



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



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

poc.lacounty.gov

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026, 9:00 A.M.

AUDIO/VIDEO FILE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING

Attachment: [Video](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Canales called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m.

Executive Director Wendelyn Julien conducted the roll call:

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

Absent: Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

Attachments: [Overview of the POC's Role](#)

2. Approval of the January 8, 2026 regular meeting minutes and January 29, 2026 special meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Harris, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Meredith being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) agreed to approve the January 8, 2026 regular meeting minutes and January 29, 2026 special meeting minutes as presented:

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

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

Attachments: [Approved January 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
[Approved January 29, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

Agenda item 7 was discussed next, followed by agenda items 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9.

II. DISCUSSIONS

- 3. Probation Oversight Commission Reports** – Discuss and take possible action up to and including issuing a subpoena on the following items as reported by the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission:
- **The POC reports will include:**
 - i. Leadership Retreat Takeaways – February 2026
 - 1. 2026 Priorities (vote to approve)
 - 2. POC’s Core Values (vote to approve)
 - ii. Budget Ad Hoc Committee – Updates and formal request for information (vote to approve)
 - iii. Executive Director’s Report
 - 1. Outstanding requests for information (vote to approve up to and including a vote to subpoena information that has not been provided)
 - 2. Population Statistics Update
 - 3. Depopulation Plan Evaluation – Intake and Detention Analysis
 - **Panelists will include:**
 - i. Dolores Canales, Chair, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
 - ii. Brooke Harris, Commissioner, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
 - iii. Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

This agenda item was discussed after agenda item 7.

Chair Canales highlighted the updated core values and 2026 POC priorities in the attached document.

Executive Director Julien shared Commissioner Meredith’s comments in his absence, stating that there should be a focus on the adult as well as the juvenile side.

Commissioner Prater recommended that depopulation and facility closure considerations be added and the need to identify affirming and uplifting alternatives as part of those decarceration efforts move forward.

Commissioner Terry noted that the final priority emphasized long-term strategic planning around re-imagining youth justice.

Chair Canales proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve the POC’s revised core values and 2026 strategic priorities as presented.

Commissioner Harris referenced outstanding information from the September 15, 2025 POC meeting that has not yet been received about the utilization of consultants to supplement the work of the commission.

Executive Director Julien clarified that although intervention occurred through the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General (OIG), the POC has yet to receive the requested information.

Commissioner Harris proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to utilize the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General (OIG) to subpoena the missing [information requested at the September 15, 2025 POC meeting](#).

Commissioner Harris explained that the POC's Budget ad hoc committee would like to concentrate and narrow their review of the consultant contracts, to agreements that are identified in the attached budget document.

Commissioner Harris proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kakani, to accept the attached motion submitted by the POC's Budget ad hoc committee as presented.

Commissioner Jackson made a friendly amendment to require the Probation Department to respond to the POC within 30 days after which the POC would consider using subpoena power, which was accepted by both Commissioners Harris and Kakani.

Executive Director Julien encouraged everyone to read the attached POC's Comms Impact Report and the Depopulation Plan Evaluation – Intake and Detention Analysis, which she recommended be agendaized for discussion at a future meeting. She also reported information and data requests that have been received, attached to the agenda (including the juvenile violations data), and outstanding requests.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion by Chair Canales, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, unanimously carried, (Commissioner Meredith being absent), the POC agreed to approve the core values and 2026 strategic priorities as presented:

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

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

On motion by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, carried by the following vote (Commissioner Meredith being absent), the POC agreed to utilize the Los Angeles County Office of Inspector General (OIG) to subpoena the missing information requested at the September 15, 2025 POC meeting:

Ayes: 7 – Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Samuel Prater, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Dolores Canales

Abstain: 1 – Commissioner Eduardo Mundo

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

On a motion by Commissioner Harris proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kakani, to accept the attached motion submitted by the POC's Budget ad hoc committee as amended with a report back from the Probation Department in 30 days:

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

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Donald D. Meredith

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[POC Motion – Core Values, 2026 Priorities](#)
[POC Motion – Budget Ad Hoc Committee Information Request](#)
[02/03/26 POC Letter to Probation – Data Information Requests with Updates](#)
[09/15/26 POC Letter to Probation – Data Information Requests with Updates](#)
[Updated Population Statistics and OC Spray Data](#)
[Depopulation Plan Evaluation – Intake and Detention Analysis](#)
[2025 POC Comms Impact Report](#)
[IDC Monthly Statistics - November 2025 and December 2025](#)
[OC Spray Deployment Reports \(December 8, 2025 – January 18, 2026\)](#)
[YOYV Data for LPJH & BJN-SYTF \(August 2025-December 2025\)](#)
[Juvenile Violations](#)

4. **Strategies to Keep Youth in the Juvenile System** – Discuss and take possible action on a report on the movement of youth out of the juvenile system into the adult system through the use of transfer petitions to adult court, the filing of new charges in particular against youth over the age of 18, and the process of transferring youth to adult custody under the provisions of [Welfare and Institutions Code 208.5](#).

- **The Probation Department was asked to provide:**

- i. Updated information on transfers motions and new charges similar to the information provided at the November 2025 meeting ([linked here](#))
 - 1. Include average length of stay for youth facing transfer motions
- ii. Policy on new charges
- iii. An explanation of how Probation participates in cases filed in adult court

- **Panelists included:**

- i. Luis Rodriguez, Division Chief, Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office
- ii. Samuel Abrahamian, Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender's Office
- iii. Suzanne Lyles, Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- iv. Steven Cuevas, Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- v. Frankie Guzman, Managing Director for Youth Justice & Equity, National Center for Youth Law

Director Guzman provided a verbal presentation on youth transfer petitions and responded to Commissioners' inquiries.

Probation Directors Suzanne Lyles and Steven Cuevas from the Los Angeles County Probation Department reported on the attached data the Probation Department provided to the POC and explained their role in transformations, new charges, and transfer of custody.

Public Defender Division Chief Rodriguez explained that transfer hearings and transfer of custody are two different processes with different consequences. He clarified the following:

- **Transfer hearings** are when the District Attorney seeks to have a youth tried as an adult in court.
- **Transfer of custody** is when a youth is detained in a juvenile facility pending a juvenile charge, there's an incident or an alleged incident that will cause probation to seek to move that youth into a county jail or an adult facility.

Samuel Abrahamian, Division Chief for the Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender's Office, reported that transfer-related filings continue to increase and that youth awaiting transfer hearings may remain pending for one to two years without adequate programming or resources while cases are pending review/assessment.

Commissioner Harris requested more information about the Probation Department's transfer recommendation process including:

- Clarification on whether specific training is provided to Probation Officers to write transfer reports. If so, what applicable protocols, policies, or training materials related to that training can be provided to the POC.
- List of qualifications of the Probation Officers responsible for evaluating youth and an explanation of the process used for preparing transfer recommendations.

Probation Director Lyles reported that Probation staff were formally trained in 2023 and that a Departmental directive was issued following that training.

In response to Commissioner Mundo's inquiry regarding the Public Defender's response to Probation transfer recommendations, Division Chiefs Rodriguez and Abrahamian stated that their offices oppose transfer recommendations and any motions that are inconsistent with the well-being of the youth.

Commissioner Kakani inquired about the assessment process for recommending or referring developmentally disabled (DD) youth to adult court. Probation confirmed only one DD youth has been referred to adult court but will follow-up and report back to the POC.

Commissioner Kakani requested additional information about the Probation Department's assessment process for youth with developmental disabilities, including whether written guidance or policies exist and how referrals are reviewed. Probation reported that an additional layer is applied in such cases and agreed to provide further supporting data to the POC. Commissioner Kakani's data request included data on:

- Number of new charges filed while youth remain detained
- Total number of youth who are transferred to adult facilities
- Total number of youth who are transferred pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 208.5

In response to Commissioner Shipp's inquiry about what conduct results in youth being transferred from juvenile detention to adult custody while detained, Division Chief Rodriguez stated that such transfers generally involve a new criminal filing.

Six (6) public commenters addressed the POC.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[Transfer Data as of January 31, 2026](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

The POC recessed for 10 minutes and returned at 11:25 a.m.

5. **Protecting Youth from Overdose** – Discuss and take possible action on steps the Probation Department has taken to prevent drugs from entering the detention facilities, provide harm reduction strategies including NARCAN and Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT), and provide education, programming, and support around substance use at all of Probation’s detention facilities.
- **The Probation Department was asked to provide:**
 - i. The updated policy and a report on practices on NARCAN for officers, partner agencies, and community-based organizations providing services in the facilities. For facilities where NARCAN isn’t in place, what is the reason why and what is the plan to remedy any issues?
 - ii. A report on the number of incidents related to suspected intoxication and how that number compares to previous years.
 - iii. An explanation of the contraband report including information on trends around contraband interdiction and the impact of the expanded use of K-9s, airport-style screeners, CCTV, and other security measures.
 - iv. A report on the partnership with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Department of Public Health – Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) Bureau as well as their contracted agencies (LA CADA and Tarzana) and how the outcomes of these programs are measured.
 - **Panelists included:**
 - i. Dr. Hanumantha Damerla, MD, Chief Psychiatrist, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
 - ii. Dr. Karen Streich, Ph.D., District Chief, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
 - iii. Dr. Kevin Burns, MD, MPH, Associate Medical Director of Harm Reduction and Prevention, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health-Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC) Bureau
 - iv. Stefanie Gluckman, Project Director, Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection
 - v. Dr. Jesus Corral, Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Dr. Sarah Gongora, Project Director for the POC introduced the panel, who explained their roles in protecting youth from overdose including intervention models, treatment access, and implementation of overdose prevention protocols.

Commissioner Jackson requested additional information regarding program development and measurable outcomes, including case examples that demonstrate how youth progress through intervention services. Dr. Damerla mentioned that youth are referred to the Task Pilot Program. Dr. Burns added that youth are referred to early substance use intervention programs designed to provide early substance use intervention and treatment post-release.

In response to Commissioner Terry’s inquiry about how services are tailored to the detained populations, Dr. Damerla stated that the treatment plans are individualized and may include mindfulness-based interventions and other customized service approaches.

Commissioner Shipp requested an update on Probation’s Narcan policy. Dr. Corral reported that the policy is pending final approval from Probation’s executive management.

Two public commenters addressed the POC.

Commissioner Mundo left the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[11/26/24 Board Motion](#)
[November-December 2025 Contraband Summary \(LPJH & BJN-SYTF\)](#)
[Probation's NARCAN Policy](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

6. **Education in Probation's Detention Facilities** – Discuss and take possible action on reports from the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) on the two recent Board motions on reducing suspensions and providing post-secondary education services in juvenile court schools inside Probation's detention facilities.

The presenters went through the attached PowerPoint presentations about post-secondary education for high school graduates in detention facilities and engagement strategies and regarding LACOE's work to reduce suspension numbers in juvenile court schools.

Commissioner Terry inquired about the success and challenges of the opportunity rooms. LACOE reported that although space limitations remain a challenge, the biggest success is that the students are empowered to stay engaged in the calming classroom spaces with reduced classroom disruption.

Commissioner Jackson left the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Dr. Corral reported that Probation is continuing efforts to expand educational opportunities for detained youth, with a focus on increasing classroom time, addressing academic gaps, and strengthening collaboration with the LACOE to improve outcomes for both graduates and non-graduates in Probation's care.

Dr. Michael Massa, Health Policy Division Chief from the California Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) stated that recent changes under Assembly Bill 2181 are expanding post-secondary access for youth in detention, particularly those who have completed minimum graduation requirements but remain eligible for continued educational services through dual enrollment.

No members of the public commented on this item.

Agenda item 8 was discussed next.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[PowerPoint Presentation on Suspensions](#)
[PowerPoint Presentation on Strengthening Post-Secondary Education](#)
[11/18/25 Revised Board Motion](#)
[11/04/25 Board Motion](#)
[POC's Draft Proposal](#)
[10/09/25 Approved POC Recommendations for Post-Secondary Education](#)
[01/16/26 LACOE's Report Back on Post-Secondary Education](#)
[01/20/26 Probation's Report Back on Post-Secondary Education](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

III. 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)

This agenda item was discussed after agenda item 2.

Commissioner Prater shared his sentiments about Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTF) step downs in the community and the need to agendize a topic related to Less Restrictive Placements (LRPs). Chair Canales and Commissioner Prater shared condolences on behalf of the POC to the family and friends of a youth who was recently killed while on a day-pass home in the community.

The following topics were proposed for discussion at future meetings:

- **Commissioner Prater suggested reviewing compliance monitoring and step-down locations and potentially forming an ad hoc committee on this topic.**
- **Commissioner Kakani requested discussion of the IT Settlement regarding youth who have a development disability and those who are suspected to have a development disability and what that IT settlement requires.**

Agenda item 3 was discussed next.

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.

Two (2) public commenters addressed the POC.

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

IV. ADJOURNMENT

9. Adjournment for the special meeting of February 18, 2026.

On motion by Commissioner Shipp, seconded by Commissioner Kakani, unanimously carried (Commissioners Meredith, Jackson, and Mundo being absent), the POC adjourned the meeting at 1:41 p.m.