



**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, APRIL 25, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

AUDIO/VIDEO FILE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING

Attachment: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Mundo called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Wende Julien, Executive Director conducted the roll call:

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

Absent: Commissioner Milinda Kakani and Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

2. Approval of the March 14, 2024 meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Garcia-Leys, Jackson, and Kakani being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) agreed to approve the March 14, 2024, regular meeting minutes:

Ayes: 6 – Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Secretary Diane Terry, Vice Chair Dolores Canales, and Chair Eduardo Mundo

Absent: 3 – Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, and Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

Attachments: [Approved March 14, 2024 Minutes](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discuss and take appropriate action on an update from the Probation Oversight Commission's Ad Hoc Committee on Probation's policies, practices and data related to charging youth in the juvenile facilities with new crimes based on incidents that occur within the facilities.
 - Eduardo Mundo, Chair, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
 - Felicia Cotton, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - Valerie Van Kirk, Bureau Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Chair Mundo provided background on the creation of the POC's ad hoc committee.

Bureau Chief Van Kirk and Deputy Director Cotton reported on the number of filings, types of charges, and employees' training for Barry J. Nidorf Secure Youth Treatment Facility (BJN SYTF) and Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH).

Commissioner Meredith inquired about the existence of a written policy and follow-up steps once drugs and contraband are found. Deputy Director Cotton confirmed that there is not a written policy at this time, and Bureau Chief Van Kirk mentioned that the Probation Department will follow-up and report back to the POC on what happened once the drugs and contraband was found.

Commissioner Gracia-Leys joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Lewis inquired about the procurement and installation of airport-style scanners at the front entrances of the juvenile hall facilities. Deputy Director Cotton stated that the Probation Department will follow-up on this request and report back to the POC.

In response to Commissioner Terry's inquiry about FIRST Teams, Deputy Director Cotton explained the role of the FIRST teams and stated that the FIRST Teams do not play a role in the new charges process.

Commissioner Terry inquired about youth's history being considered in new filing decisions. Bureau Chief Van Kirk mentioned that the new policy will include verbiage about considering the youth's history among other factors.

In response to Commissioner Carrillo's inquiry about steps Probation have taken to prevent pack outs or fights possibly resulting in additional charges, Deputy Director Cotton mentioned that the Department strives to be deploy experts for intervention when escalated or impulsive behaviors are observed.

Chair Mundo inquired about different strategies the Probation Department has created for youth who are 16 and 17 years old. Deputy Director Cotton mentioned that Probation will continue to conduct surveys, interviews, and offer programming for the youth, but will report back to the POC on this inquiry.

Seven public commenters addressed the POC.

Commissioner Lewis inquired about what happens when a peace officer is accused of unlawful behavior and sexual misconduct.

Commissioner Meredith requested a follow-up on a pending information regarding the contraband that is being found, the status of the person who had the contraband (vendor, parent, staff, youth, etc.), and if there was an arrest made. Deputy Director Cotton mentioned that the Probation Department will look into this request and report back to the POC.

Assistant Inspector General Eric Bates from the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General (OIG) explained that the Probation Department also has the option to make a presentation to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (DA), who then decides if criminal charges will be filed against an employee alleged to have brought in contraband.

Attachments: [Probation's Charges Report](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

4. Discuss and take appropriate action, which may include a motion, directing staff to work with OIG to issue a subpoena on behalf of the POC requesting information regarding the POC's prior requests for redacted CC09 reports to support the POC's research and recommendations on reforms to the intake process.

Chair Mundo explained that the information in the redacted intake reports helped the POC with research, and the POC would like the Probation Department to create a concurrence report that can be disseminated to the POC for further research.

Chair Mundo proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to accept option 2 of the attached motion.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys shared his sentiments about the OIG providing the report back to the POC opposed to having the Probation Department provide this information. Assistant Inspector General Bates added that the OIG can review Probation's report back to confirm its accuracy as requested.

Ms. Julien clarified the role of the OIG and County Counsel when requesting information from the Probation Department.

Commissioner Terry recommended that racial and age numerical breakdowns be included in the report. Chair Mundo mentioned that the POC receives the racial and age data already but would request data on what happens upon release and how they were released.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Mundo, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Jackson and Kakani being absent), the POC agreed to Option 2 of the attached motion:

Ayes: 7 – Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Samuel Lewis, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Secretary Diane Terry, Vice Chair Dolores Canales, and Chair Eduardo Mundo

Absent: 2 – Commissioner Milinda Kakani, and Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

Attachments: [POC Motion](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on a report from the Los Angeles County Probation Department on training provided to staff deployed from the field into the juvenile institutions.
- Felicia Cotton, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - Valerie Van Kirk, Bureau Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Deputy Director Cotton summarized the attached training and staffing curriculum.

In response to Commissioner Terry’s inquiry about the Developmental Stage System and internal best training practices, Bureau Chief Van Kirk mentioned that training curriculum was approved by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Probation Department is using a Train-the-Trainer Model internally. Deputy Director Cotton added that the employees from the field and the facilities share their expertise with one another.

Five public commenters addressed the POC.

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

Attachments: [Deployment \(Field Staff\) Training Curriculum](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

III. REPORT

6. Report from the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission Executive Director. Topics for presentation include the 2024 Facilities Inspections and the POC’s quarterly report.
- Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Executive Director Wende Julien shared her appreciation to the Commissioners and Staff for their dedication and diligence to the facility inspections. She reported that the 2024 inspection cycle has begun, and the POC saw several improvements since last year at Dorothy Kirby Center, and that the report will be shared soon. Ms. Julien mentioned that the POC’s inspections now include a component focused on programs and services.

Although the data collection process has been challenging, Ms. Julien emphasized the importance of data to help push the Probation Department forward into using data to make informed decisions and encouraging transparency with understanding the overall picture of the youth and the juvenile system they are a part of.

Ms. Julien shared her experiences from the past week in recognition of National Crime Prevention Week including her visit to the Central California Women’s Facility in Chowchilla, CA and attendance to a justice informed collaborative event with USC and Healing Dialogues in Action.

Ms. Julien shared highlights from the attached POC 90-Day report.

Commissioner Garcia-Leys shared his sentiments about victims of crime and the importance of rehabilitation to prevent repeated victimization.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Attachments: [POC’s 90-Day Report](#)
[Population Statistics](#)
[OC Spray Elimination Progress Report](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

7. 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 following topics were proposed to be agendized at a future POC meeting:

- Create ad hoc committees
- Focus on having written policies and procedures from the Los Angeles County Probation Department
- General look at the reassignment of staff from adult and field services to juvenile facilities and the effects of reassignments. (request a representative from Probation Officers' Union as a panelists).

PUBLIC COMMENT

8. 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.

Seven public commenters addressed the POC.

Commissioner Lewis shared his sentiments about future collaborative community events and resource fairs.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

V. ADJOURNMENT

9. Adjournment for the regular meeting of April 25, 2024.

On motion by Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, unanimously carried (Commissioners Jackson and Kakani being absent), the POC adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.