



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



poc.lacounty.gov

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022, 9:00 A.M.

VIDEO FILE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING

Attachment: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Franky Carrillo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director conducted the roll call:

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

Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy joined the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Commissioner Samuel Lewis joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

By Common Consent, the order of the remaining agenda items was changed. Agenda item 8 was discussed first followed by agenda items 2, 3, 7, 9, and 10.

2. Approval of the March 10, 2022 and March 14, 2022 meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, and unanimously carried, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the March 10, 2022 and March 14, 2022 meeting minutes:

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

Attachments: [Approved March 10, 2022 Minutes](#)
[Approved March 14, 2022 Minutes](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

3. Election for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission.
 - a. Chair
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- i. Commissioner Franky Carrillo
 - ii. Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro
- b. Vice Chair (The person elected as chair will be removed from this list before voting)
- i. Commissioner Esche Jackson
 - ii. Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro
- c. Secretary
- i. Commissioner Dolores Canales
- Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

Ms. Julien stated that future elections will take place at the POC's annual meeting in January of each year and that commissioners elected to officer positions at this meeting will serve until January 2023. She opened the floor for the nominees for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary share their comments.

Rose Montelongo, Thomas Bell, and Louise Dodson addressed the POC.

Ms. Julien called the roll for Commissioners to cast their votes for the position of Chair. Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Garcia-Leys, Jackson, Lewis, Meredith, and Nong cast their votes for Commissioner Carrillo. Commissioner Yamashiro cast his vote for himself, and Commissioner Dupuy abstained from voting.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC elected Commissioner Carrillo for Chair of the POC.

Commissioner Yamashiro withdrew from the election for Vice Chair. Ms. Julien called the roll for Commissioners to cast their votes for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Dupuy, Garcia-Leys, Jackson, Lewis, Meredith, Nong, and Yamashiro cast their votes for Commissioner Jackson.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC elected Commissioner Jackson for Vice Chair of the POC.

Ms. Julien called the roll for Commissioners to cast their votes for the position of Secretary. Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Dupuy, Garcia-Leys, Jackson, Lewis, Meredith, Nong, and Yamashiro cast their votes for Commissioner Canales.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC elected Commissioner Canales for Secretary of the POC.

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

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC recessed at 11:18 a.m.

Commissioners Samuel Lewis and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson left the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

II. DISCUSSIONS

4. Discuss and take appropriate action on the meeting frequency of the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission.

- Franky Carrillo, Commission Chair, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

Chair Carrillo explained the rationale for returning to a two-meeting per month schedule in order to continue momentum and address the many issues facing the POC.

James Maddox addressed the POC.

Ms. Julien stated that the POC is following the Board of Supervisors' lead in conducting virtual meetings while California is remains in a state of emergency as declared by the Governor. Ms. Danielle Vappie added that the decision to return to in person meetings is dependent upon Assembly Bill (AB) 361.

Commissioner Meredith and Commissioner Yamashiro shared insights on the meeting frequencies and locations of the previous Probation Commission. Commissioner Meredith emphasized the benefit of meeting at the Hall of Administration for Justice Deputies.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys expressed support for one commission meeting per month.

Ms. Julien responded to Commissioner Dupuy's inquiry by mentioning that after the Brown Act is fully reinstated, the POC can continue to hold town hall meetings virtually with less than a quorum of commissioners. Regular and special meetings can be attended virtually by commissioners only if the address of the physical location where they are attending is included with the posted agenda and allows members of the public to attend at that location and provide public comment.

Chair Carrillo proposed a motion seconded by Commissioner Meredith to change the frequency of the regular POC meetings to the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Nong amended the motion to make the meeting duration two and a half hours.

On motion of Chair Carrillo, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, and duly carried by the following vote (Commissioner Samuel Lewis and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the motion to change the frequency of the regular POC meetings to the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. as amended:

Ayes:	5 –	Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Commissioner Secretary Dolores Canales, Chair Franky Carrillo
Abstentions:	2 –	Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys and Commissioner Dominique D. Nong
Absent:	2 –	Commissioner Samuel Lewis and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson

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

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on progress the Los Angeles County Probation Department has made within the last two quarters towards compliance with the DOJ Settlement.
 - Eric Bates, Assistant Inspector General, Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General

Mr. Bates explained that the Department of Justice (DOJ) tasked the Los Angeles County Office of the Inspector General (OIG) with providing oversight to the Probation Department to ensure compliance with the DOJ Settlement. He shared that policy changes within the Probation Department require data systems so that data can be reviewed and analyzed. Mr. Bates mentioned that formal reports of OIG's findings and observations will be generated at a later time and shared. However, he provided updates on reviewing the Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray decontamination policies, assessing Probation's training needs, accurately reporting uses of force, determining sufficient camera coverage and usage at facilities, tracking room confinement and the notification process to superintendents, complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), ensuring access to programming and effective documentation of youth who decline program participation, revising the Probation Department's grievance policy, and researching reasons for the abrupt move of youth from Central Juvenile Hall to Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall.

The OIG observed substantial compliance with the DOJ Settlement and are working closely with the Probation Department to get to full compliance.

Jael Ovalle and Rose Montelongo addressed the POC.

Mr. Bettino shared that the Probation Department has been partnering with OIG to deliver requested information. He added that the use of force policy has been approved by the DOJ monitor, reviewed by Employee Relations, and will be sent to Probation's labor partners for final review. Despite the staff shortages, Mr. Bettino explained that the staff being deployed to juvenile halls are trained in de-escalation.

In response to Chair Carrillo's inquiry, Mr. Bettino stated that there have been minimal delays in relaying information to the OIG but information such as information in the Probation Electronic Medical Record System is withheld.

Commissioner Nong inquired about a timeline in implementing the use of force policy. Mr. Bettino explained the contractual timeline for implementation is thirty days, but ideally the Probation Department would like to train staff on the new policy before officially implementing the use of force policy.

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

6. Discuss and take appropriate action on adult services provided by the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Special Enforcement Operations Unit (SEO) and Assembly Bill 109 services.
 - Karen Fletcher, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - Howard Wong, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Mr. Wong gave a presentation explaining AB 109 and the functions of the SEO.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Mr. Wong responded to Commissioner Dupuy's question by stating that the data broken down by race is reflected in the PowerPoint Presentation. He also mentioned that the resetting of time requires supervisors and director approval, but further research will be conducted to analyze the percentage of violations processed by case managers.

Commissioner Dupuy inquired about how the Probation Department handles cases where searches were conducted without a warrant and nothing was found, and how those individuals are remedied. Mr. Wong explained that individuals under supervision are informed of the requirements under AB 109 and provided a pre-release packet, but conditions while under supervision are not tracked.

Ms. Fletcher added that any law enforcement agency can conduct searches, but the Probation Department likes to conduct their own searches to maintain respect and positive rapport with the clients gained over time.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys urged the POC to look critically at when state violence such as searches, and violations is necessary.

Commissioner Yamashiro asked that the underlying data used to construct the bars and graphs in the PowerPoint Presentation be provided to the POC.

By Common Consent, there being no objection (Commissioner Samuel Lewis and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the POC accepted Mr. Wong's presentation.

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

7. Discuss and take appropriate action on progress the Los Angeles County Probation Department has made towards implementing the *L.A. Model* pursuant to the September 21, 2021 Board of Supervisors' motion regarding reaffirming and expanding the *L.A. Model* and plans to place the youth designated as Secure Track Youth at Campus Kilpatrick and Camp Joseph Scott.

- Los Angeles County Probation Department
- Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

Ms. Julien reiterated Los Angeles County Probation Department Chief Adolfo Gonzales' comment that a plan to move youth is underway based on the results of their multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meetings and adequate staffing at Campus Kilpatrick. She also highlighted that programming is a key element the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council-Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Subcommittee (JJCC-JJRBG) is considering.

Mr. Adam Bettino, Chief Deputy of the Los Angeles County Probation Department, stated that the Probation Department is working with an architect to compose a plan, which must be vetted by the JJCC-JJRBG Subcommittee. He mentioned that infrastructure questions, specifically at Camp Scott, would be discussed at the next Commission meeting.

Diana Velasquez and Jael Ovalle addressed the POC.

Commissioner Meredith emphasized that the youth on the secure track need structure and programming.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys expressed that the Programs and Services Ad Hoc Committee wants to be as helpful as possible in ensuring that educational programs are in place.

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

III. REPORTS

8. Report from the Los Angeles County Probation Department on the move from Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) to Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) and the California Board of State and Community Corrections' (BSCC) findings and corrective actions at both CJH and BJNJH.

- Los Angeles County Probation Department
- Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission Staff

Chief Gonzales stressed that systemic organizational change takes time and should be approached proactively, not reactively. He mentioned that the Probation Department is evaluating ways to enhance their services within the facilities and has started by changing the leadership. Chief Gonzales explained the hiring process, emphasized the need for training new managers on Probation operations and Title 15 regulations. He explained that CJH was temporarily closed on March 10, 2022 and that repairs and renovations at CJH are underway. Chief Gonzales reported that he expects a small number of secure track youth to be moved from BJNJH to Campus Kilpatrick beginning the week of May 1, 2022.

Ms. Fletcher stated that the Probation Department is working diligently to ensure that the facilities are in compliance with the Title 15 regulations in order to be found suitable by the BSCC and to be in compliance with the DOJ Settlement agreement. She expressed that ultimately, the goal is facilities that meet the needs of the youth and families.

Brian Thompson, Mainor Xuncax, Milinda Kakani, Zoe Rawson, Matt Weber, Betty Fang, Thomas Bell, Elida Ledesma addressed the POC.

Wende added that Commissioners and staff have visited BJNJH several times since the closure of CJH for unannounced and announced visits.

Commissioner Canales' inquired about POC Commissioners' involvement in the Probation Department's hiring process. Ms. Fletcher confirmed that POC Commissioners were on the interview panels but were omitted from subsequent hiring steps due to human resources regulations and county policies. She reiterated the vetting process with the CEO, County Counsel, and the Board offices.

Vice Chair Jackson shared her observations when she visited BJNJH to distinguish how the programming and services differed between the boys and the girls. Vice Chair Jackson inquired about how the youth, staff, parents, and county stakeholders were notified about the move of youth from CJH to BJNJH. In response, Chief Gonzales stated that the decision was made quickly, impacting the planning and notification process. He mentioned that different staff were assigned to notify the upcoming shifts that same day and parents were notified after the move was completed for safety reasons. Ms. Fletcher added that some parents were notified while in route and others were notified once the

youth arrived at BJNJH. She explained that the notifications methods included email and telephone. Ms. Fletcher mentioned that the Probation Department had originally planned to begin the gradual movement of youth from CJH to BJNJH on Monday, March 14, 2022. She explained this plan was accelerated due to updates from the BSCC outlined in a letter.

In response to Vice Chair Jackson's inquiry, Chief Gonzales mentioned that a risk assessment and preventative measures would be considered to aid the review and investigative teams when incidents occur. Chief Gonzales stressed the importance of providing safety and security for all, therefore, the Probation Department is dedicated to this reform.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys sought clarification on why youth were moved so abruptly. Chief Gonzales explained Probation sent a letter to the BSCC requesting approval to suspend operations and delay the inspection of CJH. Chief Gonzales stated that the BSCC informed the department of a planned inspection beginning March 14, 2022. Based on an internal audit by the Probation Department, he stated that Probation leadership determined that CJH was out of compliance with at least one Title 15 requirement and made the decision to move the youth prior to the planned inspection. Ms. Fletcher further explained how the inspection process works and the steps Probation has taken in addressing areas of concern such as room confinement and shift changes.

Commissioner Yamashiro shared observations from his visit to CJH and provided his perspective of the consequences of the abrupt move of the youth. He urged the Probation Department to take responsibility and hold itself accountable for the physical, educational, and criminal harm being imposed upon youth and staff.

Commissioner Dupuy raised concerns about the Probation Department centering staff, youth, and families. She inquired about whether the staff or families were considered prior to the new leadership assignments given previous problems. Chief Gonzales reiterated that the moves and promotions were vetted through County Counsel and the Department of Human Resources. To instill confidence in the new leadership team, Chief Gonzales stated that the department can monitor, provide input and feedback, conduct evaluations, and establish a set of expectations. Commissioner Dupuy urged the Probation Department to work with the POC to ensure that the wellbeing of staff and youth are being centered.

Commissioner Nong inquired about the plan for moving youth prior to March 12, 2022. Chief Gonzales stated that the Probation Department was planning a phased approach to move the youth out of CJH by first bringing in new leadership, training staff, performing necessary repairs, and integrating the BSCC's technical assistance to support the staff. Ms. Fletcher added that the corrective action plan was submitted to the BSCC on March 10, 2022, with a notification from BSCC on March 11, 2022, stating that CJH would be inspected if any youth were in the facility. Ms. Fletcher stated that youth would be phased back into CJH as repairs are completed.

Commissioner Meredith shared feedback from his visit too BJNJH regarding the perspectives of youth and staff who share the sentiment that the instability within the facility is causing fear.

Commissioner Canales asked about programming at BJNJH. Ms. Fletcher clarified that there is some programming, but efforts are underway to identify programs and services that would better meet the needs of the youth. She also noted that most of the violent attacks she referenced are youth on youth assaults, but there are also incidents of youth

on staff cases, all of which are reviewed by on-site critical incident review committees, supervisors, and directors.

Mr. Bettino replied to Commissioner Lewis' question by stating that the JJCC-JJRBG Subcommittee is having conversations with partners and advocacy groups to finalize the criteria for the Transitional Multidisciplinary Teams (T-MDTs). Commissioner Lewis expressed the effects that staffing directly has on the youth and their programming based on his observations.

Commissioner Nong proposed a motion to instruct the POC to request all documents including communications to staff, youth, families, LACOE, and any other parties related to the decision to close Central Juvenile Hall and any plans that were developed in preparation for this transition from the Los Angeles County Probation Department.

On motion by Commissioner Nong, seconded by Vice Chair Jackson, unanimously carried, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the POC to request all related documents and correspondence about the preparation and movement of youth from CJH to BJNJH from the Probation Department:

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

Commissioner Nong proposed another motion to instruct the Los Angeles County Probation Department to provide all documents and plans (past, current, and future) to relevant parties including staff, youth, families, and any others related to transitioning young people and staff back to CJH to the POC on a rolling basis prior to any movement taking place.

On motion by Commissioner Nong, seconded by Vice Chair Jackson, unanimously carried, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the POC to instruct the Los Angeles County Probation Department to deliver all plans related to the transition of youth and staff back to CJH on a rolling basis prior to any movement taking place:

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

Agenda item 2 was moved down and discussed after agenda item 8.

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

9. Report from the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission on its progress towards completing the 2022 strategic goals outlined in the 2022 Strategic Operating Plan.

- Overview and Training & Personnel Management – Commissioner Esche Jackson, Los

Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

- Programs & Services – Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission
- Facilities – Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission
- Data & Research – Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

By Common Consent, there being no objection (Commissioner Samuel Lewis and Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson being absent), the POC tabled this item to the next regular meeting.

Attachments: [OC Spray Staff Training Roll Out – March 25, 2022](#)
[Population Statistics – March 30, 2022](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

10. 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.

Future Agenda Items

- Continue discussion on AB 109, SEO, and adult services in the Probation Department
- Continue the discussion around electronic monitoring
- Discuss the Probation Department's taser usage policy for the SEO unit
- Consider having discussions with former Probation Department youth who are now adults in the Sheriff's custody

PUBLIC COMMENT

11. 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. one business day before the scheduled meeting to be included on the agenda. Please include the Agenda Item(s) and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record.

Thomas Bell, Betty Fang, James Maddox, and Louise Dodson addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

V. ADJOURNMENT

12. Adjournment for the regular meeting of April 14, 2022.

Chair Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.