



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE VIRTUAL
REGULAR MEETING



poc.lacounty.gov

Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 12:00 P.M.

AUDIO FILE FOR MEETING BEGINNING AT 12:15 P.M.

Attachments: [Audio](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chairman Franky Carrillo called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending. Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, extended a welcome and conducted the roll call:

Present: Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chairman Franky Carrillo

2. Approval of the April 8, 2021 meeting minutes.

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

On motion of Chairman Carrillo, seconded by Vice Chair Jackson, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the April 8, 2021 minutes as amended:

Ayes: 9 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy,
Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chairman Franky Carrillo

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. REPORTS

3. Report by Brandon Nichols, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, on current issues in the Department as well as an update on the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Committee's subcommittee on the Division of Juvenile Justice transition.

Chief Deputy Probation Officer Nichols provided an update on the Probation Department. The Probation Department has partnered with the Chief Executive Office and other County Departments to address issues with unaccompanied minors at the border, which will span over two years.

Executive staff of the Probation Department traveled to the San Diego County Probation Department to assess the merits of their existing programs, and possibly replicate San Diego's Citizen's Academy to have dialogue and educational experiences between the community and criminal justice agencies.

The State provided a template for the DJJ Transition Plan that focuses on providing optimum services to DJJ youth. The DJJ Subcommittee is continuing its work and will report back to the Board of Supervisors on June 9, 2021.

Public comments about DJJ's youth development and the Probation Department's effective management of people and resources, including funding were made from Nicole Brown, Cassie Massimino, Melinda Kakani, Betty Fang, and Romana Bajas.

Vice Chair Jackson inquired if any risk and capacity assessments have been conducted regarding the Probation Department's involvement in accompanying minors at the border. Chief Deputy Probation Officer Nichols mentioned that specific needs have not been identified, but the Probation Department has volunteered its services and is participating in county-wide work groups to assess how it can meet the specified needs of the unaccompanied minors in a benign way.

Commissioner Meredith requested that the Probation Department provide in custody 10-year, 5-year, and current statistics to show the population reduction in camps and halls over the years. Additional statistics were requested to demonstrate the budgetary and position cuts that occurred in the past year. Commissioner Meredith mentioned that this would help the public have a clearer picture of these reduction rates.

Commissioner Dupuy asked that the Probation Department inform the Probation Oversight Commission about the plans for DJJ transition prior to reporting to the Board of Supervisors on June 9, 2021. Chief Deputy Probation Officer Nichols confirmed that there have been discussions regarding the report and the public should be more engaged in the proposed recommendations. Although there is not a set list of recommendations, he wants to make sure that the public can see the recommendations prior to submission to the Board and hopes to do that at a Probation Oversight Commission meeting. Chairman Carrillo stated that this item will be on the agenda at the May 13, 2021 Probation Oversight Commission meeting.

Commissioner Nong requested a specific breakdown of youth currently detained in the Probation facilities. Chief Deputy Probation Officer Nichols agreed to provide the data pending a specific request in writing.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC accepted Chief Deputy Probation Officer Nichols' report.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. DISCUSSIONS

4. Discussion and take appropriate action on the Strategic Plan for the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) as it pertains to the Probation Reform and Implementation Team's (PRIT) process and recommendations; establishing committees and standing agenda items; and a tentative timeline to report back to the Board of Supervisors on POC's working progress.

- Saúl Sarabia, Chair – Probation Reform & Implementation Team (P.R.I.T.) 2018-2019, UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment

Mr. Sarabia highlighted key issues and a reform plan recommended by the Probation Reform & Implementation Team and emphasized the importance of shaping the culture of the Probation Oversight Commission. Detailed reports that were presented on can be found on the P.R.I.T website: <http://prit.lacounty.gov/What-We-Accomplished>.

- Jose Osuna, Housing Justice Manager, Brilliant Corners, P.R.I.T. Member (4th District Appointee)

Mr. Osuna stressed the importance of community engagement, specifically with community-based organizations, and elaborated on the structure, staffing, and culture of the Probation Oversight Commission.

Executive Director Julien expressed thanks and congruence with the recommendations set forth by the P.R.I.T. and opened the floor for public comment on this item.

Noah Bailey, Evette Crayon, Thomas Bell, and Kent Mendoza addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

Chair Carrillo emphasized that the POC will be utilizing the foundation laid by the P.R.I.T team.

Commissioner Yamashiro stressed the importance of community engagement, including the staffing structure of the POC. He suggested a motion be placed on the table for consideration of a report from the Executive Office on predicted staffing timelines and structure for the Probation Oversight Commission, including the positions approved and the positions awaiting approval. Commissioner Meredith supported Commissioner Yamashiro's suggested motion.

Executive Director Julien reported that the POC is being staffed as envisioned by the P.R.I.T. Currently, there are a total of 19 staff positions approved for the POC, 5 of which were approved in the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget. Two of those five positions are currently filled, with the remaining three in the hiring process. The Executive Office has provided support staff from the Commission Services Division and other departments until the POC is fully staffed. The remaining 14 positions will be recommended for inclusion in the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget

during the final changes and/or supplemental budget process and will be hired over the year, beginning July 1, 2021.

Executive Director Julien clarified that two Project Directors (over Program Evaluation and Data & Research) have been approved in the current budget cycle and she has prioritized the Community Engagement Director and staff in the budget for next year.

Max Huntsman, Inspector General for the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), emphasized that the OIG is also in the process of hiring additional employees to support the POC in handling investigative matters, for which he too has received a partial approval from the CEO. He predicts additional approvals in the new fiscal year.

With this new insight, Commissioner Yamashiro reconsidered his first motion.

On motion of Commissioner Yamashiro, seconded by Secretary Canales, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the request of an Executive Office staffing progress report which will include a timeline regarding the staffing expectations set forth by Executive Director of POC and the Inspector General:

Ayes: 9 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice-Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chairman Franky Carrillo

Commissioner Meredith clarified that reports from the Probation Department would demonstrate significant population reductions in camps and halls as well as budget reductions. Commissioner Meredith agreed that the Probation Department needs a culture change and emphasized that Chief Gonzales is bringing a new vision to the Probation Department.

Commissioner Yamashiro suggested that an ad hoc committee be established to address strategic planning for the POC. The ad hoc committee should synthesize the POC's goals and solicit ideas from commissioners.

On motion of Commissioner Yamashiro, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the creation of a strategic planning ad hoc committee, members of which will be Vice Chair Jackson, Commissioners Garcia-Leys, Nong and Yamashiro with a report back to the POC on May 13, 2021 on their findings and recommendations:

Ayes: 9 – Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores

Canales, Vice-Chair Esché L. Jackson, Chairman
Franky Carrillo

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IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

5. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested), placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the authority, of matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

Chairman Carrillo opened the floor for items to be placed on a future agenda. The commissioners requested the following:

- **Report from the Chief Executive Office on the staffing structure of the Probation Oversight Commission (Progress up until now, and future expectations)**
- **Report on the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Committee’s subcommittee on the Division of Juvenile Justice**
- **Update and briefing on the Humphrey’s Decision and its impact on the Probation Department**
- **Discussion on how the Probation Oversight Commission will move forward in creating an ad hoc committee to obtain data and budget statistics from the Probation Department (Commissioner Dupuy reserved this for the ad hoc committee).**
- **Discuss the possibility of an Inspection committee**
- **Possibility of integrating the goals and values of individual subcommittees into the larger committees.**

Public Comment

6. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the POC.

You may submit public comment by e-mail to info@poc.lacounty.gov.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record.

Raphael Ventura, Kruti Parekh, Gloria Gonzalez, Krista Newble, Mel Bailey, Thomas Bell, and Kent Mendoza addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

7. Adjournment of the regular meeting Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Chairman Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.