



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



poc.lacounty.gov

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2022, 12:00 P.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 12:00 p.m. Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director conducted the roll call:

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

2. Approval of the June 9, 2022 meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Garcia-Leys, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Samuel Lewis being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) approved the June 9, 2022 meeting minutes:

Ayes: **8 –** Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro, Secretary Dolores Canales, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, and Chair Franky Carrillo

Absent: **1 –** Commissioner Samuel Lewis

Attachments: [Approved June 9, 2022 Minutes](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discuss and take appropriate action on updates from the Los Angeles County Probation Department on any progress on phasing out the use of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray in Los Angeles County juvenile halls.
 - Adam Bettino, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Commissioner Samuel Lewis joined the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Mr. Bettino explained that the Probation Department has determined that they must revisit

the OC Spray phase out plan that was submitted to the Board of Supervisors three years ago in 2019 to distinguish the components that are still relevant from those that have been accomplished or need adjustments. He shared that the Department's Use of Force Policy has been published and will be shared with the POC. Mr. Bettino explained how the department's Early Intervention System works including its ability to track who responds to incidents (for both youth and staff) and how staff respond to those incidents. He mentioned that the Early Intervention System has limited utility right now but is being analyzed for use as a coaching and training tool. Mr. Bettino concluded with a reminder that the department is still struggling with staffing, especially at the institutions, which creates challenges for continued training.

Miguel Lugo, Milinda Kakani, Sherrie Richardson, Krista Newble, Danita Beauchamp, Anonymous Caller, Eric Walton, Jose Osuna, Leah Zeidler-Ordaz, Thomas Bell, Mel Bailey, and Ryondell Bourne addressed the POC.

Chair Carrillo inquired about the adult to youth ratios in the facilities and its impact on OC Spray usage. Mr. Bettino expressed that phasing out OC Spray responsibly requires staff be trained on how to effectively use alternative de-escalation techniques. He emphasized that staff who misuse OC Spray have been terminated with some incurring charges filed against them.

Commissioner Dupuy recommended that the Probation Department look at other organizations and research new effective methods of de-escalation instead of using OC Spray. Mr. Bettino mentioned that there was momentum with the training curriculum before the COVID-19 pandemic and that the DOJ monitor for the department has successfully phased out OC Spray in other jurisdictions and is working with them to phase it out in Los Angeles County as well. Commissioner Dupuy recommended that components of Youth Justice Reimagined be considered for a holistic approach as a method to reduce if not eliminate OC Spray usage within Probation facilities.

Mr. Bettino responded to Commissioner Nong's inquiry by stating that the Early Intervention System can collect specific data such as patterns, locations, and times of day for the incidents and those trends are being explored. Commissioner Nong inquired about who would be involved in the review and the timeline for completion. Mr. Bettino projected that the initial review process will be initiated within the next few weeks, but an expected timeline to completion is yet to be determined.

Commissioner Meredith requested that the Probation Department provide data on the number of assaults on staff and on the youth that have occurred in the facilities.

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, the POC is to request a detailed report from the Probation Department on the total number of assaults (including youth on youth and youth on staff), the type of injury (from minor to serious) that resulted from those assaults, and the Probation Department facility at which the assault occurred between January 2022 and June 10, 2022 with a due date of July 28, 2022.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys amended the motion to also include uses of force by staff, be broken down by week, and include population numbers (in percentages).

Ms. Julien clarified that the POC is already receiving daily population numbers.

Commissioner Nong requested that additional contextual data accompany the numerical

data requests. Mr. Bettino mentioned that numerical data can be obtained quicker, but if contextual data is desired, the Probation Department can obtain that information as well, but the report back will be significantly delayed due to overall capacity of time and staff.

Ms. Julien clarified that the reports that the POC are receiving is specific to OC spray usage. However, she reiterated that the new requested information would include incidents at both camps and juvenile halls that are not caused by using OC Spray.

Commissioner Dupuy asked that any request for additional contextual information not delay the numerical data request as amended.

In response to Commissioner Jackson's inquiry, Mr. Bettino stated that some of the information is being collected already, but other information will be collected once the Early Intervention System is updated and staff are trained to utilize the updated system. He stated that an Early Intervention System policy is being drafted internally, and the Probation Department will seek insight from the POC prior to implementation of the policy.

Commissioner Meredith and Commissioner Jackson accepted the amendments to the motion.

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, and unanimously carried, the POC approved the amended motion to request a report from the Probation Department on the total number of assaults (including youth on youth, youth on staff, and uses of force by staff), the significance and extent of injury for each incident/assault, the population numbers and the Probation Department facility at which the assault occurred between January 1, 2022 and June 10, 2022 broken down by week with a report back on July 28, 2022:

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

Attachments: [OC Spray Deployment Reports – May 23-June 19](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Discuss and take appropriate action on the research, findings, and recommendations about the 56-hour work week schedule in Los Angeles County Probation Department camp facilities.
 - Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission
 - Sarah Gongora, Psy.D., Project Director, Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission

Ms. Julien gave background on this report, explaining that Supervisor Solis and the POC asked staff to complete the study. She introduced and thanked Dr. Gongora.

Dr. Gongora delivered a presentation on an overview of the 56-Hour Work Week Study.

Milinda Kakani, Damon Ayala, Thomas Bell, Danita Beauchamp, Krista Newble, and Mel Bailey addressed the POC.

Commissioner Yamashiro recommended that additional research be conducted to measure efficacy and outcomes of personal relationships between Probation Staff and

youth, treatment modalities and options for youth, and how the 56-Hour Work Week influences rehabilitative outcomes. Dr. Gongora and Ms. Julien emphasized the importance of obtaining more outcome data so that the effectiveness of this work schedule and other policy choices can be measured and considered when making decisions.

In response to Commissioner Dupuy's inquiry, Dr. Gongora stated that youth in detention were not involved in this study. Commissioner Dupuy mentioned that caution should be taken when comparing data from youth at Campus Kilpatrick with youth at other facilities.

Commissioner Meredith emphasized the importance of having formalized briefings, and shared concerns with fatigue and other issues while working 16-hour workdays.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
[56-Hour Work Week Study](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

5. Report on Los Angeles County Probation Department's progress in reaching compliance with the suitability requirements of the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC).
 - Karen Fletcher, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Ms. Fletcher gave a verbal presentation which included updates on issues of compliance and noncompliance with Title 15 including room confinement and safety checks at both Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) and Central Juvenile Hall (CJH). She mentioned that an updated safety check form and a memorandum have been implemented and disseminated to staff. Ms. Fletcher announced that the next BSCC Board meeting is on Monday, July 25, 2022, where BSCC Field Representative Lisa Southwell will deliver a report.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Hearing of discrepancies with video recordings not matching the paperwork, Commissioner Garcia-Leys inquired if there were any instances where a safety check was marked as complete on paper, but was not complete according to video footage. Ms. Fletcher mentioned that she and Ms. Southwell have reviewed these instances and found that most do not involve discrepancies but that all incidents of concern have been investigated or are being investigated.

Commissioner Jackson requested more insight on the internal audits. Ms. Fletcher stated that the BSCC Compliance Coordinators at each Juvenile Hall perform internal audits and review the safety check sheets at each facility for accuracy.

Ms. Julien emphasized that the positive collaborative efforts between the POC, Ms. Southwell of BSCC, and the Probation Department as contributing to the progress of reaching full compliance with Title 15.

Commissioner Dominique Nong left the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

Attachments: [BSCC Correspondence with Response](#)
[CJH 90 Day Improvement Plan – June 8, 2022](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

6. 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.

(Not on agenda)

- Data updates including the data dashboard, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and data requests
- Congratulations were extended to the high school graduates at CJH
- Report on updates regarding electronic monitoring

PUBLIC COMMENT

7. 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 by 5:00 p.m. the same day of the meeting shall become part of the official record.

Mel Bailey, Sherrie Richardson, and Jaki Moreno addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

8. Adjournment for the regular meeting of June 23, 2022.

Chair Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m.