

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
CHAIR SHEILA KUEHL**

December 19, 2017

Establishing Effective and Diverse Governance of Juvenile Justice Funds

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA), adopted by the State Legislature in 2000, is a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs focused on delinquency prevention for at-risk youth. The Chief Probation Officer of the Los Angeles County (County) Probation Department (Department) chairs the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), a committee which oversees and is responsible for ensuring the effective use of these dollars within the County. The State allocates to the County approximately \$28 to \$31 million annually in JJCPA funds, to be spent on the Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (Plan) which the JJCC develops and is approved by the Board of Supervisors (Board).

The JJCC governance and membership have not been formally updated since 2002. As the County looks to remedy ongoing issues with JJCPA and develop the strongest Plan possible to meet and address the needs of at-risk youth, it would benefit from a strengthened and more diverse governance body to oversee these funds.

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Establishing meaningful community representation on the JJCC is a priority. As outlined in a Department letter to the Board of Supervisors (Board) dated December 7, 2017, on March 22, 2017, a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) of the JJCC was established with the goal to strengthen the JJCC and the JJCPA Plan by incorporating community voices in the process, including adding community seats to the JJCC. With leadership and active participation from dozens of community stakeholders, the CAC ultimately recommended that the JJCC have 10 voting community members: one appointed by each Supervisorial District, and five new community seats to be approved by the JJCC. The Department concurs with this recommendation, and believes updating the JJCC in this manner will allow it to better serve the needs of the community. The JJCC overwhelmingly approved this recommendation on September 22, 2017. Additionally, the Department has recommended other minor changes in JJCC membership to better reflect ideal and current participation.

The Board must approve changes in JJCC membership, and should also request formalization of the updated structure for JJCC membership. A strengthened and more diverse JJCC would then be equipped to ensure the JJCPA plan, and its approximate \$30 million annual investment, is updated to best meet the legislative goal of keeping youth out of the justice system.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Approve an updated membership structure for the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) to assist the Chief Probation Officer in

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developing and implementing a Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan. Membership on the JJCC will consist of:

- a. Permanent voting members that shall include one departmentally designated management level voting representative from each of the following agencies:

- i. Probation Department, Chair of the JJCC
- ii. District Attorney
- iii. Public Defender
- iv. Sheriff
- v. Juvenile Court
- vi. Board of Supervisors, representing the Chair of the Board
- vii. Department of Public Social Services
- viii. Department of Mental Health
- ix. Department of Health Services
- x. Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
- xi. Los Angeles County Office of Education
- xii. Los Angeles Unified School District
- xiii. City of Los Angeles Police Department
- xiv. City of Los Angeles, Mayor's Office
- xv. Department of Children and Family Services

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- xvi. Office of Diversion and Reentry, Division of Youth Diversion and Development
- b. Two-year terms shall be served by the following representatives to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors:
- i. Community-based drug and alcohol provider, recommended by the Chair of the JJCC
 - ii. Five non-profit community-based organization representatives, one recommended by each Supervisorial District
 - iii. Five at-large community representatives, recommended by the JJCC
2. Direct County Counsel, in coordination with the Chief Probation Officer, in her role as Chair of the JCCC, to report back to the Board in writing in 30 days with revised and updated Organizational Rules for the JJCC to establish the membership listed above, set a quorum at fifty percent of the filled positions of the JJCC, set the terms of office for non-permanent voting members to two years, and add sections regarding purpose, duties, absences, and conflicts of interest.
3. Direct the Chief Probation Officer, in her role as Chair of the JJCC, to report back to the Board in writing in 120 days on an updated Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (Plan) for 2018-2019 that is informed by the needs of youth populations at risk of entering or in the juvenile justice system,

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best practices in serving these youth, gaps in current services, recent findings and evaluations on Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funded services, and the spending strategy and plan of other relevant juvenile justice funding streams in Los Angeles County, with an evaluation plan to assess the effectiveness of this Plan and future Plans.

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