



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



**ST. ANNE'S CONFERENCE AND EVENT CENTER
155 NORTH OCCIDENTAL BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90026**

poc.lacounty.gov

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

AUDIO/VIDEO FILE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING

Attachment: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Vice Chair Kakani called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Wende Julien, Executive Director conducted the roll call:

Present: Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Diane Terry, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: Chair Esché L. Jackson

2. Approval of the December 14, 2023, meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Commissioner Lewis made a friendly amendment to the statement of proceedings to include that the Credible Messengers also attend the TMDT meetings.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Mundo, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Jackson being absent) the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) agreed to approve the December 14, 2023, regular meeting minutes as amended:

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Diane Terry, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

Attachments: [Approved December 14, 2023 Minutes](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discuss and take appropriate action on elections for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC).
- i. Chair – Commissioner Eduardo Mundo
 - ii. Vice Chair – Commissioner Dolores Canales
 - iii. Secretary – Commissioner Diane Terry

No members of the public commenters addressed the POC.

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Carrillo, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Jackson being absent) the POC elected Commissioner Mundo as Chair:

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Diane Terry, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

On motion of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Mundo, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Jackson being absent) the POC agreed to elect Commissioner Canales as Vice Chair:

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Diane Terry, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

On motion of Commissioner Mundo, seconded by Commissioner Carrillo, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Jackson being absent) the POC agreed to elect Commissioner Terry as Secretary:

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Diane Terry, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

The newly elected POC officers shared thought on their new leadership roles.

Probation’s new executive managers Chief Deputy Kimberly Epps and Chief of Staff Meshal “Kash” Kashifalghita introduced themselves.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
Public Comment/Correspondence

4. Discuss and take appropriate action on progress that has been made with the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Global Plan for facilities. Discussion will include:
 - i. Probation's progress towards reaching compliance for areas of noncompliance with Title 15 and Title 24 according to recent California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) inspections.
 - ii. Updates from Probation's Human Resources Division on current department-wide staffing/personnel information including rates of staff on leave, call outs, and deployment of field staff to address staffing issues.
 - Scott Sanders, Bureau Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - Deanna Carlisle, Human Resources Manager, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Bureau Chief Sanders reported that the Probation Department has addressed and completed nearly all areas of noncompliance at both Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) and Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH).

Commissioners Carrillo and Canales inquired about the status of the community-based organizations (CBOs) getting approved. Bureau Chief Sanders stated that the Probation Department is working with the CBOs to ensure the programs and services they offer align with what youth want, and the approval process is the same for all CBOs.

Bureau Chief Sanders responded to Commissioner Garcia-Leys' inquires about the BSCC's inspections and stated that there is documentation for staffing, reviewed daily by the Probation Department to ensure Probation is within the BSCC staffing guidelines.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys requested an update on the POC's request for staffing documentation to make sure the rooms are being adequately staffed at the facilities. Chief Deputy Epps requested a list of the questions pertaining to staffing documentation so Probation can follow up on them information requests.

In response to Commissioner Lewis' inquiry about the airport scanners, Chief of Staff Kash mentioned that Probation will report back on this topic.

Commissioner Kakani reiterated the POC's request for compliance tracking logs, proofs of practice, and written practices and specifically requested documentation on what the programming, classroom attendance, and location of learning practically looks like.

In response to Commissioner Kakani's inquiry about the launch of the mobile Program Application, Bureau Chief Sanders explained that the programming app is expected to launch in March 2024, and the app tracking youth participation will be piloted in certain units, but Chief Deputy Epps will report back on these.

Commissioner Carrillo inquired about where the mobile app will be housed. Chief Deputy Epps mentioned that staff will receive county-issued tablets with the programs downloaded to the device. Chief Deputy Epps will provide the POC with the policies and additional information related to the mobile applications and tablets.

Human Resources Manager Carlisle highlighted components of the staff leave and callout updates as of January 11, 2024, which is attached to the agenda.

Commissioner Meredith inquired about Probation's retention plan for new hires. Human Resources Manager Carlisle stated that there is a staffing plan being developed which will include additional trainings and implement mentorships. Chief of Staff Kash mentioned that his team is working on recruitment which will include military personnel and Reserved Probation Officers.

Human Resources Manager Carlisle will report back to the POC on the worker's compensation vendors and on exit surveys.

Eight public commenters addressed the POC.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the order of the remaining agenda items was changed to 7, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Attachments: Supporting Document
[10/10/23 Approved CAP for BJNJH](#)
[10/17/23 Approved CAP for LPJH](#)
[November 9, 2023 Leave Update](#)
[January 11, 2024 Leave Update](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on post-secondary education options including the Rising Scholars Network - Juvenile Justice Grants Program (Rising Scholars Network) and Probation's involvement with the Colleges that will be receiving funding from the Rising Scholars Network.
- Javier Rodriguez, Southern California Regional Representative, California Community Colleges – Rising Scholars Network
 - Angeles Zaragoza, Deputy Alternate Public Defender, Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender
 - Jesus Corral, Senior Director of Education Services, Los Angeles County Probation Department

This agenda item was discussed after agenda item 7.

Regional Coordinator Rodriguez gave an overview of the Rising Scholars Network and distributed the handout on AB 417, which is attached to the agenda.

Ms. Zaragoza explained that eight community colleges are being funded through the Rising Scholars Program to provide education at juvenile facilities. She introduced a new step-down program called the Court to College Program and will report back to the POC on its progress.

Senior Director Corral highlighted that the Rising Scholars Network is an expansion of the existing Post-Secondary Education Program, enhancing the program by providing more options for in-person and hybrid educational options and more college options.

Commissioner Meredith inquired about there being appropriate classroom space for educational instruction. Senior Director Corral confirmed that the Probation Education Services unit has worked with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to identify designated instructional space at each facility.

Commissioners Carrillo and Kakani inquired about the educational supervision and oversight of the Probation Education Services unit and LACOE's Dual Enrollment program. Senior Director Corral mentioned that the Probation Education Services unit oversees the high school graduates, and LACOE oversees the Dual Enrollment students.

Tapau Osbourne, Senior Program Specialist for LACOE, distinguished the curriculum requirements for students taking Dual Enrollment courses from the high school graduation requirements needed for students and challenges with having high school graduates in the same classroom.

Commissioner Kakani requested a report back from the Probation Department Education Services unit on the start dates, coursework, and modality of the courses (hybrid, in-person, or virtual).

Nine public commenters addressed the POC.

Attachments: [AB 417 – Rising Scholars Network Request for Applications 2023-2028](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

6. Discuss and take appropriate action on updates from the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Los Angeles County Probation Department on reviewing backlogs for use of force incidents and the process for holding alleged individuals accountable.
 - Eric Bates, Assistant Inspector General, Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General
 - Jennifer Donnell, Bureau Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Mr. Bates expressed satisfaction on progress with clearing the use of force backlogs and improvements in the review process, especially as Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH), but that OIG continues to review the progress.

Bureau Chief Donnell provided an update on the backlogs and use of force reviews which included numerical data. She reported that 345 cases were over 12 months old when reviewed, and that of those, approximately 11 went to Internal Affairs to determine if there were policy violations. Of the entire backlog, 35 use of force incidents were referred to Internal Affairs for review (which equates to about 2-3% of all cases). She reported that no cases have been dismissed due to the 1-year Peace Officer's Bill of Rights (POBR) statute.

The written update that Commissioner Meredith requested from the Probation Department has been provided to the POC and attached to the agenda and statement of proceedings.

One public commenter addressed to the POC.

Agenda item 8 was discussed next.

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

7. Discuss and take appropriate action on the investigation into the in-custody death of Bryan Diaz and Probation's death/injury notification protocol.
 - Guillermo Viera Rosa, Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department

This item was discussed after agenda item 4.

Chief Deputy Epps shared that a copy of the death notification policy will be provided, but the Probation Department cannot respond to any pending litigation or personnel matters.

Commissioner Meredith inquired about the investigatory agencies involved, the status of their investigation, who Probation's liaison is for the investigation, how families are notified. Chief Deputy Epps will gather the non-confidential information and report back to the POC.

Twelve public commenters addressed the POC.

By Common Consent, there being no objections, the POC recessed for ten minutes.

Attachments: Supporting Document
Public Comment/Correspondence

8. Discuss and take appropriate action on how the subpoena process is used to request information.
 - Eric Bates, Assistant Inspector General, Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General

In response to the POC's unfulfilled requests for information, Assistant Inspector General Bates explained the steps of the subpoena process as well as the roles of the court, OIG, County Counsel, Probation, and the POC.

Ms. Julien clarified that the POC ordinance states that the POC can direct OIG to issue subpoenas on the Commission's behalf. County Counsel emphasized that subpoenas can be issued once all items being requested are outlined in a motion and voted on the POC.

One public commenter addressed the POC.

Attachments: Supporting Document
Public Comment/Correspondence

III. REPORTS

9. Discuss and take possible action on a report from the Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission regarding Inspections and Substance Use/Abuse Prevention.
 - Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Mundo, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Jackson, Lewis, and Terry being absent) the POC agreed to support the attached motion:

Ayes: 6 – Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Secretary Sean Garcia-Leys, and Vice Chair Milinda Kakani

Absent: 3 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, and Commissioner Diane Terry

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[2023 Annual Facility Inspection Report](#)
[POC Motion](#)
[OC Spray Deployment Reports](#)
[Population Statistics](#)
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.

(Not on agenda)

The Commissioners requested that the following items be agendized at a future meeting:

- A discussion of subpoenas, outstanding items, and the possibility of issuing a subpoena at the next meeting.
- A response from the Probation Department to clarify the visitation policy and rectify that a family member was turned away from scheduled visitation due to the dog barking.
- A discussion on the issue of compensatory education.
- An explanation of Death Notification Policies for both staff and youth.

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

One public commenter addressed the POC.

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

V. ADJOURNMENT

12. Adjournment for the regular meeting of January 11, 2023.

On motion by Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Mundo, unanimously carried (Commissioners Jackson, Lewis, and Terry being absent), the POC adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.