



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



**EARVIN “MAGIC” JOHNSON RECREATION AREA  
905 EAST EL SEGUNDO BOULEVARD  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90059**

[poc.lacounty.gov](http://poc.lacounty.gov)

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 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 9:05 a.m. Commissioner Harris and Commissioner Shipp introduced themselves, and Executive Director Wende Julien conducted the roll call:**

Present:            Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Eduardo Mundo

Absent:            Vice Chair Dolores Canales

2. Approval of the October 10, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

**Commissioner Mundo amended page 3, paragraph 3 of the minutes to read “...inquiry about the **duration** each youth has been waiting,…” instead of **during**.**

**No members of the public commented on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Meredith, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Canales being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) agreed to approve the October 10, 2024, regular meeting minutes as amended:**

<b>Ayes:</b>	<b>6 –</b>	Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Eduardo Mundo
<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>2 –</b>	Commissioner Brooke Harris and Commissioner Tyrique Shipp
<b>Absent:</b>	<b>1 –</b>	Vice Chair Dolores Canales

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Attachments: [Approved October 10, 2024 Minutes](#)  
Public Comment/Correspondence

## II. DISCUSSIONS

3. Discuss and take possible action on an update on progress the Los Angeles County Probation Department has made towards reaching compliance with Title 15 and Title 24 according to the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH) and Barry J. Nidorf-Secure Youth Treatment Facility (BJN-SYTF). Discussion will include:
  - i. Presentation from the Chief of Probation
  - ii. Report from Probation's Human Resource (HR) Division on current department-wide staffing/personnel information including rates of staff on leave, call outs, deployment of field staff, and new hires to address staffing issues specifically at LPJH and BJN-SYTF.
  - Guillermo Viera-Rosa, Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department
  - Kimberly Epps, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department
  - Deanna Carlisle, Human Resources Manager, Los Angeles County Probation Department

**In Chief Viera-Rosa's absence, Chief Deputy Epps reported that Probation's efforts towards reaching compliance included the development of a facility population reduction plan, increasing youth referrals to the Community Detention Program (CDP) for electronic monitoring, ceasing cite and release intakes from law enforcement agencies, utilizing a new intake criterion, continuously recruiting new personnel, the development of a new staffing plan, and conducting staffing analyses.**

**According to Chief Deputy Epps, the current population was 265 youth as of 4:27 a.m. today.**

**HR Manager Carlisle highlighted data from the attached document.**

**In response to Commissioner Meredith's inquiry about the different types of absences, HR Manager Carlisle mentioned that the leave/absence type is self-reported by staff depending on their leave balances and does not correspond to the actual reason the employee is out on leave.**

**Commissioner Meredith inquired about why there are staff listed at Central Juvenile Hall, the number of callouts and deployed staff, and the ideal population for supervision. HR Manager Carlisle confirmed that Central Juvenile Hall is being used for medical and storage, and staff are still assigned there. Probation Director Tricia Quesada shared that there are currently 183 staff in 60-day rotations and 160 of them are actively deployed.**

**In response to Commissioner Harris' inquiries about the callouts, leaves, and staff types, HR Manager Carlisle distinguished the callout data from the leave data and differentiated the assigned staff from the deployed staff.**

**Probation Director Quesada reported that there were 183 staff deployed to LPJH, with considerations of more deployed staff being added each week as they complete their training and about twenty deployed staff who have gone out on leave.**

**Commissioner Harris inquired about the ideal population for staffing and supervision. Chief Deputy Epps stated that there is no ideal population for staffing levels, but a**

population of 250 youth is the baseline target at LPJH to increase flexibility that will allow programming and efficient supervision and maintain the PREAS required ratio of one staff for every eight youth in custody.

Commissioner Kakani inquired about the population reduction plan and the desire to get back into compliance. Chief Deputy Epps mentioned that an updated “Detention Reduction Programming” report back will be sent to the POC and will be used as an ongoing process.

In response to Commissioner Kakani’s inquiry about the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for LPJH, Chief Deputy Epps mentioned that the CAP is due to the BSCC by December 22, 2024 with the intention of Probation submitting it in advance of the due date, and notifying the POC once it has been submitted.

Commissioner Shipp inquired about how the Probation Department is reducing the population and whether reductions in the population at LPJH are a result of moving youth to different locations or releasing youth on CDP and plans to correct the issues in the CAP. Chief Deputy Epps explained several ways to reduce the population at LPJH including addressing the staffing challenges, coming into compliance with BSCC standards, and retraining CDP officers.

In response to Commissioner Shipp’s inquiry about having access to the CAP that was denied by the BSCC, Chief Deputy Epps stated that she will check to see if the Probation Department can share the CAP that was denied, and if so, she will provide it to the POC.

Commissioner Terry inquired about Probation’s staff retention plans, and how staff concerns around safety and other issues are being addressed internally with current staff. Chief Deputy Epps shared that the Probation Department is rolling out proactive supervision with a consultant, and developing a staff retention plan with staff morale that can be provided to the POC once completed.

Twenty public commenters addressed the POC.

Commissioner Prater inquired about lessons learned as a result of the staff turnover data and new findings of noncompliance. Chief Deputy Epps explained that a new plan is being developed.

Commissioner Meredith inquired about the number of sworn staff vacancies and how the Probation Department and the County are addressing Sedgwick’s delays. HR Manager Carlisle stated that she can calculate and report back on the number of sworn staff vacancies and emphasized that Probation’s HR team have weekly meetings with Sedgwick to directly assist with reducing processing delays to address any outstanding items.

Chief Deputy Epps responded to two inquiries raised by the public.

Commissioner Jackson questioned how the Probation Department is preparing for being considered unsuitable and questioned the Chief’s decision not to attend the POC meeting.

**Attachments:**

Supporting Documents

[10/11/24 BSCC's Denial of Corrective Action Plan](#)

[10/14/24 BSCC's Notice of Facility Unsuitability](#)

[Probation's HRD Update](#)

[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

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

**By Common Consent, the order of the remaining agenda items was changed. Agenda item 5 was discussed next, followed by agenda items 6, 7, 4, 8, 9, and 10.**

4. Discuss and take possible action on a report from the Los Angeles County Probation Department on use of force incidents at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, a statistical overview of use of force incidents (backlog and current), and an explanation of how use of force cases are processed.

- Kimberly Epps, Chief Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department

**Agenda item 4 was moved down and discussed after agenda item 7.**

**Chief Deputy Epps explained the various tracking elements of the use of force incidents, including the Data Integrity Bureau, Information Services Bureau, and the Disbanded First Team, and requested that this agenda item be discussed at the December 12<sup>th</sup> POC meeting to ensure reports are accurate.**

**Commissioner Jackson inquired about updates on the rollout of the crisis development teams. Chief Deputy Epps mentioned that the teams were restructured to include credible messengers and mental health specialists, but the makeup of the teams will be changed overall.**

**Chief Deputy Epps will report back to the POC on Probation's progress on potential contracts and discussions related to the revamping of the crisis development teams.**

**Commissioner Jackson shared additional inquiries for the Probation Department to include in their December 2024 use of force report back including an understanding of how the SID teams work, identifying any fluctuations in use of force trends, and the impact of intervention.**

**Commissioner Terry inquired about the members of the crisis intervention teams.**

**Commissioner Meredith proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kakani, to table further discussion on Probation's uses of force cases to the December 12, 2024 POC meeting.**

**No members of the public commented on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Kakani, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Canales being absent), the POC agreed to discuss Probation's uses of force cases at the December 12, 2024 POC meeting:**

**Ayes:**            8 –    Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Eduardo Mundo

**Absent:**           1 –    Vice Chair Dolores Canales

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

**Agenda item 8 was discussed after agenda item 4.**

5. Discuss and take possible action on a presentation from the Department of Youth Development (DYD) on their progress with diversion, safe healing centers, and programming in the facilities.
  - David Carroll, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development

**Director Carroll and DYD's Coordination & Innovation Branch Director Taylor Schooley shared the attached presentation. DYD's Diversion Program Manager Terry Robinson, Youth Development Branch Director Jai Phillips, and Re-entry Program Director Sahelit Bahiru were present to respond to questions.**

**Commissioner Jackson inquired about DYD's outreach strategies and emphasized the need to be intentional and aggressive to attract youth who are not volunteering to participate. Director Carroll stated that DYD has reached out to a variety of organizations to encourage youth participation.**

**Branch Director Schooley added that DYD is launching county-wide communications in 2025 to revamp outreach materials, and ways to communicate with youth and their families. Program Director Bahiru added that mentors with lived experience will be paired with youth to help them navigate re-entry services, and DYD is providing monetary incentives annually per youth for participating in the program.**

**Commissioner Kakani inquired about the number of diversion referrals. Director Carroll highlighted that DYD receives about 50 referrals per month, with an increase in referrals from law enforcement agencies opposed to the District Attorney. Chair Mundo stated that there are about 58 law enforcement agencies in Los Angeles County.**

**In response to Commissioner Kakani's inquiry about DYD working with the Probation Department to offer diversion to youth on CDP, Director Carroll mentioned that the pilot program has ended, and DYD did not receive any referrals from that pilot program.**

**Commissioner Kakani and Chair Mundo inquired about when DYD connects with youth to begin the youth's re-entry diversion services. Director Carroll clarified that diversion is prompted by the Probation Department and offered by DYD based on the youth's relationship with the Credible Messenger.**

**In response to Commissioner Kakani's inquiry about the timeline of safe healing centers, Director Carroll mentioned that DYD's goal is to launch at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. He added that there have been significant delays with licensing and insurance for facilities to care for youth under the age of 18.**

**Chief Deputy Epps provided an overview of the Family First Prevention Services Act, which changes how youth are placed out of the home and required that all preventive and intervention services are placed at the forefront. She added that in field services, Probation has a broad range of services that youth have access to including the ability to refer youth to diversion programs**

**Commissioner Shipp inquired about how DYD staff provide individualized approaches for youth who participate in re-entry programs. Branch Director Phillips reiterated that each youth participant gets an individualized program, where DYD tries to connect them to resources that are of interest to them.**

Program Director Bahiru explained that the caseload for DYD is one mentor to each ten youth to ensure that each youth receives individualized attention based on a needs assessment.

Commissioner Harris shared her sentiments about CDP and how it is still a carceral tool that should be short-term, whereas DYD's services should be continuous and long-term.

Commissioner Prater inquired about the degree to which the 95% of youth enrolled in diversion are in specific interventions (such as gangs, etc.). Program Manager Terry Robinson mentioned that diversion providers are all regional and provide individualized care plans to youth based on their identified needs. Program Manager Robinson also discussed limitations of diversion.

Seven public commenters addressed the POC.

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

6. Discuss and take possible action on the creation of an ad hoc committee on Education. This ad hoc committee will address issues with the launch of the Rising Scholars Network - Juvenile Justice Grants Program (Rising Scholars Network), the needs of students requiring Special Education, and school attendance reports.

Executive Director Julien gave background information about the goals of the ad hoc committee on education.

Chair Mundo shared highlights from his meeting with the Rising Scholars Network two weeks ago and presented the attached slides.

Commissioner Prater proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Harris, to create an ad hoc committee on Education.

Commissioner Prater shared his sentiments about education being a key tool to children's success and volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee.

Commissioner Harris expressed her interest in this ad hoc committee and recommended that Mr. Michael Massa from the California Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) also contribute as allowed to the ad hoc.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Prater, seconded by Commissioner Harris, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Canales and Jackson being absent), the POC agreed to create the ad hoc committee on Education:

<b>Ayes:</b>	<b>7 –</b>	Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Eduardo Mundo
<b>Absent:</b>	<b>2 –</b>	Commissioner Esché L. Jackson and Vice Chair Dolores Canales

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

7. Discuss and take action on reports from the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight staff on the following topics:
    - i. Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall Inspection – Motion to approve LPJH Inspection Report
    - ii. Ad Hoc Committee on Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) – Motion to approve CBO Report
    - iii. Motion to officially request monthly “snapshot” data
    - iv. Report on Launch of the School Resource Deputy (SRDs) Complaint Process
- Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
  - Dr. Sarah Gongora, Psy.D., Project Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

**Executive Director Julien reported that the Board unanimously voted to change the POC ordinance to authorize the POC to receive, refer, and track complaints about SRDs to the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department (LASD) for investigation by the LASD.**

**She reported that the POC will be hosting a virtual town hall meeting on December 4, 2024 to discuss the findings and recommendations from the LPJH Inspection Report in further detail.**

**Commissioner Terry emphasized that the Probation Department has agreed to accept the recommendations outlined in the CBO report and will provide a written update to the POC on their progress towards these recommendations on November 15, 2024.**

**Executive Director Julien provided background information including when the Probation Department complied with three data requests for “snapshot” data and how this data will support the POC’s Data Dashboard. However, she highlighted that this is a formal request so the POC can receive the “snapshot” data monthly.**

**In response to Commissioner Prater’s inquiry about requesting other pertinent data, Executive Director Julien explained that additional data can be requested, but the data categories on the list are what Probation has previously provided to the POC.**

**Commissioner Kakani proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Prater, to approve the LPJH Inspection Report, the CBO Report, and the amended motion requesting a monthly data “snapshot” from the Probation Department.**

**Commissioner Kakani made a friendly amendment to the attached motion to request each young person’s LADS screening scores, DRAE screening results, and whether the student has been deemed developmentally disabled.**

**Commissioner Harris made a friendly amendment to the attached motion to request Probation to disclose whether each young person has a pending “motion for transfer” to adult court, Probation’s recommendations to the court, and the racial/demographic information.**

**One public commenter addressed the POC.**

**On motion of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Prater, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Canales being absent), the POC agreed to approve the LPJH Inspection Report, the CBO Report, and the amended motion requesting a monthly data “snapshot” from the Probation Department:**

**Ayes:** 8 – Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Eduardo Mundo

**Absent:** 1 – Vice Chair Dolores Canales

**Attachments:** [LPJH Inspection Report](#)  
[LPJH Summary Report](#)  
[CBO Report](#)  
[CBO Summary Report](#)  
[POC Motion on Monthly Intake Data](#)  
[Probation's Financial Literacy Report](#)  
Public Comment/Correspondence

**Agenda item 4 was discussed after agenda item 7.**

### **III. MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **MATTERS NOT POSTED**

8. 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.

**Agenda item 8 was moved down and discussed after agenda item 4.**

*(Not on agenda)*

**Commissioner Meredith congratulated the new officers who graduated from the Probation Academy today and highlighted the effectiveness of Probation's Reserved Deputy Probation Officer Program.**

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

- **A report back from the Los Angeles County Probation Department on the number of young people who have received new charges (under 18 years old and over 18 years old), and the number of young people who are being transferred based under WIC 208.5 at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, and quarterly thereafter.**
- **Clarity around Probation's grievance process and procedures including SIRS, write-ups, outcomes, and related data.**
- **Approval of the POC's 2025 calendar of regularly scheduled meetings.**
- **Accept nominations for the 2025 POC positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.**

**Attachments:** [Drafted 2025 POC Meeting Schedule](#)



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

9. 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](mailto: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.

**Three public commenters addressed the POC.**

**Attachments:** [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

10. Adjournment for the regular meeting of November 14, 2024.

**On motion by Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, unanimously carried (Commissioner Canales being absent), the POC adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.**