RESERVE DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS MOBILIZED TO ASSIST AT THE JUVENILE HALLS
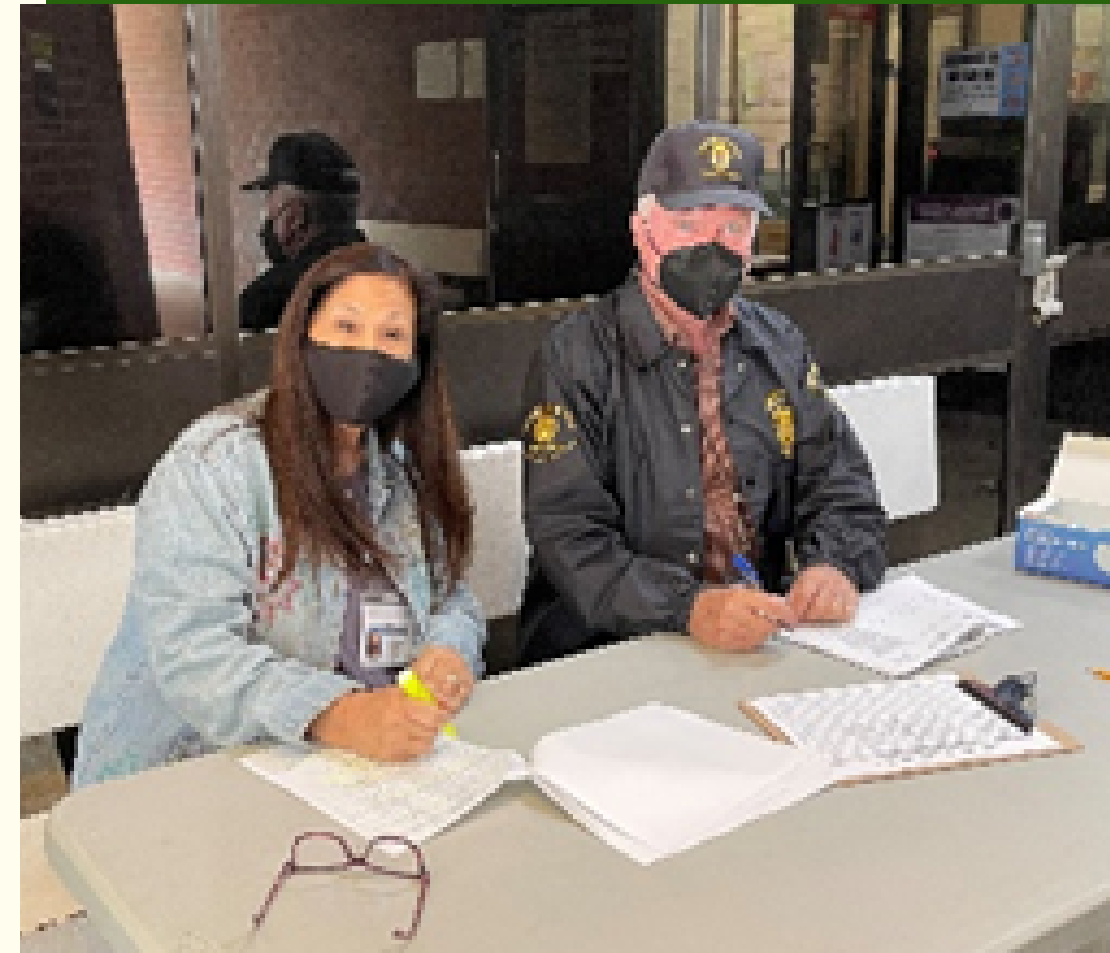
RESERVISTS EXPANDED THEIR ROLE AFTER CENTRAL JUVENILE HALL RE-POPULATED

Deputy Director, Richard Giron and Detention Services Bureau Chief, Valerie Van Kirk contacted Reserve Deputy Probation Officer Coordinator, Steve Gores in late April asking that RDPOs assist with visiting at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall. Reservists immediately answered the call and began assisting Probation staff that weekend. Reservists expanded their role after Central Juvenile Hall was re-populated in May. Both halls have had RDPOs each weekend assisting Probation staff with the clearance of the visitors.

Senior Reserve Deputy Probation Officer Buck Stapleton and Reserve Deputy Probation Officer Kathy Oborn, both former Los Angeles Police Officers and current college professors were among the first to answer the call. Buck said "Kathy and I are both familiar with working with reserves during our tenure with LAPD. In fact, volunteerism in law enforcement began when the Los Angeles police force was founded in 1853 as the Los Angeles Rangers and the first use of volunteers in America started when Benjamin Franklin formed a volunteer firehouse in Philadelphia in 1736 paving the way for the volunteers who served during the Revolutionary war."

Kathy added "We enjoyed the time spent and felt appreciated by the parents and family members who were visiting relatives, many of whom themselves were more than just visitors in the past. With the re-opening of Central this is truly a time when we need all of our reserves to sign up and demonstrate our commitment to the program."

The RDPO program resides within the Professional Accountability Bureau – Staff Training Office. If you would like to discuss the possibility of having one of our RDPOs work with you, please contact Steve Gores at steven.gores@probation.lacounty.gov or 909-469-0745.

Senior Reserve Deputy Buck Stapleton and RDPO Kathy Oborn are stationed to welcome parents to visiting at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall