

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

June 27, 2023

Treatment and Safety: Further Addressing Drug-Related Incidents in the County Youth Detention Facilities

To further address the continuing concerns related to drug, contraband, and illegal substance incidents in the juvenile facilities, the Los Angeles County (County) Probation Department needs to significantly invest in the safety of its youth. Since the beginning of this year, the County Board of Supervisors (Board) has unanimously supported two motions that not only provided Narcan to probation staff and youth, but also enhanced security in the detention facilities using canine units.

The situation reached its peak with the passing of a youth due to an overdose and, unfortunately, there continues to be drug-related incidents. The Department must take this seriously and utilize all tools available, including infusing the facility with trained and licensed substance addiction treatment counselors, and using the effective credible messenger program, utilizing individuals with lived experience who are also trained and licensed in treating and working with youth with substance use dependencies.

Additionally, to further control the inflow of illicit and illegal substances and

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contraband, there needs to be an investment in physical security using advanced scanners to be stationed at the facilities' entrances for staff and visitors.

The Department must exhaust all its available tools to keep incarcerated youth safe and work in steady collaboration with other relevant Departments like the Department of Youth Development, the Department of Public Health's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control and oversight entities, along with community-based service and treatment providers.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. Direct the Probation Department, Department of Youth Development, the Department of Public Health's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, Probation Oversight Commission, the Office of Inspector General, and other relevant departments to present to the Board of Supervisors at the July 11, 2023 meeting with an update on addressing the overdose and inflow of illicit substances in the juvenile halls.
 - a. The presentation should also include, but not limited to, updates on plans to staff the juvenile halls with substance addiction treatment counselors, including credible messengers who are trained and certified substance addiction treatment counselors, security enhancements at the juvenile facilities, fulfillment of canine search contracts, funding proposals, and additional recommendations from the oversight entities on enhancing safety for youth.
2. Direct the Probation Department, with support from the CEO, to enhance the

staff and visitor entrances at the juvenile facilities with advanced scanners that would detect contraband and illegal substances to further control inflow of drugs, no later than July 31, 2023.

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