



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
34.		<b>Favor</b>	Cassandra F Bolden	
			Jorge Luis Rojas	
			Nicole Osyka	
		<b>Oppose</b>	Aleks Navasardyan	
			Bryan Ranger	
			Redd X	
		<b>Other</b>	Elizabeth Burton	L.A. County's Probation Department is not ensuring the Public's Safety. Conditions of Probation are not being met, and Compliance Checks are not being conducted. Tax dollars and federal funding are received; yet the supervision of Probationer's is not within standards. Reducing crime and providing rehabilitation services needs to be a high priority.
			Ilana Parach	The young men at Kilpatrick have worked hard to transform their lives, earning the opportunity to be housed at Kilpatrick. Campus Kilpatrick is more than just a facility—it's a true community, a space they've made their temporary home. They take pride in their units, in the art they've created to decorate their walls, and in the sense of freedom they experience—being able to run around the property without fear of being disciplined, to engage in opportunities that exist in part because Director Felicia Davis and the rest of the staff there genuinely cares. They believe in these young people, in second chances and ensure they have access to them.  At Kilpatrick, these young men don't fight. They don't tag. They are healing, recovering from their journey through the juvenile system, and finally preparing for real freedom. To send them back to BJA would be devastating and harmful.
			Nick McKenna	Please see attachment.
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>9</b>	
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			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Name</th> <th style="width: 80%;">Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Festus O Ohan</td> <td>The Probation department is full of evil minded managerial employees.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jane Doe</td> <td> <p>Los Angeles County Probation Department, under the leadership of Guillermo Viera Rosa and Kimberley Epps has become the laughing stock of the probation world. At one time this organization was elite and had countries all over the world visiting to see what makes the juvenile facilities work. The juvenile halls were safe, there was structure and respect in the facilities, there were programs (fire and sports\$ for the youth and moral amongst the employees were good. Now, things have gone from bad to worse under their leadership.</p> <p>1. There is still a staffing shortage, which the officers are being made to be the villains when it's the fault of the BOS for not allowing the department to aggressively hire for years. Guillermo is only playing the numbers game and not creating a permanent solution to stabilize employees in the juvenile halls.</p> <p>2 There is still extreme violence in the juvenile facilities (A couple of months ago a female supervisor was punched in the face and spit on by a juvenile detainee without out warrant). This department simply continues to cover up the violence which have over taken the facilities.</p> <p>3. Guillermo and Kimberly continue to "rob Peter to pay Paul", which has caused a safety issue in our communities. This is the number one reason staffing in the juvenile halls is stabilizing. This is not a sustainable approach. They have annihilated the field offices, who are charged with supervising thousands and not hundreds of juveniles and adults on probation in the community, some of which are convicted of domestic violence, sex crimes and serious/violent offenses.</p> <p>4. Instead of upholding the law, they have broken the law by not closing down Los Padrinos under the orders of the BSCC. In fact, Kimberly Epps was quoted saying, that they (BSCC) will have to put our stuff on the curb before we close down our facility. This is the ultimate disrespect and unprofessional to an another government entity who is charged with making sure detention facilities are in compliance with Title 15. This department believes they are above the law, yet condemn employees who do not comply with policies. Shouldn't probation leadership be an example of upholding the law?</p> <p>5. Morale among probation employees are at an all time low and there have been an increase of retirements and resignations. Further, creating a staff shortage. Not to mention there have been incidents where new hire's quit within the first couple of months, if not weeks, due to this dysfunctional Department and unsafe conditions in the juvenile facility.</p> <p>6. This department has multiple law suits regarding unfair labor practices, in particularly discriminating against employees who have medical restrictions protected under the American Disability Act. Why are these employees not being accommodated to work and earn an income? This makes no sense because the department is only adding to the staff shortages by sending hundreds of employees home (without pay).</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Comments	Festus O Ohan	The Probation department is full of evil minded managerial employees.	Jane Doe	<p>Los Angeles County Probation Department, under the leadership of Guillermo Viera Rosa and Kimberley Epps has become the laughing stock of the probation world. 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35.	34	Other							

			7. The youth are no more safe than they were when BSCC ordered LP to be closed in December 2024.
			Granting Guillermo the opportunity to continue his dictatorship has destroyed LA County Probation. It is clear he is in over his head, but for reasons unknown this BOS support him. You are basically telling those who voted for you in the community you don't care about bringing this Department to an elite status as it once was. It is the fault of the BOS a dilapidated facility detention facility is still operating and placing the youths, CBOs, teachers and probation employees in dangerous and unsafe conditions. It is time to do the right thing, starting with leadership who can make changes, while communicating with the employees. Guillermo has been the chief for two years and I can count on one hand how many times he has communicated with the staff in an effort to bring morale up. Further, he has never communicated with all staff about his global plan, bring that it is the staff who will be caring out his vision. Enough is enough.
		Nick McKenna	Please see attachment.
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>17</b>

Dear Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

My name is Nick McKenna, and I am a clinical student with the Youth Justice Education Clinic (YJEC) at Loyola Law School. YJEC advocates for young people who are criminalized and pushed out of schools due to their race, disability, and gender identity. The clinic works to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and promote community-based accountability.

I am writing today to urge the immediate closure of Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, which has been deemed unsuitable under California law and continues to operate in open defiance of state regulations. *See* Cal. Penal Code § 6030(a); *see generally* Cal. Code Regs. tits. 15, 24 (requiring minimum standards for local detention facilities). Despite multiple failed inspections, Los Padrinos remains open. Additionally, under California Welfare and Institutions Code § 209(b)(2), facilities failing to meet state standards must close within sixty days. More than four months have passed, yet the Probation Department refuses to comply, delaying action instead of developing alternative placements. It is deeply troubling that youth at Los Padrinos are detained for allegedly disobeying the law while the County turns a blind eye to the Probation Department's brazen defiance of state mandates.

The harm at Los Padrinos is undeniable. Youth face excessive room confinements, missed education and medical care, and violence due to severe understaffing. Probation officers are increasingly absent, worsening these conditions. Inadequate supervision and educational support contribute to chronic absenteeism in juvenile court schools, further denying youth access to important learning opportunities. Without consistent instruction, students fall further behind academically, reinforcing cycles of disconnection and recidivism.

The Department's proposed new hiring and reinspection efforts fail to provide an immediate or adequate solution. Each day that passes results in more harm to youth. Further, the Department's claim that no alternatives exist is false. Other counties have closed noncompliant juvenile halls and relocated youth appropriately. Los Angeles County could have negotiated placements with neighboring counties or expanded community-based alternatives but chose to stall instead. This failure to plan should not justify keeping youth in an unsafe facility.

Additionally, the Probation Department must be required to justify the continued detention of young people at Los Padrinos. Ultimately, the goal should be to decarcerate rather than merely relocate youth to another harmful facility. If youth are moved, Probation must ensure that essential mental health services, related medication, and special education services continue without disruption. Additionally, legal services must have access to youth at any new placement.

I urge the Board of Supervisors to:

1. Stop new placements at Los Padrinos and halt new court-ordered transfers.
2. Implement an immediate emergency transition plan to relocate youth to safer alternatives.
3. Require Probation to justify the continued detention of every young person at Los Padrinos, with a clear plan to decarcerate.
4. Ensure that any movement of youth does not disrupt essential mental health services, related medication, special education services, or access to legal representation.

5. Hold the Probation Department accountable for violating state law.
6. Require Probation to participate in Board-mandated meetings and provide accurate data on youth detentions.
7. Withdraw its legal appeal and comply with the state-mandated closure.
8. Commit to a long-term, community-based rehabilitation model over punitive incarceration.
9. Plan to redirect funds from the Probation Department's budget to community-based youth rehabilitation alternatives, especially considering the Probation Department's blatant lawlessness.

Continuing to house youth in a legally unfit facility is unacceptable. The Board must act now to close Los Padrinos and provide young people with the basic right to safety and rehabilitative care.

Sincerely,

Nick McKenna  
Youth Justice Education Clinic  
Loyola Law School, Center for Juvenile Law and Policy