



STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (13-2390)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Eleanor R. Montaño, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio,
Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D.
and Commissioner Donald S. Andrews

Excused: Commissioner Anne S. Hill and Commissioner Susan Burton

Call to Order. (13-2042)

Chairperson Montaño called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Chairperson Montaño led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Commissioner Grills joined the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of the May 8, 2013 Minutes. (13-2288)

On motion of Commissioner Donald Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Barbara Bigby and duly carried, the minutes of May 8, 2013 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Recommendation to approve and adopt the changes/revisions to the inspection form utilized to conduct the inspection of the courts, jails, probation camps and sheriff stations. (13-2299)

Following review, on motion of Commissioner Cheryl Grills, seconded by Commissioner Donald Andrews and unanimously carried, the Commission postponed this item until Commander Asmus has had an opportunity

to review and provide additional comments.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Review and consideration of the Sybil Brand Commission revised Group Home Inspection form. (13-2301)

The Commission reviewed and recommended changes/revisions to the Group Home inspection form that the Commission discussed at their workshop held on May 8, 2013. Staff was directed to revise the form to reflect the recommended changes for the Commission's review and adoption at the next meeting.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

4. Department Representatives Reports for June 19, 2013.

Department of Auditor-Controller
Monthly Report

Department of Children and Family Services
Monthly Report

Internal Services Department
Monthly Report
Maintenance/Repairs at Eastlake Juvenile Courthouse

Department of Mental Health
Monthly Report

Probation Department
Monthly Report

Sheriff's Department
Monthly Report (13-2414)

DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S REPORT

Ms. Michele Day, AC, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report during the month of April as follows:

20 Total phone calls:

- Youth Callers 14
- Adults Callers 6

Total calls related to the following:

- Collaboration Contacts/Referrals/Information
 - 2 Probation Referral
 - 9 DCFS
 - 2 DCFS – CPHL
 - 1 Group Home
 - 6 General Inquiries

14 Total Calls by Youth related to the following:

- Personal Rights
 - 2 Contact
 - 2 Food
 - 1 Health/Med, Dental, Psych Care
 - 1 School/Community/Religious Service
 - Total - 6
- Personal
 - Emotional Issues
 - Physical Abuse/Harm
 - Fear, Threats, Intimidation
 - Total - 3
- Other
 - 3 CSW related
 - 1 Internet Access
 - 1 Placement Concerns
 - Total - 5

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

Patricia Bolanos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported the following during the period of April 17, 2013 to May 14, 2013:

Child abuse hotline referrals received - 17

- 4 Physical Abuse
- 6 General Neglect
- 2 Emotional Abuse

- 2 Children At Risk
- 3 Sexual Abuse

Closed Referrals - 38

- 7 General Neglect
 - 1 Substantiated
 - 1 Inconclusive
 - 2 Evaluated Out
 - 3 Unfounded
- 19 Physical Abuse
 - 9 Inconclusive
 - 8 Unfounded
 - 2 Evaluated Out
- 11 Sexual Abuse
 - 4 Unfounded
 - 5 Evaluated
 - 2 Inconclusive
- 1 At Risk
 - 1 Substantiated

She further reported that there were 682 Absent Without Leave (AWOL) incidents from April 17, 2013 – May 14, 2013.

Ms. Bolanos-Gonzalez further reported that the following five group homes are currently on hold for programmatic issues:

- Boystown (Orange County)
- Washington Hancock Home
- Fred Jefferson Memorial Home
- Childhelp
- Teen's Happy Homes

In response to Commissioner Grills question regarding the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) waiver to Dream Catcher Foundation allowing the Needs and Services Plan to be at the main office, Ms. Bolanos-Gonzalez reported that DPSS Community Care Licensing Division is authorized to issue exemptions to group homes.

INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In response to Vice Chairperson Bacio's question regarding the poor conditions at Eastlake Juvenile Courthouse, Brian Lear, Building Crafts Superintendent, (ISD), informed the Commissioners that although a request was submitted by ISD to conduct repairs at Eastlake it is the Probation

Department's (PD) responsibility to approve the requests and pay for any repairs. Commander Asmus reported that there are plans to remodel the facility in 5+ years.

Mr. Lear will contact ISD Section Head for Eastlake Juvenile Courthouse to obtain more information and report back with his findings.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Kathryn Stroup, LCSW, Mental Health Clinical Supervisor, Residential/TBS Program Administration, informed the Commissioners that she had nothing to report.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Ms. Pamela Pease, Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance, Probation Department (PD), reported on the status of AWOLs for the month of April 2013 as follows:

148 AWOLS

- 117 Youth Involved
- 21 were repeat offenders
 - 49 Remain AWOL
 - 35 Returned to Group Home
 - 24 Juvenile Hall
 - 0 Termed Out
 - 2 Home on Probation
 - 7 Camp

Ms. Pease will forward information regarding gender of the runaways to the Commission. She also reported that there were no group homes on hold for the month of April 2013. The following referrals were reported:

Child Abuse Referrals - 4

- 2 Unfounded
 - 1 Physical Abuse
 - 1 Physical Abuse and General Neglect
- 2 Pending investigation
 - 1 Sexual Abuse and General Neglect
 - 1 General Neglect

Group Home Investigations - 7

- **2 Substantiated**
 - **Home Conducted Like a Boot Camp – A Sybil Brand Commission referral on April 21, 2013.**
 - **Youth neglected in van obtained access to drugs in glove compartment.**
- **3 Unfounded**
 - **Not Sufficient Clothing**
 - **Religious Rights Violated**
 - **Sexual Abuse**
- **2 Outcome Pending Investigations**
 - **Physical Abuse by Staff**
 - **Threatened by Staff**

She also reported, there are 15 monitoring reports posted and 8 reports that are in various stages of approval. There are a total of 23 monitoring reports for the 2011-2012 year. Monitoring assignments are well underway for 2012-2013 year.

Ms. Pease invited the Commission to a scheduled adoption on June 4, 2013, in Department 271-Juvenile Court in Pasadena, California.

She further reported that Children Are Our Future (Terry House) renovations are almost finished which addressed the Corrective Action Response Plan issued by Commissioners Bigby and Hill and reported to PD on May 8, 2013.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Commander Asmus reported that the Hall of Justice remodel should be completed by late 2014 or early 2015. Maintenance for the facility will be handled by the Sheriff's Department. He further stated that the courthouses will begin closing on June 15, 2013 and the designated courthouses should be closed by July 1, 2013. As a result, the turnout gear from the closing courthouses will be redistributed to ensure that there is adequate gear at the courthouses that will remain open. The state-of-the-art facility, George Deukmejian Courthouse (Long Beach), will begin the walk through on July 1, 2013 and will be open by December 2013.

Commander Asmus also reported that presently, he was unaware of any programs other than the STARR Program that was established in Kenyon Juvenile Courthouse. He informed the Commission that the mental health patients in jail have the opportunity to utilize the video arraignment to minimize difficult situations that may occur during transport. In response

to Commissioner Grills question, Commander Asmus had not received any complaints from mental health inmates regarding the color of their clothing which is different from the general population. Commissioner Grills further stated the occurrences at Inglewood Juvenile Courthouse prevented her and Commissioner Burton an opportunity to conduct an adequate inspection. Commander Asmus will have a sergeant contact Inglewood to provide assistance with Commissioners inspection.

Commander Asmus concluded by stating that the State of California is responsible for the repairing and cleaning the courthouses, the Sheriff is responsible for replacing the computers and ISD is responsible for improvement projects.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Chairperson's Report on various items for May 15, 2013. (13-2291)

Chairperson Montaña reminded the Commission of the invitation from the Sheriff's Department to attend the 44th Annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in Whittier, California. Chairperson Montaña, Vice Chairperson Bacio, Commissioners Andrews, Bigby, and Grills plan to attend. She also reminded the Commission that the regularly scheduled meeting on May 29, 2013 has been cancelled.

In addition, Chairperson Montaña shared the following Newspaper Articles with the Commissioners:

- Los Angeles Times:
 - Foster care contractor's woes spread
 - County cuts off foster care agency

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Treasurer's Report for May 15, 2013. (13-2290)

Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund remains at \$1030.96

7. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for March 15, 2013. (13-2292)

The Scholarship application deadline was changed to May 17, 2013 and Vice Chairperson Bacio, Commissioners Andrews and possibly Hill will review the applications on May 22, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

8. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on May 15, 2013. (13-2293)

There were no reports given.

9. Commissioners Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from May 9, 2013 to May 14, 2013. (13-2294)

During the reporting period the following Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- **Chairperson Montaña visited Los Angeles Youth Network – Page 25, #1, on May 13, 2013.**
- **Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited Pico Rivera Sheriff Station on May 14, 2013.**
- **Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited Norwalk Sheriff Station on May 9, 2013.**
- **Commissioners Bigby and Hill visited Penny Lane Page 33, #1, on May 14, 2013.**
- **Commissioners Bigby visited Human Services Network Page 22, #4, on May 10, 2013.**

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

10. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (13-2295)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

11. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (13-2296)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

12. Adjournment for the meeting of May 15, 2013. (13-2298)

There being no further business, Chairperson Montaña adjourned the meeting of May 8, 2013 at 11:59 a.m.