



**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 9, 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 9:07 a.m.

Executive Director Wendelyn Julien conducted the roll call:

Present: Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Dolores Canales

Absent: Commissioner Esché L. Jackson and Commissioner Samuel Prater

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

2. Approval of the March 12, 2026 regular meeting minutes.

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Harris, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Jackson and Prater being absent), the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) agreed to approve the March 12, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented:

Ayes: 7 – Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Dolores Canales

Absent: 2 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson and Commissioner Samuel Prater

Attachments: [Approved March 12, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

II. DISCUSSIONS

3. **Depopulation Plan and Intake Reports** – Discuss and take possible action on progress the Los Angeles County Probation Department has made on implementing the Department’s Depopulation Plan. Discussion will include Probation’s role in reducing the overall number of youth detained.

- **Panelists:**

- i. Jocelyn Roman, Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- ii. Cesar Mayorquin, Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- iii. Eric Bates, Interim Inspector General, Los Angeles County
- iv. Fredrick Lacey, Deputy Inspector General, Los Angeles County
- v. Laura Ridolfi, Racial Justice and Well-Being Strategist, W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI)

Laura Ridolfi from the Burns Institute presented the attached PowerPoint Presentation.

Deputy Director Jocelyn Roman emphasized that many concerns are based on 16-month-old data that no longer reflects current, proactive practices such as early law-enforcement consultations, site-and-release decisions, and improved training and auditing. Deputy Director Roman noted that some recommendations have already been implemented, data collection has been strengthened, and special circumstances (such as cases with no safe release option) can explain deviations in custody decisions.

Director Cesar Mayorquin reported that IDC has overhauled its intake process by implementing a revised detention criterion, expanding pre-arrival case vetting with law enforcement, and significantly increasing field diversions to keep youth out of juvenile halls. Director Mayorquin also highlighted improvements in report quality, data tracking, officer training, and court-aligned practices to ensure more consistent and informed detention decisions.

The OIG reported inconsistencies in detention recommendations and stressed that courts are relying on subjective detention reports because objective risk tools are not included in the case file. The OIG recommended adding the LA Detention Screener (LADS), an objective report, to the detention report and maintaining strong data tracking, noting that Probation has already begun implementing several of these improvements.

Commissioner Kakani proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Terry, to collect the following data from the Probation Department:

- a) **Data comparing detention report recommendations to pre-plea report recommendations.**
- b) **Data showing the number of overrides to recommend detention for youth not legally required to be detained and the reason for the override.**
- c) **Probation’s written policy on overrides.**

Commissioner Terry made a friendly amendment to require the Probation Department to adhere to a timeline (Jan 2026-present) and then ongoing, which was accepted by Commissioner Kakani.

Six (6) public commenters addressed the POC.

Panelists responded to several questions raised by the POC Commissioners.

On [motion](#) of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Terry, carried by the following vote, (Commissioners Jackson and Prater being absent), the POC agreed to request the following data from the Probation Department beginning with January 1, 2026 and ongoing:

- a) Data comparing detention report recommendations to pre-plea report recommendations beginning on January 1, 2026 and ongoing.
- b) Data showing the number of overrides to recommend detention for youth not legally required to be detained and the reason for the override beginning on January 6, 2026 and ongoing.
- c) Probation's written policy on overrides.

Ayes: 6 – Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Milinda Kakani, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Dolores Canales

Abstain: 1 – Commissioner Eduardo Mundo

Absent: 2 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson and Commissioner Samuel Prater

Commissioner Mundo left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[BI PowerPoint Presentation](#)
[03/10/25 POC's Pros and Cons List on the Global Plan](#)
[04/24/25 POC's Recommended Depopulation Solutions](#)
[05/02/25 Probation's Depopulation Strategy](#)
[01/26/26 POC's Depopulation Strategy Evaluation](#)
[02/17/26 Depopulation Strategy Evaluation – Intake and Detention Analysis](#)
[03/12/26 Probation's Response to POC's Intake & Detention Analysis](#)
[03/17/26 Probation's Depopulation Strategy Update \(BOS Meeting\)](#)
[03/06/26 OIG's Assessment of Probation's Detention Reports](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. **Visitation Update** – Discuss and take possible action on an update on changes to visitation procedures and adoption of a visitation policy.

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

- i. An updated Visitation Policy
- ii. A verbal report on changes to procedures to enhance visitation

• **Panelists included:**

- i. Guillermo Viera Rosa, Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- ii. Veronica Castillo, Staff Analyst, Los Angeles County Probation Department
- iii. Alisa Hartz, Ombudsperson, California Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR)
- iv. Cole Lancaster, Family Engagement Specialist, OYCR
- v. Mark Varela, OYCR
- vi. Tyrique Shipp, Commissioner, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
- vii. Dr. Sarah Gongora, Psy.D., Project Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Veronica Castillo delivered remarks on behalf of the Probation Department, followed by Dr. Sarah Gongora, who highlighted community-driven initiatives. The OYCR team, including Alisa Hartz, Cole Lancaster, and consultant Mark Varela, presented key elements of the new visitation policy, emphasizing its focus on strengthening family support.

Commissioner Shipp noted that the Department has already begun implementing aspects of the work even prior to formal policy adoption.

Chair Canales shared observations of positive changes from her recent visits to Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.

Five (5) public commenters addressed the POC.

Commissioners provided several inquiries and observations regarding current policy development and facility operations.

Commissioner Harris requested an estimated timeline for finalizing the pending policy, and staff reported that the committee has drafted recommendations now under review.

Commissioner Kakani raised questions about minor sibling contact during visitation; staff explained that camp facilities have greater capacity for such visits through the Family Unification process due to longer term stays.

Commissioner Terry shared reflections from her recent visit to BJN, noting youth who have infant children; staff confirmed that there are no barriers to supporting these youth and that donated baby items are available for bonding areas. Staff also noted that managers have instituted a routine meet-and-greet schedule at each facility to enhance communication and engagement.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[12/08/25 OYCR's Model Visitation Guidelines for Los Angeles County](#)
[11/17/25 Report Back on Visitation Inspections – Findings & Recommendations](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

The POC recessed for 10 minutes and resumed the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

5. Probation's Budget and Consultant Contracts –

- A. Discuss and take possible action up to and including issuing a subpoena for outstanding information on consultant contracts from a request made [in a motion at the February 18, 2026 POC meeting](#). The POC's Budget Ad Hoc Committee will give a report on its review of consultant contracts.
- B. Discuss and take possible action on a report on Probation's proposed budget for fiscal year 2026–2027 including understanding the Department's request for increases and the impacts of curtailments to the budget.
 - **The Probation Department was asked to provide:**
 - i. A verbal report on Probation's budget for fiscal year 2026–2027
 - ii. An update on the spending plan for Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) monies for the current fiscal year (FY 2025–26) and next fiscal year (FY 2026–27)

- **Panelists included:**
 - i. Guillermo Viera Rosa, Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - ii. Stacy Lopez-Maddox, Administrative Deputy, Los Angeles County Probation Department
 - iii. Brooke Harris, Commissioner, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission
 - iv. Dawnnesha Smith, MPA, Project Director, Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Executive Director Julien gave a verbal report on the status of the consultant contracts that the POC recently received before the meeting.

Commissioners asked several questions related to staffing levels, budget details, and the Department's financial planning, the juvenile institutions budget, the number of vacant positions, and the cost of bringing the department into compliance with BSCC requirements and the stipulated judgment.

Chief Viera-Rosa also noted that reducing reliance on overtime is a key budgetary goal tied to addressing vacancies and future staffing plans.

Commissioner Harris inquired about whether current services align with staffing needs.

Commissioner Kakani proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shipp, to authorize the Executive Director of the POC to work with Probation to collect the following data:

- a) **The current number of vacant positions and a breakdown of those positions by item.**
- b) **A breakdown of the Probation's budget explaining the dollars that Probation passes through to other county departments and outside organizations.**
- c) **A breakdown of the costs of coming into compliance with the DOJ Settlement and the implementation of the Depopulation Plan.**
- d) **A report on how Probation spent budgeted dollars for vacant positions in the 2024-2025 fiscal year and to date in the 2025-2026 fiscal year to cover other departmental expenses.**

No members of the public commented on this item.

On [motion](#) of Commissioner Kakani, seconded by Commissioner Shipp, unanimously carried, (Commissioners Jackson, Mundo, and Prater being absent), the POC agreed to authorize the POC's Executive Director to work with the Probation Department to request the following data:

- a) **The current number of vacant positions and a breakdown by item.**
- b) **A breakdown of the Probation's budget explaining the dollars that Probation passes through to other county departments and outside organizations.**
- c) **A breakdown of the costs of coming into compliance with the DOJ Settlement and the implementation of the Depopulation Plan.**
- d) **A report on how Probation spent budgeted dollars for vacant positions in the 2024-2025 fiscal year and to date in the 2025-2026 fiscal year to cover other departmental expenses.**

**Ayes: 6 – Commissioner Brooke Harris, Commissioner Milinda Kakani,
Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Tyrique
Shipp, Commissioner Diane Terry, and Chair Dolores
Canales**

Absent: 3 – Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Eduardo Mundo, and Commissioner Samuel Prater

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[Approved 09/15/25 POC Motion](#)
[Approved 02/18/26 POC Motion](#)
[Probation's Summary Report on Consultant Contracts](#)
[02/17/26 Probation's Budget Presentation – BOS Meeting](#)
[04/01/26 Probation's Recommended Budget – CEO's Public Safety Cluster](#)
[JJCC Spending Allocation Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Co-Chair Report for FY 2026-27](#)
[Draft CMJJP Plan for FY 2026-27](#)
[FY 2026-27 JJCC-CMJJP Ad-Hoc Subcommittee's Funding Recommendations](#)
[FY 2026-27 JJCPA Program Descriptions for the Funding Recommendations](#)
[Draft of the 2026 JJRBG Annual Plan and Recent JJCPA & JJRBG Board Letters](#)
[08/20/2024 CA Auditor Fact Sheet on JJCPA/JJRBG Spending](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

6. **Probation Oversight Commission Executive Director Report** – Discuss and take possible action on the following items as reported by the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission:

- **The POC reports will include:**
 - i. Outstanding and current requests for information
 - ii. Update on the launch of the POC's 2026 inspection process
 - iii. POC's 1st Quarter KPI Report for January 1, 2026-March 31, 2026

Executive Director Julien shared about a recent inspection at Campus Vernon Kilpatrick (CVK) and reported the following:

- **The POC has launched the 2026 inspection cycle, completing its first inspection at Campus Kilpatrick and submitting initial findings to the Department. She reported that the POC has enhanced its approach to capturing direct feedback from youth and facility staff, aligning with BSCC expectations.**
- **The Communications Team released its first quarter KPI report highlighting strong outreach performance, which has been attached.**
- **The Data and Research Team continues to analyze required Departmental submissions, including Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray and intake trends.**

One (1) public commenter addressed the POC.

Commissioner Kakani left the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Attachments: Supporting Documents
[03/24/26 POC Letter to Probation – Data Information Requests with Updates](#)
[03/31/26 Updated OC Spray Reports](#)
[03/31/26 Updated Population Statistics Reports](#)
[OC Spray Deployment Reports \(February 23, 2026 – March 22, 2026\)](#)
[IDC Monthly Statistics - January 2026 and February 2026](#)
[YOYV Data for LPJH & BJN-SYTF \(March 2026\)](#)
[KPI 1st Quarter Report \(January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026\)](#)
Public Comment/Correspondence

III. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

- 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)

There were no topics proposed for discussion at future meetings.

Commissioner Meredith shared remarks about two individuals who died in Probation facilities while on duty: [Arnold "Arnie" C. Garcia](#) (Dorothy Kirby Center on April 5, 1994) and [Michael Wall](#) (Central Juvenile Hall on April 30, 2021).

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 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.

Five (5) public commenters addressed the POC.

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjournment for the regular meeting of April 9, 2026.

On motion by Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Shipp, unanimously carried (Commissioners Jackson, Kakani, Mundo, and Prater being absent), the POC adjourned the meeting at 12:41 p.m.