-dispo: 6 male/1 female; post-dispo: 4 males/1 female
 - **Avg length on EMP**: 48 days
 - Ethnicity: 9 Hispanic/Latino

Other Updates:

- **Monthly IRP/MDT Meetings:** Chair Rasmussen reported that the JJDPC has received an email from the Deputy Chiefs of Probation, notifying us that youth, parents, contracted service providers, mental health professionals, educators, advocates, and attorneys would no longer be invited to participate in or attend monthly Individual Rehabilitation Planning (IRP)/ Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings for SYTF youth. Moniy Wade responded that there are ongoing internal conversations on this. Chief Keene commented that they want to review the legislation, discuss this internally and with county counsel to fully define the issue, and will then follow up with us. In the meantime, SYTF youth will participate in two MDT/IRP meetings per year, which is the bare minimum required by WIC. Commissioner Rasmussen noted that most counties are holding IRP/MDT meetings every 1-3 months. Chief Keene stated that the monthly meetings will be limited to probation staff only.

D. FLY (Fresh Lifelines for Youth):

Re-Entry Program for In-Custody Youth (REPS): Tatiana Castenada reported that there are currently 10 youth in the caseload, 1 female and 9 males. This includes all 8 SYTF youth as well as 2 youth with 707(b) charges. Thanks to probation, youth are now receiving a total of 8 hours per month per youth, with 5 hours of sessions each M/W/Th. On top of this Harold is career workshops are provided every Wednesday afternoon for a total of 12 hours of programming per youth per month.



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STAY FLY Program: Maria Delgado Cruz reported on the out-of-custody re-entry Program: 6 youth (5 male and 1 female) enrolled at the start of the fiscal year in July; 12 youth attended a re-entry event this month. Case managers are focusing on career development and school placements currently.

Note: there are 3 youths with 707(b) offences on the **waitlist** for REPS. As these youth are not SYTF, but are on a different unit, FLY are trying to sort out how to best serve these youth. There is also a waitlist for STAY FLY. Also the career workshops provided in Juvenile Hall are for youth in the REPS program only.

Public Comment:

Nancy Goodban commented that she is concerned about the change in the IRP/MDT meetings, since no stakeholders were involved in making this decision and now parents and youth are excluded.

Beth Von Emster commented to amplify these concerns for IRP meetings; the change seems sudden and foolish to exclude stakeholders who know youth personally and could offer insights. She urged caution before taking such a drastic measure.

Becca Kieler commented, representing In Our Care, that she is shocked that probation would exclude people who are critical to rehabilitation and urged Probation to consider making a better decision, even if not mandated by law, to include families and communities who positively impact rehabilitation.

IV. Presentation - Fortitude Careers:

Nicole Davies, founder of the non-profit organization, Fortitude Careers, presented an overview of the program for academically, cognitively and behaviorally challenged youth in San Mateo County to help them find careers in construction. 250 youth have been served since 2022, and 100% of the participants are from underserved communities.

Fortitude Careers provides a free 8 week program for 64 youth annually, consisting of two-fold programming: part life mastery skills building (emotional regulation, relationship building) and part shop training. Participants log 300 academic and shop



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hours and 72% of program participants gain job placement in construction careers after graduating.

Fortitude Career's goal is to increase their program's capacity to 100+ youth annually and find a permanent location for training and mentorship.

A recording of the presentation may be viewed here: [JJDPCC July Meeting Video](#). A copy of the presentation is also attached to these minutes.

- V. A. 2025 Inspection Report for Canyon Oaks Youth Center (COYC)**
On behalf of the Inspection Team, which included Commissioners Blanco, Klemmer and Ling, Commissioner Nori presented the report on the inspection of the COYC facility. After some discussion, the report was presented for a vote of approval by the Commission.

M: Nori, to approve the 2024-25 Inspection Report of COYC.
Passed unanimously, with minor edits.

- B. Education Evaluations**
Commissioner Huber-Levy, who is leading the Education Evaluations this year, reported that she is waiting for confirmation of the dates to visit COYC, Hillcrest and Gateway Schools; this is likely to be in mid-September.

Note: Regarding the lack of court or probation-placed youth at COYC, Chief Keene clarified that although there was a youth on probation at COYC recently, it doesn't happen often. San Mateo County has not utilized STRTP placements for probation youth in several years. The School Districts are placing the vast majority of youth at COYC.

- VI. Commission Updates:**
- a. **JJDPCC Newsletter/Multimedia Project:** Commissioners Klemmer, Venkatesh & Ling reported on project objectives to increase public awareness of JJDPCC work and achievements, provide access to resources for system-involved youth and their families, and to promote a culture of compassion in our community. They discussed the team's progress to date working on a multi-media plan to incorporate email updates, blogs,



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podcasts and social media. The next step is to start working on a podcast. All Commissioners are invited to contribute.

- b. **Education Subcommittee:** Commissioner Blanco reported that they met this month and will report on progress next month.
- c. **Announcements:** Commissioner Blanco noted that SMC AOD is hosting a series of sessions and she will circulate information to the Commission.
- d. **Commission Retreat:** potential dates were circulated for a one day retreat to be held on a Saturday this fall. As of the date of the meeting, we are waiting on three responses.
- e. **Youth Law Center Information on Foster Youth:** Commissioner Blanco noted that the YLC has provided information on the harmful aftermath of a new federal law affecting foster youth and will circulate further information to Commissioners, along with an action plan.

There being no further business on the agenda, acting Chair Huber-Levy adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Minutes Prepared and Submitted: 8/20/25, Karin Huber-Levy, Vice-Chair, Administration