## 2022 Facility Inspections Annual Report

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC), established in 2021, is a civilian oversight commission focused on systemic reform of the Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation or the Department). The POC advises the Probation Department and the Board of Supervisors (Board) about said progress in both the juvenile and adult arenas. The California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 240, requires the POC to perform and document inspections and evaluations of the buildings and grounds at the County's juvenile facilities on an annual basis to ensure the physical safety and welfare of youth. At the end of the calendar year, the POC submits an annual inspection report to the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), which is a statutory agency that inspects for compliance of standards of detention facilities in California.

In 2022, the POC completed ten facility inspections. These include two "pre-inspections" at Central Juvenile Hall and Campus Kilpatrick, and regular inspections of the eight juvenile facilities: two juvenile detention centers ("juvenile halls"), five juvenile camps, and Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC). All ten POC facility inspection reports and the Department's responses to those reports are included in this annual report. However, the POC and the Probation Department followed the Board's instructions this year and developed a protocol to communicate the findings of the inspections with increased frequency. The POC shared health and welfare concerns immediately with the facility and Probation leadership after each inspection and then shared the drafts of the facility inspection reports before publication along with a set of specific questions. The Department responded directly and in writing to all the questions posed and responded to many other issues brought up in the inspections in the public POC meetings and in separate meetings with POC Commissioners and staff.

During this year's inspection cycle, several reoccurring themes emerged that are described in the "Findings" section, below. These include issues related to: major renovations and repairs; a need for increased programs and services; training needs for Probation staff; the presence of Special Enforcement Officers (SEOs) in the juvenile facilities; problems with grievance procedures, room confinement and the use of the HOPE Center; and concerns about substance use by youth and contraband being brought into the facilities. The POC looks forward to addressing all these issues with the Department through its continuing work.

The POC staff expresses gratitude to the Commissioners who spent significant time and effort completing these inspections and reports with the hope of shining a light on the conditions in which the youth incarcerated in LA County live and how the Probation Department can improve those conditions.

#### **METHODS**

Each POC inspection was conducted by one or two Commissioners<sup>1</sup> who utilized direct observations and interviews with youth and staff at the facilities as their primary method of reporting. Each facility inspection report stands alone, independently providing findings, recommendations, and questions.

The data reported in each facility inspection report is a "snapshot" of the Commissioners' direct observations and interviews with staff and youth on the day of the inspection and does not purport to suggest long-term trends or provide a comprehensive analysis. Each facility's demographic data, such as the "facility's rated capacity," "population" and "staffing" information was provided to the POC directly by the facility's Director, Administrative Director, or Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO). The partner agency data was also directly received from the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the LA County Office of Education (LACOE), and Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) managers or leads.

Inspections of each facility were coordinated by POC staff, giving full notice to Probation leadership and leaders

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mainly teams of (two) POC Commissioners conducted each facility inspection except for the following three camps: Camp Scott, Camp Paige, and Campus Kilpatrick, for which one Commissioner inspected these facilities.

at each facility. Further, the template for the inspection was shared with Probation along with detailed email correspondence indicating information needed, expectations, and suggestions for preparing for each inspection.

#### **FINDINGS**

(Please consult each facility inspection report for further elaboration)

#### Major renovations / repair in several juvenile facilities

This inspection year, several facilities were under construction, repairing or renovating buildings either due to noted dilapidated conditions, "homelike environment" improvements, or the need to increase security.

#### Increased programs and services

The most consistent observation and recommendation made by Commissioners related to lack of quality programming across the juvenile facilities. Particularly noted is the need to offer programs and services that appeal to youth and support their preparation for reentry Through vocational and educational opportunities for all youth and programs tailored to young women.

#### Increase training opportunities for Probation staff

Commissioners repeatedly relate a need for enhanced training for staff who interact with youth. Particularly, training about de-escalation, trauma-informed care, and forming positive relationships with youth. Some reports also note the need to cross-train with partner agencies.

#### Increased presence of the Special Enforcement Officers (SEO's) throughout the juvenile facilities

Several Commissioners report an increased presence of SEOs in the juvenile halls and camps. This prompted questions about SEO's training in adolescent development and their role in the institutions.

#### Problems with grievance procedures

Several problems, glitches or barriers were noted related to youth filing grievances and the way grievances are handled. Commissioners reviewed grievances submitted by youth and responses or outcomes reports and noted several trends and issues.

#### • Room Confinement / Use of the HOPE Center

In several inspections, Commissioners noted that youth stay in their rooms for prolonged periods and concerning housing of youth in HOPE centers. Commissioners examined logs in the HOPE centers and interviewed youth and staff who generally corroborated the extended use of HOPE as well as prolonged periods of room confinement.

#### Use of substances

Several reports indicated concerns relating to the use of substances by youth while in detention at both juvenile halls and camps. Youth, staff, agency partners, and supervisory staff shared examples of suspected or confirmed times that youth were under the influence while in housing units or at school. Fears about youth overdosing on substances is a major concern.

#### • Issues with contraband

Commissioners expressed concerns as some of the juvenile facilities (particularly the East camps and Central Juvenile Hall) about contraband (e.g., drug paraphernalia, drugs, or items that can be used as weapons) entering the facilities. Concerns include how individuals can gain access to youth inside as well as the negative effects the contraband can have on the youth and staff.

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#### **BACKGROUND**

An entire inspection cycle was completed by the Probation Oversight Commission (POC) in 2021. A formal <u>Facility Inspections</u> report was submitted to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) by the Commission at the end of 2021. The findings of this report were presented and made public at the end of 2021, during various public-facing meetings.

Findings in the POC's report garnered attention from various community stakeholders, advocates, and the general public. In addition, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) also referenced the report and its findings during discussions about health, safety, and welfare for youth at LA County juvenile facilities. As such, specific requests by the BOS to the Chief Probation Officer were made to ameliorate conditions referenced in the report. Moreover, it was recommended by the BOS that the POC communicate findings to the Probation Department with increased frequency, following each inspection in addition to the delivery of the annual report and that the Probation Department respond to the inspection reports in writing. Thus, to fully engage the Probation Department and key stakeholders, this report focuses on two pre-inspections conducted by the Probation Oversight Commission in April 2022 whilst offering findings and eliciting answers to the questions posed by the Commission following the inspections.

#### **2022 INSPECTION CYCLE: PRE-INSPECTIONS**

As per the authority to inspect under Title 15 of the California of Code of Regulations and as part of standard operating procedure, the POC will complete an inspection cycle this year of the eight (8) operating juvenile facilities in Los Angeles County. This inspection cycle is proposed to commence in June 2022. However, due to extenuating factors related to the temporary closure of **Central Juvenile Hall** (CJH) and subsequent merging of the two (2) juvenile halls in March and the plan to move the former "Department of Juvenile Justice" (DJJ) population (hereafter "secure track youth") to a permanent secure facility, two (2) pre-inspections were planned at **Central Juvenile Hall** (CJH) and at **Campus Kilpatrick** (Kilpatrick) before the formal inspection process begins.

The purpose of the CJH pre-inspection was to (1) have a first-hand view of the current construction underway there; (2) follow-up on concerning issues from the 2021 POC inspection; and (3) assess the facility's readiness for the CJH youth's return. The pre-inspection aims were achieved through direct observation at the facility; review of work plan records provided by the Probation Department's Maintenance Services Bureau (MSB) and Probation leadership, and via communication with on-site Probation and Internal Services Department (ISD) staff members.

The POC planned its pre-inspection of Kilpatrick for the end of April to coincide with plans publicized by the Probation Department to move the secure track population from Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) to Kilpatrick, which was identified by the BOS as one of two permanent secure facilities. The key aim of the POC's pre-inspection at Kilpatrick was to assess the facility's readiness to receive the youth from BJNJH and assess the security and safety measures in place as well as the physical space and programming available to the youth.

#### **CENTRAL JUVENILE HALL**

During the weekend of March 12<sup>th</sup>, the Central Juvenile Hall (youth) population was moved to Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH). Repairs and renovations at the CJH facility were said to have prompted the relocation. As such, per Probation Department leadership, the youth are expected to remain at BJNJH 90 days or less, pending the completion of the work needed at CJH.

In April 2022, two POC commissioners and three POC staff members visited CJH to conduct a preinspection of the facility. There were no youth residing at the facility. The only areas holding youth were the medical units, intake, and court appearances areas. Probation informed the POC that youth stay in these temporary detention areas for no longer than six (6) hour per day at which point they are returned to BJNJH or released. Representatives from ISD, Probation Maintenance Service Bureau (MSB) Management, and Probation accompanied the POC during the walk through. It is noted that prior to the pre-inspection, a building inspection work plan dated April 13, 2022 indicating work completed and outstanding repairs was shared with the POC team. In sum, the plan indicated that 58 repairs or tasks were completed between 3/30/22 to 4/13/22 and 230 repairs or tasks remained outstanding at the time of this inspection.

#### Findings:

• Some major work like HVAC, Furnace replacement/repair, and roofing was not indicated on the workplan. However, staff noted that roofing and HVAC is underway on a couple of buildings and other projects will commence later. Specifically, at least three (3) buildings, housing units for boys, were identified as needing these major repairs which staff expect to take at least six (6) months to complete.

Question: What is the plan for these major projects including goals for starting and completing the work?

• Guides who accompanied the Commissioners on the inspection noted that COVID created issues and further delayed work at the facility, particularly affecting work schedules over the past year, due to the availability of ISD crews, supply chain delays, and other issues.

Question: Are there any further delays foreseen or expected?

Significant concrete replacement work is underway, currently in two areas that serve as
main thoroughfare from the east side of the facility to the west side and vice-versa and to
outside care or appointments. Important to note is that the medical modular building is
located on the west-side of the facility and access to court or outside medical care (LACUSC) requires access to be gained through these two areas. Additionally, another walkway
area that is being planned for concrete replacement is in front of the boy's school.

Question(s): What is the timeframe for full completion of the concrete replacement project? If not complete by the time youth begin to return, what is the plan to move youth around the facility?

• Intake/Receiving and Quarantine Units: The regular unit that processes youth at intake needs significant improvement. Work is currently underway to the dayroom ceiling and floor (e.g., exposed ceiling/insulation material; broken concrete; and drywall work, due to previous moisture damage on walls (bulging paint/drywall). Commissioners were informed that Unit W is currently being used as intake and quarantine (Unit W is located approx. 400 yards from this building). It was also noted that there was significant damage to the Unit W roof – the Commissioners learned that there is no active work order for the roof repair on Unit W.

Question(s): What is the interim plan for boy's intake/receiving? When are these areas expected to be completed?

During the inspection, a Probation skeleton crew was noted to be working on-site. Per
observation, it appeared that fewer than 20 staff were assigned at CJH (not counting ISD,
MSB work crews and kitchen staff). Most staff were noted to be assigned in the IDC area
and court holding area.

Question(s): What is the average number of youth (for intake) currently? How many youth get transported to and from CJH (on average)? With regards to the control center (admitting area, near IDC), are there plans to upgrade old equipment and renovate that area?

• The entire Girls' CARE unit is under much needed renovations; ISD and Probation indicated that youth are not expected to return to this unit and that another unit may be used as an alternative to house girls previously assigned to CARE. The proposed unit (XY) is said to be further along regarding readiness and is equipped with wet rooms and cleaner recreational space immediately outside the unit.

Question(s): When would the alternate unit be available to girls to move in? What is the projected status of the completion of Girls' CARE?

Units A/B and C/D (on the east side of the facility): The work to these housing units which
has typically housed girls/young women, is underway (painting walls, cracks on floor being
filled, etc.).

Question: Completion and readiness of these buildings – timeline?

• The kitchen appeared in good repair with commissioners noting improvements since the last inspection including plumbing issues resolved and proper drainage with exception of leaky hot water bowls. The Commissioners were informed that the kitchen is currently serving approximately 20 meals/day.

Question: When will remaining scheduled repairs be completed in the kitchen?

Repair work is underway at the boy's school (west side), in various classrooms. The
Commissioners were informed that the steam pressure valve project (leading up to the
school) is currently underway between Probation and USC). Note: This area is currently
roped off with yellow "caution" tape. There are uneven sidewalks leading up to the school
which need repair, but the projected start of this concrete replacement work is unknown.

Question(s): Is the steam pressure valve project expected to affect construction or repair completions at the school or on any other areas of the facility? What is the timeline for concrete replacement?

 Commissioners were informed that the area in front of the boy's school is earmarked for building chain-link fences described as "pen-like" barriers to prevent youth from different units from recreating together.

Question: Is this project continuing to be considered and/or planned?

#### **CAMPUS KILPATRICK**

The pre-inspection of Kilpatrick occurred at the end of April 2022, to coincide with plans made by the Probation Department to move the former Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) ("secure track") population from Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) to a permanent secure facility. After months of deliberation among Probation, the BOS, and county and community stakeholders, Campus Kilpatrick was identified as one of two permanent secure facilities for these boys and young men. As such, the key aim of the POC's pre-inspection at Kilpatrick was to assess the facility's readiness to receive the youth from BJNJH; particularly assessing security and safety measures in place as well as having physical space and programming available to the youth.

Three Commissioners along with three staff members from the POC visited Kilpatrick to conduct a preinspection of the facility. The facility's director and a Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO) accompanied the group during the inspection and availed themselves to answer questions from the Commissioners as they came up.

#### Findings:

• Safety and Security Measures: As part of the pre-inspection, the Commissioners performed a walk through of the facility, including alongside the camp's perimeter. All housing areas, administrative and school buildings appeared secure and required key or scan access for entry. Commissioners visited one cottage (Maple) identified as a potential cottage to house the incoming youth. The perimeter fencing immediately outside the cottage did not have the new "roller bar" installed on the top of the fence. This roller bar has been identified as adding a premier layer of security to Kilpatrick. It was explained to the Commissioners that the materials for the roller bars are on back-order, thereby delayed in arriving to Kilpatrick. A precise timeline for their arrival was not given. Since the inspection, the POC has learned that a different cottage, Oak, will be used for the first group of secure track youth and that roller bars are installed on the fencing outside that cottage. Commissioners inspected Oak last year but did not visit that cottage during the April 2022 pre-inspection.

Question(s): What impact does the roller bar back-order have? Are there any other safety or security measures planned for Kilpatrick?

• Physical Space and Programs/Services: Kilpatrick leadership shared the plan to house the incoming youth with the Commissioners: One dedicated cottage would be used for the first group, with both sides available to accommodate youth as they phase-in to Kilpatrick and to provide space for sleeping, education, and programing. As the incoming youth would have their own sleeping quarters, they too would recreate and participate in programming together as well as visit the dining hall with their group for meals. Since this first cohort arriving to Kilpatrick are all high school graduates, they would not attend the LACOE school on-site. Rather, college, vocational, or employment training would need to be identified and provided for this population.

Question(s): What will happen to the youth currently at Kilpatrick serving their camp disposition? What is the housing and school plan for the second/next incoming cohort of boys/young men? What colleges and/or CBO's have been engaged to work with the youth in an educational/vocational or mentorship capacity?

• Other Observations / Staff Perspectives: First, regarding parking lot safety and security, staff felt the security of Kilpatrick would be improved by enhancing parking lot security. The staff culture and leadership seemed positive, and it would be beneficial to probation to maintain that team dynamic. It would be ideal to see the director of Kilpatrick directly involved in conceptualizing youth programming and staff training for secure track under an LA model given her expertise. Related, the DPO's currently at Kilpatrick maintained that they would be willing to work with secure track youth, but the department would need to appropriately train them and increase compensation.

Question(s): Are there any plans to enhance security in the parking lot? Would staff perspectives be directly sought out to inform the transition to Kilpatrick?

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# Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) and Camp Scott Facility Inspection Reports: 2022

Report Prepared by Erica Reynoso, Ph.D., LCSW Jennifer Ochoa-Garcia, MPA

#### **BACKGROUND**

This year (2022) marks the second full year in which the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) completes facility inspections. In 2021, the POC completed facility inspections in eight (8) juvenile facilities, 2 juvenile detention centers ("juvenile halls"), and 6 juvenile camps, including the Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) in Commerce, CA (2021 Facility Inspections Report). For this year, the POC conducted two Facility Pre-Inspections at Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and Campus Kilpatrick (2022 Pre-Inspections Report), which were prompted by extenuating factors related to the temporary closure of CJH and subsequent merging of the two (2) juvenile halls in March 2022 and the plan to move the former "Department of Juvenile Justice" (DJJ) population (hereafter "secure track youth") to a permanent secure facility.

As per the authority to inspect under Title 15 of the California of Code of Regulations and as part of standard operating procedure, the POC intends to complete another inspection cycle this year of eight (8) juvenile facilities, currently operating in Los Angeles County. This official inspection cycle commenced in June 2022 with inspections of the Dorothy Kirby Center and Camp Scott, both located in Commerce, California.

#### **METHODS**

Although DKC and Camp Scott are co-located in Commerce, California, the POC conducted two separate inspections of DKC and Camp Scott. To note, Camp Scott was relocated to Commerce in 2020, but remains operating independently of DKC. Two POC Commissioners inspected DKC and one POC Commissioner inspected Camp Scott. In addition to the Commissioners conducting their inspections, two POC staff members provided support during each inspection.

With ample notification, the inspection at DKC and Camp Scott was coordinated with Probation leadership and leaders at each facility. Further, the template for the inspection was shared with Probation along with email correspondence indicating information, expectations, and suggestions for preparing for each inspection. It should be noted that the data is a "snapshot" captured for that day (of the inspection). Further, the facility's demographic data, such as the "facility's rated capacity," "population" and "staffing" was provided to the POC staff directly by the facility's Director or Administrative Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO); each of these numbers was directly reported in this report. The partner agency data was received from DMH and JCHS managers or leads.

#### **FINDINGS**

The information in each table depicts data gathered directly from the inspected facility. The narrative portions below, which include youth and staff accounts, derived from face-to-face interviews, are direct reports provided by POC Commissioners who conducted the inspections. For the sake of this report, we will refer to Commissioners who inspected Dorothy Kirby Center as "Commissioner A" and "Commissioner B" and will refer to the Commissioner who inspected Camp Scott as "Commissioner C." Notations in the 'Supplemental' section are notes/observations or suggestions made by commissioners during the inspection of this facility. Finally, to fully engage the Probation Department and key stakeholders, this report offers findings and elicits answers to questions posed by the Commission following these inspections.

#### DOROTHY KIRBY CENTER (DKC)

Youth Population (Physical) – Co-Ed.*	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll) - all	Total Active Staff (DPO's and GSN's)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
30	0	92	168	147	1:5	2:5	2	2, 1

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates
10	32	1

<sup>\*2</sup> youth out for medical appointments (Total pop = 32)

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM * (RN's work 8-hour shifts) *6:00 AM start (on days when blood draws are done)
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:30 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days, Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist

#### **Inspection Report #1**

During this inspection, Commissioner A walked through several boys' and girls' cottages and visited the outside and inside areas. Commissioner A inspected areas within each cottage, such as living areas (including the youth rooms, dayrooms, bathrooms, supply closets, dining, and recreational areas). Commissioner A spent a lot of time walking through classrooms and talking with staff and school personnel. Commissioner A also observed a meal in one of the cottages during lunchtime. This service ran well, and the lunch consisted of hot dogs and chips. Special dietary needs for one youth who required it was observed.

In general, the classrooms looked a little depressing; small things such as inspirational posters and things of that nature could probably brighten it up, but overall classrooms looked well kept, appeared neat, and the furniture was also well kept; it didn't look like a lot of wear and tear on it. The girls' classrooms were brighter, and more of them had a "classroom" feel, whereas the boys' classrooms seemed a little bit gloomy overall.

At DKC, there seemed to be the potential to increase the vocational programming for youth. Staff spoke to Commissioner A about interest in expanding the mechanics program. Commissioner A was also interested in learning more about available construction programs or apprenticeships offered to youth at DKC; particularly any training programs with pathways to an apprenticeship, meeting union standards (credentialing).

From conversations with Probation staff (DPO's or "Treatment Counselors" (T&C's), Commissioner A gathered that the staff appreciate working at DKC because their work is primarily focused on youth and is "collaborative" ('work with the team'). However, there are challenges, particularly expressed in the staff's case work or in their role as T&C altogether. Staff explained not having time or nor being supported in their case work (by management), which involves preparing court reports and being available for court hearings. Often, scheduling is not appropriate or is not aligned with the role expectation. When asked about ways to improve these areas, staff was specific and cited the need to schedule (staff) better and the need to clarify and define roles in this facility. For instance, one DPO explained that he is unclear of when he is expected to perform "DPO duties" as a court DPO or when he is expected (or scheduled) to work in the cottage. Staff find the latter problematic and confusing at times. Another DPO commented on this, explaining that scheduling is not 'intentional' as he

primarily works with the boys (does not have much experience working with the girls, in the female cottages) but he may be sporadically assigned to work in a female cottage.

Finally, in speaking with staff typically assigned to the HOPE Center at DKC, they reported that it [HOPE Center] is not utilized all the time (youth not always assigned to HOPE) – the staff identified the need for more programs, with a wider variety of focus, especially in the HOPE cottages.

(Notation: the HOPE Centers house youth that are having difficulties or need time to be able to deescalate).

#### **Supplemental inspection notes**

- The classrooms looked a little depressing; small things such as inspirational posters and things of that nature could probably brighten them up.
- Collaboration is important, necessary create increased opportunities for DPO's, T&C's and Partner agency staff to collaborate and have multi-disciplinary discussions, with youth at the center.
- Have at least two (Probation) school liaisons work alongside school personnel to support educational goals and behavior management plans.
- Provide access to virtual learning for youth or support by paraprofessionals this is especially needed during quarantine periods (COVID-19)

#### **Inspection Report #2**

During this inspection, Commissioner B had the opportunity to view the interior and exterior of the facility. Commissioner B noted that the landscape was well maintained and provide a tranquil environment. Though the security perimeter walls were tall and imposing the lay out of the buildings and landscaping minimized the institutional appearance. Unlike other LA County Probation custody facilities that Commissioner B have inspected, there was no detectable signs of graffiti which this commissioner found remarkable.

In inspecting the girls' dorm, Commissioner B found it to be clean and very well staffed. There were nine girls present and at least three DPO's were also present. Commissioner B noted there was positive interaction between the youths and staff. Commissioner B also observed that the youths interacted well with each other. During Commissioner B's visit to the girl's dorm, lunch was delivered. Most of the ladies received a hot dog and chips lunch, while one received a special lunch to meet her dietary needs. Throughout this visit, Commissioner B noticed that staff had positive interactions with the youths and there was respect by the youths for staff.

During this inspection, Commissioner B spoke to several youth and staff. All interviews were conducted privately to try and get accurate feedback and information. Most youth Commissioner B spoke to expressed feeling 'safe' at DKC, respected by the staff and peers, and felt the program at DKC is 'beneficial.' Most of the youth described staff as helpful, caring, akin 'big brother or mentors.' One youth mentioned feeling encouraged to be 'a good citizen' and to 'finish high school and go to college' by both Probation and LACOE staff. However, one youth, although relayed that she thought the programming was good, enjoyed going to school and felt safe from everyone except one DPO. The youth explained that in her mind the DPO had attitude and was verbally threatening her. Commissioner B explored this with the youth and asked her to elaborate. The youth claimed that the DPO stated: "I have friends here that will hurt you if you get out of line." In further exploring, Commissioner B learned that the youth filed a formal complaint and that it was under investigation. At the conclusion of this interview with this youth, Commissioner B met with the facility Director to follow-up. He confirmed that a complaint had been filed and was under review. Since internal investigations are confidential pursuant to 3300 of the California Government Code, Commissioner B asked no further questions and will rely on the department to resolve the matter.

Commissioner B spoke to several DPO's in various cottages. Most of the DPO's Commissioner B spoke with in the girls' dorm talked about the positive interactions between staff and the youth under their care and in general and how well the girls were responding to the programs provided. One staff member showed Commissioner B the storage room for personal hygiene supplies, cleaning items, and other items that needed secure storage. Commissioner B saw that the room was extremely well organized. This staff member then introduced Commissioner B to a 17-year-old young woman who took great pride in how she had organized and maintained the storage room. To Commissioner B, this demonstrated an example of pride in ownership and in being responsible.

Through interviews with both youth and staff, Commissioner B noted their interactions as well (especially as staff were escorting youth to their interviews with Commissioner B) – they seemed to have positive and mutually respectful interactions. As Commissioner B finished one interview at the school with a youth, Commissioner B asked to talk to the DPO who had escorted that youth. Commissioner B was impressed by the DPO's commitment to the youth in his care. The DPO explained that he enjoys working with the youth ("I work here because I want to make a difference") and shared that he has a degree in sociology and grew up in South Los Angeles. This positive attitude was also noted of the facility director, who seemed to be in-tune with staff members.

Commissioner B also interviewed a LACOE teacher whose classroom was decorated with the projects, posters, and work her students had completed. She explained that she took great pride in working with the "troubled boys." The teacher pointed out that many of the youths had never experienced anybody taking an interest in their education. She relayed that she has been successful in stimulating educational interest in many of the youth in the small class setting.

Although Commissioner B has been to several facilities over the years, through the inspection of this facility, it was concluded that this was the first time Commissioner B has seen such a complimentary population of youths. It appears that a tone is established at this facility of respect, encouragement, and acceptance. Since this was an announced visit, they knew we were coming, and did not seem anything had been rehearsed.

#### Supplemental inspection notes

- Remarkable finding: "Unlike other LA County Probation custody facilities, there was no detectable signs of graffiti."
- Confirmed filing of grievance by youth (and currently under investigation)
- Facility's tone found to be respectful and encouraging

Question 1: Are you engaging CBO's that specialize in vocational training, particularly those that offer special certifications to participants? If so, how many are currently offering services, and/or how many do you plan to engage in the future?

Question 2: What is Probation doing to clarify roles, responsibilities, and expectation among case carrying DPOs, and cottage staff?

#### **CAMP SCOTT**

Youth Population (Physical) – Female	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll) - all	Total Active Staff (DPO's and GSN's)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
3	1	92*	12	11	2:3	2:3	0	0, 0

<sup>\*</sup>DKC's Rated Capacity

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates
6	3	0

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM * (RN's work 8-hour shifts) *6:00 AM start (on days when blood draws are done)
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:30 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days, Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist

#### **Inspection Report**

Camp Scott is housed in a cottage within the Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC). In the cottage, there is a closed-in outdoor concrete area called the "patio" that can be reached through glass doors of the common area. The doors are chained closed. The rectangular patio is enclosed with brick walls that are at least 8 feet high that then open up for a few feet with fencing before connecting to a "roof" made of wire fencing. There is barbed wire on top of the walls. You are able to see the trees and sky through the fenced part of the walls and "roof." It is reminiscent of a very large cage. The furniture, including mattresses, appeared to be in adequate condition. Youth are allowed to decorate and have personal items in their rooms, including stuffed animals. In the individual rooms, the lower half of the windows are painted and the reason given was PREA compliance. The soap dispenser in the toilet area of the bathroom was empty. The entire camp is surrounded by tall brick walls with barbed wire above it. The outdoor space (e.g., grass, flowers) was well-maintained. The recreation area includes a blacktop (asphalt) area with a volleyball net and basketball hoop. There are large cracks (some with grass growing in them) throughout the area. There is also an area with outdoor exercise machines that seem functional.

During this inspection, youth and staff were interviewed. Each were interviewed away from the group, in private spaces. Per Commissioner C's observations, none of the youth had been handcuffed or placed in "solitary confinement." Youth love the outside "patio" where they talk a lot, play cards or draw. Sometimes they are allowed to stay outside longer than the designated recreation time if they ask. There is a small charcoal grill in the patio, and they used it the day earlier for Memorial Day. Youth spoke positively about staff. One said they are there when you need someone to talk to. They generally are accommodating. Youth did not express any problems with quality or access of medical and mental or behavioral health services. One noted that she requests services using medical forms and gets timely responses from the nurse who comes in the morning, after school, and at night. Another said she could immediately see someone if needed. One youth noted that her therapist is good. One youth said she sees her therapist weekly.

No youth expressed discomfort with having staff of different genders. Sometimes they play volleyball against staff during recreation. All youth said they had plans for their transition out of the facility. More than one youth

said that their probation officer assigned to supervise them upon release visited them regularly. There were no complaints about the hygiene products provided.

Staff (including the teacher) seemed to care about the youth and wish they could have more flexibility to provide youth with more programming, field trips and ways to reward/motivate/celebrate youth in ways that are meaningful and appropriate for the youth. It appears that they do what they can with what they have, and what is permitted, to engage youth. The 'Scott team,' including LACOE personnel, report feeling supported by Probation and feels the camp tone is safe, however, note that ensuring that certain activities are permitted by the host facility's management is challenging at times.

Regarding programming: program schedule and conversations with youth and staff show there is very limited programming offered at the camp. When asked to describe their days, youth recounted that most of their time not in school or in outdoor recreation is spent sitting inside in the common area or their room, or outside on the patio talking, playing cards and games, drawing, doing arts and crafts, and watching movies (that they can request). Based on conversations and the schedule provided, it's not clear how often "Life Skills Group" takes place. "Life Skills Group" is listed every day in a time slot that also gives the option for Cottage Recreation. The specific Community Based Organization (CBO) groups that regularly offer programming at Camp Scott include Anti-Recidivism Coalition; they offer program on Sunday for 1.5 hours; the Million Little Group program is scheduled for 2.5 hours on Thursday (and replaces some of the school time that occurs on all of the other weekdays after lunch) and the STRONG program is scheduled for 1 hour on Saturday. One youth praised a work program that youth can do on the weekends and get paid \$15/hour to do things like sweep, mop, clean bathrooms, do laundry, or otherwise help the supervisor. Youth can work a maximum of 4 hours per weekend. Their wages are given to their probation officer or to them when they are released. During this inspection, Commissioner C noticed the arrival of a CBO (volunteer) at the end of the school day leading art projects with Camp Scott youth.

#### **Supplemental inspection notes**

- Probation staff expressed the need for better communication and collaboration among the different agencies (DMH, JCHS, LACOE) and facilities (DKC) and would like to see more engagement and communication between CBO's and Probation staff as well.
- Increase collaboration and communication between the two facilities (DKC and Scott)
- Probation staff indicated that they had better programs, increased flexibility, space (track, grass field) and more CBO's offering services at the (original) Camp Scott (in Santa Clarita) compared to Scott at Kirby.
- Some staff agreed that they would like to see more CBO's that are focused on "life skills" (in addition to "art")
- Probation staff report benefitting from "trauma-informed" training but would also like to see an
  increase in practical, day-to-day type of training that could enhance their job performance at the facility
- Concerns expressed about staff shortages or lack of staffing resources solely dedicated to Camp Scott

Question 1: What are some opportunities being created to enhance team building, cross training, and interfacility communication between Camp Scott, DKC, and agency partners?

Question 2: What is the plan to increase the daily programming opportunities at Camp Scott?

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# LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

2022 Facility Inspection Reports

Camp Paige
Camp Afflerbaugh
Camp Rockey

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#### **Background**

This year (2022) marks the second full year in which the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) completes facility inspections. In 2021, the POC completed facility inspections in eight juvenile facilities, two juvenile detention centers ("juvenile halls"), and six juvenile camps, including the Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) (2021 Facility Inspections Report). As per the authority to inspect under Title 15 of the California of Code of Regulations and as part of standard operating procedure, the POC will complete another inspection cycle this year of all eight juvenile facilities currently operating in Los Angeles County. For the 2022 inspections cycle, as recommended by the Board of Supervisors (BOS), the POC will communicate findings to the Probation Department with increased frequency, following each inspection, in addition to the delivery of the annual report and that the Probation Department respond to the inspection reports in writing. Thus, to fully engage the Probation Department and key stakeholders, this procedure continues to be followed; thereby offering findings and eliciting answers to the questions posed by the Commission following the inspections of Camps Paige, Afflerbaugh and Rockey in this report.

From the start of the 2022 inspection cycle, the POC conducted two Facility *Pre-Inspections* at Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and Campus Kilpatrick (2022 Pre-Inspections Report), which were prompted by extenuating factors related to the temporary closure of CJH and subsequent merging of the two (2) juvenile halls in March 2022 and the plan to move the former "Department of Juvenile Justice" (DJJ) population (hereafter "SYTF" – youth designated to Secure Treatment Facilities) to a permanent secure facility. Then, inspections at the Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) and Camp Scott, both co-located in Commerce, California, were completed in June; shared observations appear in this report. The camps in the Eastern part of the County, Camps Paige, Afflerbaugh and Rockey, were conducted in October 2022.

#### **Methods**

Each official POC inspection is conducted by at least one Commissioner who utilizes direct observations as their primary method of reporting as well as relies upon interviews with youth and staff assigned to the respective facilities.

The inspections of Camps Paige, Afflerbaugh, and Rockey were conducted on different days by different POC Commissioners. Although Camps Paige and Afflerbaugh are co-located in La Verne, California, the POC conducted two separate inspections. Two POC Commissioners inspected Camp Paige and one POC Commissioner inspected Camp Afflerbaugh. Two Commissioners traveled to San Dimas, California to inspect Camp Rockey. POC staff members provided support during each inspection.

With ample notification, the inspection of these three Camps were coordinated with Probation leadership and leaders at each facility. Further, the template for the inspection was shared with Probation along with email correspondence indicating information, expectations, and suggestions for preparing for each inspection. It should be noted that the data is a "snapshot" captured for the day of the inspection. Additionally, the facility's demographic data, such as the "facility's rated capacity," "population" and "staffing" was provided to the POC staff directly by the facility's Director, Administrative Director or Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO); each of these numbers was directly reported in this report. The partner agency data was received from Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) managers or leads.

#### **Findings**

The information in each table depicts data gathered directly from each camp facility. The narrative portions following each table include youth and staff accounts derived from face-to-face interviews with POC Commissioners.

For the sake of this report, we will refer to Commissioners who inspected Camp Paige as "Commissioner A" and "Commissioner B" and will refer to the Commissioner who inspected Camp Afflerbaugh as "Commissioner C." The Commissioners who inspected Camp Rockey will be referred to as "Commissioner D" and "Commissioner E".

#### **Camp Paige**

Youth Population (Physical)*	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll)	Total Peace Officers	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
16	0	120	65	56	2:1	2:1	0	0

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates
Unverified	13	3

<sup>\*1</sup> youth in LA County Jail and 1 youth at CJH for dentistry appointment

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

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Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM (RN's work 8-hour shifts) plus 24-hour access to on-call physician					
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days, Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist					

#### Inspection Report #1

Upon arrival at Camp Paige, **Commissioner A** was alerted that there was a possibility that the camp might be placed under quarantine because of a positive COVID-19 test by a member of Probation's staff. Commissioner A entered the facility taking precautions and proceeded to carry out a limited physical inspection and interviewed probation staff and youth under supervision. Commissioner A noted the existing population as reported by the Probation staff was 20, with one youth at Central Juvenile Hall for a dental procedure. Commissioner A performed a cursory inspection of the physical plant and focused on interviews with youth and staff.

According to Commissioner A, there is not a designated court holding area for youth at Camp Paige. However, youth who have court dates are transported the night before in orange clothes to holding areas at the courthouse and must remain in those outfits while at court. Other court hearings are held by Webex with the youth in conference room or another room on an ad hoc basis. Commissioner A also noted that orientation is held initially by probation staff only and then a second orientation is conducted as part of the first Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting up to ten days later. At the first orientation, youth are given a packet, the packet is

explained to them, and the youth and staff fill out an intake. Commissioner A reviewed one of the packets and noticed that the staff filled out most of it, but the youth refused to take part in the surveys.

Youth are allowed at least four to five phone calls per week from the dorms that are supervised by a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO). All phone calls are documented in Probation Case Management System (PCMS) and logged in a Call Log. Staff said that youth are allowed to take attorney calls when they do not interfere with a court ordered program and are typically supervised by a DPO. Visits take place in the gym on Sundays from 1pm to 4pm. Special visits are allowed in the Administrative Area and supervised by the officer of record. Accommodations for parents' schedules depend on director authorization.

Commissioner A notated that there is no Hope Center or individual confinement rooms at the facility. When students are suspended from school, they are sent to sit in different parts of the dormitory. Youth are sent to Camp Rockey when they need to "cool down". Youth can file grievances or complaints at any time in the facility. The grievance boxes and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) posters are easily accessible and visible throughout the camp and in the dorms in both English and Spanish languages. While inspecting the dormitory rooms, Commissioner A noticed that "there were a handful of youth present,...a cleaning crew in the showers,...[and] both the interior of the dormitory and the interior of the bathrooms and showers...appeared clean and well maintained."

Commissioner A met with a Probation Officer who has been employed by the department for over 15 years. During this interview, several topics were explored, including staffing needs and strategies for improving youth outcomes. Commissioner A and the senior Deputy Probation Officer discussed a common lament of probation staff – the elimination of traditional discipline such as the use of the Special Handling Unit (SHU) and the use of chemical restraints. The discussion transitioned into identifying alternative strategies to achieve compliance with instructions or to disrupt youth-on-youth violence while eliminating the force-compliance modalities. The Probation Officer explained that without sufficient deterrence, officers lacked an overall sense of safety while at the camps. This observation was not limited to the officer's experience at Camp Paige but extended to all other facilities where they had worked. The Probation Officer stated that the only meaningful alternative to chemical restraints or the SHU is the creation and maintenance of personal relationships between staff and youth.

This interview then turned to the resources that the department had dedicated to educating the staff about the common-sense conclusion of the import of personal relationships. The veteran Probation Officer revealed that beyond superficial mention of "rapport building" in introductory trainings, they were not aware of any trainings offered by the department that enhanced or supported the basics of building rapport and relationships with the youth they are charged with supervising. Importantly, this Probation Officer recognized "relationship building" as critical to working with youth that present the highest level of risk. The Probation Officer offered an example of one of the staff who was exceptional at cultivating relationships with their supervisees (officer #2). The Probation Officer shared that officer #2 displayed empathy, fairness, and firmness when necessary; all in the context of maintaining order and promoting youth development within the camp. It was clear to this Probation Officer that officer #2 had invested in the relationships of youth which rendered a high rate of compliance and development out of the youth overseen. When Commissioner A asked how many other officers displayed this same skill at any level, they responded, "none." The Probation Officer then arranged for Commissioner A to meet with officer #2.

Commissioner A proceeded with interviewing officer #2 in the same location later that morning. The conversation between Commissioner A and officer #2 began with discussions around the overall safety concerns and the elimination of traditional discipline "tools," such as chemical restraints and the SHU. When asked what the most important "tool" they had at their disposal working in a detention facility, officer #2 replied, "relationships." Although officer #2 was a college graduate with a degree unrelated to psychology or behavioral science, officer #2 recognized intuitively that the scope of being a Probation Officer was establishing human connections, being empathetic, and ensuring clients that they are being understood. Officer #2 was keen to learn what interested and motivated the youth under their supervision. This knowledge combined with officer #2's own lived experience and expertise was used to develop positive relationships with the supervised youth. As reported by the officer in the first interview as well as the youth interviewed afterwards, the youth under officer #2's supervision were generally positively compliant and engaged with their rehabilitation program in a way that differed from youth supervised by other staff.

Commissioner A interviewed a youth immediately following the meeting with officer #2. The youth interviewed by Commissioner A was first detained at age 13 and expressed familiarity with the camp expectations since the youth had previously been to three camps and two juvenile halls. Commissioner A and the youth focused on his "graduate" status. Although the youth is not going to LACOE school, he is still involved in other programming with his peers – he completed the required high school coursework but was still able to participate in programs offered at his camp. Another topic that arose was identifying what characteristics made a Probation Officer a "good PO". The youth believed that a "good PO" was "someone who listened to [the youth], was fair, and importantly, made an effort to establish a relationship beyond simply ordering [youth] around." This youth shared that officer #2 was that type of officer. Further, the youth shared that officer #2 did inclusive things like start a book club and brought books of all reading levels in English and Spanish in for the youth to read and discuss. The youth expressed gratitude and appreciation towards officer #2 for making an effort to connect with clients through their own interests while being empathetic and engaged with the youth. The youth observed many youth under officer #2's supervision were involved in interesting projects and were involved in fewer conflicts with staff and other youth.

Commissioner A concluded that the staff uniformly lack sufficient training and oversight on the benefits of forming positive relationships with the youth. The fact that there is no specific training or ongoing support for probation staff regarding positive youth relationships suggest this is a major deficit in the department's training program and philosophy employed by the staff.

#### Inspection Report #2

Soon after arriving to the camp, **Commissioner B** observed the food services including delivery of food from the kitchen to the youth. Commissioner B also observed the youth eating lunch, which was the same food that Probation staff were eating. Youth were permitted to converse and supervised by Deputy Probation Officers (DPOs). After engaging in conversation with the Probation Officer, Commissioner B learned that both the youth and staff were dissatisfied with the grilled cheese sandwich due to the cheese not being melted. Commissioner B noted that the youth resorted to eating their stored snacks from their cubbies instead of the food offered for lunch that day.

Thereafter, Commissioner B visited the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) office where the interim principal discussed the school schedule, curriculum, and interdisciplinary exchanges between LACOE, Probation, and agency partners. The interim principal explained that an inter-agency (LACOE, Probation, and DMH) meeting is held every other week where advice is shared from all partners. For example, Probation has recently assisted LACOE with clarifying 'write-up' reports. Further, the interim principal reported feeling comfortable asking Probation for assistance and support in real-time situations, such as requesting support from a DPO to sit-in the classroom. The interim principal also referenced re-entry meetings between Probation, LACOE, and youth as being a positive feedback meeting to assist youth with class reintegration after suspension. Commissioner B was informed that discipline and positive reinforcement are applied using the Behavior Management Program, Policy RTSB-600. Partner agencies participate in the discipline/reward programs. Commissioner B concluded that teachers at this camp prefer to have Probation staff stay positioned in the classroom to support with activities and classroom management, which LACOE has made known to Probation leadership. The interim principal remarked that LACOE operations in the camp generally ran smoothy, "Great, [with] no problem," but additional classroom resources such as paraprofessionals and Behavior Technicians are needed. After interviewing school personnel and Probation Officers serving as LACOE liaisons, Commissioner B received increased concern over prominent drug usage as staff have witnessed youth seeming to be under the influence many times, in the classroom and in the dorm.

Commissioner B spent some time speaking to youth and staff in the dorm area – this was midafternoon as the school day was still going on. While in the dorm, Commissioner B observed some youth very involved in schoolwork and others struggling and worried because they could not re-enter the LACOE portal on their laptops. Some youth were new to the camp and needed their passwords re-set. Commissioner B informed the principal, and this issue was taken care of right away. Many youth Commissioner B spoke to complained about being bored and preferred listening to music. Commissioner B observed that TV and movies are available to youth in the dorm, but the content is limited – one youth said they watch a music television channel and have access to four DVD's – all of which have not changed since his arrival.

The last youth Commissioner B interviewed was recently admitted to this camp and on a modified program due to recent 'write-ups' related to marijuana use. The youth reported feeling upset and singled out for "getting caught smoking weed" while three other youth were also known to be using marijuana. Commissioner B also learned that this youth "did not receive a prize for basketball game" in which all youth participated, has received "7 write-ups" so far for frivolous things such as "not walking in a straight line," and expressed feelings of being targeted for "speak[ing] up and ask[ing] questions." Towards the conclusion of the interview, this youth shared details on the living conditions with Commissioner B. The youth expressed that the food at the camp "is nasty", the clothes do not quite fit, and the youth has "big blisters on his toes from [the] shoes." Commissioner B heard the youth regard the recreation time as being a positive experience when they can participate in it.

#### **Camp Afflerbaugh**

Youth Population (Physical)*	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll)	Total Peace Officers	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
20	1	120	67	49	2:1	2:1	0	1

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates	
4	Unverified	Unverified	

<sup>\*1</sup> youth at BJNJH for court and 1 youth at Rockey's HOPE Center

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM (RN's work 8-hour shifts) plus 24-hour access to on-call physician			
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days, Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist			

#### Inspection Report

Camp Afflerbaugh's process with court and attorney access for youth is identical to that of Camp Paige in which youth are transported to the courthouse one night prior to their court date in orange attire. Additionally, the youth orientation procedures are identical to that of Camp Paige where Probation Staff orients the youth initially, followed by a full MDT meeting up to ten days later.

Youth are allowed at least one "casework" call per week from the dorms that are supervised by a DPO. They can get two additional "covid" calls per week from the offices. However, all phone calls are documented in PCMS. Staff said that youth are allowed to take attorney calls, which are rare, but also supervised by a DPO. One youth informed **Commissioner C** that recently an attorney called [the camp] for this youth, but the staff did not get the youth for the call.

Although there is not a Hope Center or confined rooms at Camp Afflerbaugh, youth were sent to Camp Rockey's Hope Center should confinement be needed. During Commissioner C's visit, there was one youth who had been sent to the Hope Center at Camp Rockey. When students are suspended, they are sent to sit in different parts of the dormitory. Both youth and staff complained that there was no place where youth could go to be alone, which would be the best de-escalation strategy.

Grievances were not reviewed by Commissioner C due to accessibility. Commissioner C requested access to them after 5:30 in the afternoon, but reportedly no one at the camp had access to the grievances at that time. However, it was noted by Commissioner C and POC staff that the grievances were all on paper and none were in Juvenile Institutions Grievance System (JIGS). Grievances being maintained in the JIGS system is alarming and of particular concern because one year ago, some camps experienced a significant glitch in the JIGS system. This glitch caused JIGS to generate zero grievances, but months later it was discovered that many grievances had been held in the system. Although Commissioner C was unable to access the paper grievances during the inspection, the POC staff confirmed earlier in the day during this

inspection that the grievances were mainly related to access to clothing, distasteful food, and teacher complaints. During one of Commissioner C's interviews with a youth, the youth was dismissive of the grievance procedure, and mentioned that many of the youth had written grievances regarding the food, and nothing was done about it. As a result, the youth concluded that writing grievances were ineffective. The grievance boxes and PREA posters are easily accessible and visible throughout the camp and in the dorms in both English and Spanish languages.

Commissioner C observed dinner in the dining hall and inspected the kitchen. Youth entered the dining hall in silence and were expected to remain in silence until the last few minutes. At that time, they were allowed to speak quietly. There were 4-6 Probation Officers and 14 youth present in the dining hall, there was ample nutritious food, but it did not look appetizing. One youth interviewed by Commissioner C complained that expired pudding and molded bread had been served to youth. Immediately after, Commissioner C went on to inspect the kitchen and reported seeing no evidence of expired or molded food. However, the dishwasher was broken and there appeared to be no plan to fix it despite a workorder being made two weeks earlier. Note: Probation camp leadership and executive management were notified of this issue (dishwasher) and about a non-operational washing machine at the end of this inspection; they responded with plans to address this issue.

Commissioner C observed two programs being offered after school the day of this inspection. One program was a youth peer support group facilitated by the camp director and the other was a photography class led by the Boyle Heights Art Collective. Because the youth group usually meets on Thursday, but was moved to Friday, it conflicted with the photography class. There were ten people in the youth peer support group. Usually there would be five youth in the photography class, but because of the scheduling conflict, only one youth attended the photography class. One of the youth shared that they only join the religious services and Saturday music classes.

Commissioner C spoke to several staff about discipline and positive behavior or incentivized programs and learned that staff utilize the RTSB-600 program. Staff complained about there not being enough negative consequence options to control youth's behavior and the youth complained about the inconsistent use of the RTSB-600 program. Youth expressed that some shifts of staff were overly strict compared to others, and in interviews, staff agreed that different shifts were inconsistent in discipline expectations.

According to interviews with both youth and staff, visiting is generally seamless and always supervised by Probation staff. Visits take place in shifts, with an average of four taking place at a time. Special visits are arranged when needed, but regular visits take place on weekends on the blacktop of the field. When it is too hot or too wet or cold, visits are held in the dining hall.

Commissioner C spent quite some time in the LACOE classrooms, talking with school personnel as well as engaging students. There were two classrooms at this facility: one was staffed by a soon-to-retire teacher and the other was staffed by a long-term substitute teacher. Although there is a special education teacher who goes between classes, the special education students are split into both classes. Commissioner C noticed that each class had over ten youth in it. One student was suspended several times while Commissioner C was conducting this inspection. During classroom observations, Commissioner C noted recent student work on the walls. The work demonstrated students had been reading and understanding novels, but the work they produced was far below grade level. Probation and LACOE staff have a working relationship, but neither are happy with the other. Teachers want probation staff in the classroom, but

probation staff remain outside of the class because they believe the teachers rely on them too much to handle classroom management, which is the teachers' purview. Probation staff also complain that teachers fail to "restructure," students, suspend too often, and exaggerate students' misbehavior, incorrectly using terms like "terrorist threats," in ways that harm youths' dispositions in court. Commissioner C noted that there is a new school principal assigned to this camp and suggests, while there is support for the inclusion model, there are concerns about splitting the special ed students into both classrooms, making the special ed teacher shuttle between them. Also noted by Commissioner C is that having classes of over 10 students might be too large.

In addition to all the brief interviews and engagement with youth and staff throughout the day, Commissioner C also conducted (15-20 mins) interviews with the camp director, the school principal, and two DPO's. The consensus among staff was that they] were concerned with their own safety because of increased contraband (drugs and weapons) being smuggled into the camps, with too few consequential options for youth's misbehavior. Two probation staff members spoke of a concern that a student tried to have a gun passed to him from outside the camp through the fence near the field. One DPO complained that he believed parents were bringing in the contraband and that parents should be searched.

#### Inspection Questions - Afflerbaugh and Paige

- 1. Has the Department considered adding signage on the trails/open areas around the facilities to possible deter potential contraband or unauthorized visitors?
- 2. Is Probation offering or facilitating supplemental training or classes for rapport and relationship-building between line staff and youth?
- **3.** Have the major appliance issues been resolved?
- **4.** Has vocational or trade programming increased at either camp?
- 5. How is the suspected increase of drug use and contraband being addressed?
- **6.** Will specialized tactical training (related to adolescent development) be provided (or is it already being offered) to SEO's?
- **7.** Are any measures being taken to build youth's confidence in submitting grievances, particularly paper-form ones?
- 8. Since there was a mix of students with a variety of needs (i.e., some very focused on their studies, on the cusp of graduating while others are just getting started and others who are sensitive to noises or easily distracted by them), is providing headphones to students when they have to work on the laptops during school hours an feasible solution?

#### **Camp Rockey**

Youth Population (Physical)*	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll)	Total Peace Officers	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
23	1	125	87	72	2:3	2:3	0	0

Total Cred	dentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates
	6	22	1

<sup>\*1</sup> youth at court

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

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Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM (RN's work 8-hour shifts) plus 24-hour access to on-call physician				
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days, Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist				

#### Inspection Report #1

Upon arriving, **Commissioner D** noted that there was a check point at the entrance of the Camp due to an influx of contraband. After entering the facility, Commissioner D explained, "Overall, the facility was clean and maintained. There are nicely painted murals at different locations, and they list the students who helped create them." Commissioner D noted that there is no court holding area in the camp, and youth who have court dates are transported the night before in orange clothes to holding areas and remain in those outfits at court. Other court hearings are held by Webex with the youth in a conference room or another room on an ad hoc basis.

Orientation is done initially by probation staff only and then a second orientation is done as part of the first MDT meeting up to ten days later. At the first orientation, youth are given a packet, the packet is explained to them, and the youth and staff fill out an intake form. Grievance procedures are also reviewed with youth during this initial period. Grievance boxes and PREA posters are easily accessible and visual to youth in the dorm and throughout the camp. PREA posters appear in both English and Spanish. It was reported that there have been forty-four grievances for the calendar year.

Youth are allowed at least one call per week from the dorms that are supervised by a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO). All phone calls are documented in PCMS and logged into a Call Log. Commissioner D explained that Camp Rockey has a Hope Center, which also takes in youth from neighboring camps Afflerbaugh and Paige. Youth are sent to Camp Rockey when they need to "cool down".

Visits take place in the Dining Hall on Sundays from 1pm to 4pm. Special visits are allowed in the administrative area and supervised by the officer of record. Accommodations for parents' schedules depend on the Probation Officers' caseloads.

Commissioner D noticed that the gym had recently been renovated which included "new lighting, new paint, padded walks, and new hardwood flooring." The track and field area appeared "well maintained".

Thereafter, Commissioner D spoke to several staff from Probation, the Kitchen, and LACOE. During an interview with a DPO, it was highlighted that there was a sense of stability at Camp Rockey that could be credited to the work ethic and tone set by staff. This DPO noted that there was one DPO who was an example to follow. Next, Commissioner D inquired about a radio frequency issue from a previous inspection, and the DPO confirmed that this issue had been resolved by reducing the radio's range. Commissioner D spoke with the kitchen head chef, who used his life experience to build rapport with the youth, to eventually mentor and motivate them. The Chef was a credentialed teacher with the ability to certify the youth in SafeServ Management.

The LACOE counselor explained to Commissioner D that both Mission College and Glendale Community College offered courses to graduated youth. Commissioner D inquired about LACOE's role when receiving feedback from the youth related to school, as several youth shared their opinion about school with Commissioner D. Commissioner D learned that some youth interviewed did not have positive feedback related to their schooling as they felt that they had been "failed by LACOE." The LACOE counselor who engaged Commissioner D reported that they would review the feedback provided.

Some youth shared their desire to "get out of camp" to pursue their trade of choice and care for their families. Several youth informed Commissioner D of their positive experience with their DPO (this is the same DPO that was referenced above). The youth described this DPO to Commissioner D as "awesome", "inspiring" and how this DPO "needs to be cloned".

#### Inspection Report #2

**Commissioner E** arrived at the facility in the late morning. Once Commissioner E entered the facility, the "youth all looked healthy and well groomed." When describing the physical condition of the facility, Commissioner E stated that most buildings were "aging but in general good condition," and "the dining hall roof had a leaking air conditioner where there was a significant amount of slimy mold growing where the water ran off the roof."

After interviewing youth and staff, Commissioner D stated that "staff are very responsive to requests for attorney calls." Commissioner D noted that those same youth described the orientation process as "comprehensive" and "multi-disciplinary" once they arrived. One youth felt that their stay in the Hope Center when they first arrived at Camp Rockey was a way to "feel-out the new youth."

Commissioner D inspected the kitchen, observed a meal, and interviewed kitchen staff and youth. Commissioner D described the kitchen as being "in very good condition with all the equipment working and all the food apparently stored properly." Commissioner D noticed that the "food was healthy and looked like typical high school cafeteria food except that students were served grapes that did not look fresh and canned green beans that looked extremely unappetizing." Commissioner D observed that the youth sat in their assigned groups and were allowed to talk to each other and to staff. Commissioner D "saw no youth taking advantage of the ability to talk by being overly loud or disruptive" and described the staffing as being "ample". Commissioner D heard the staff congratulate winners of a contest and thanked youth for their good behavior that day.

While observing the culinary arts class, which was taught during the LACOE school day in the kitchen, Commissioner D noticed "youth were working well together as a team. The youth and the teacher seemed proud to show off their work. The teacher said that the youth had done bookwork before cooking and that they should all be job-ready and certified in food handling by the end of the class."

Commissioner D reviewed grievances and obtained accounts from the youth about the grievance process. Commissioner D noted that most of the interviewed youth had never filed a grievance. The inconsistencies between what he was being told and what he read when reviewing the written grievances was alarming to Commissioner D. During this inspection, the most common grievances were related to the "temperature in the dorms being either too hot or too cold." Commissioner D explained that several grievances were specific complaints about statements made by DPOs or teachers. Commissioner D noted that one grievance was about a teacher "yelling" at students, which Commissioner D recalled observing a class where "a teacher raise[d] her voice repeatedly at students."

Commissioner D observed several programs after school. Commissioner D noted that educational programs were run virtually by Mission College which included a college health course, an OSHA class, and a work program class, but only four youth were in that program. Commissioner D stated that ADVOT ran a class for 2-4 youth that appeared to be a life skills class. Commissioner D also observed Tia Chucha's multi-media art class where there were two youth participating. Commissioner D observed about six youth playing sports under the supervision of probation staff and the remaining youth appeared to be with DMH. Overall, "there were plenty of programs available for that one hour after class, but there appeared to be holes in the programming for other time periods."

By engaging in conversations with youth and staff, Commissioner D gathered that visiting in the dining halls "goes well" and staff were described as "respectful". One staff informed Commissioner D that they believed that one family member had been bringing in contraband during visiting hours, but it was stopped. Staff described searching youth for contraband after visiting hours, and the youth explained to Commissioner D that the searches were done "respectfully and for good reason."

Commissioner D went on to observe two classes where school continued to be a "weak point". Commissioner D stated, "In the first class, students were asked to finish up notes from an earlier video and discussion of current events and then use their computers for computer-based reading instruction. The current events work involved summarizing, and struggling youth were allowed to simply copy the work off the board." Commissioner D also noted that "students were all engaged in doing the work". Commissioner D's observations of the second class included "Students [being] asked to write a couple of sentences from what sounded like an RTSA prompt, but most of the class time...was spent with students defying the teacher and the teacher escalating the problem by raising her voice and ordering students to follow her instructions. The paraeducator seemed to try to support the teacher by also issuing stern instructions to the youth and then telling the teacher when the students didn't comply. One DPO wandered around the room guietly telling youth to relax and not make it worse." Overall, it was not an environment where learning was possible. Commissioner D's observations "reinforced what students said, which was that the computers are the best teachers at Rockey and that classroom instruction was overall unengaging and hard to care about for any reason other than trying to get units."

Commissioner D concluded the inspection with youth interviews. "One youth [identified as getting in more trouble than many of the other youth]...described being sent to the Hope Center once or twice per month since arriving...for only a few hours or until evening so that [the youth] could cool off. [The youth] described a system where probation staff would leave the door slightly open or closed, depending on [the youth's] apparent ability to control [their] emotions,...as a signal that [the youth] could come out and talk [which was liked by the youth]. [The youth] described being put in the Hope Center once for three days, the most [the youth had] ever been there, not based on [their] ability to control [their] emotions but based on the seriousness of [their] offense (starting a multi-party fight). In this way,...the Hope Center is occasionally used as a punishment and not a 'cool-down' opportunity. But overall, the youth was glad to have the Hope Center there for when [the youth] needed time away from everyone."

The interviewed youth informed Commissioner D that they "feel the discipline was appropriate and fair most of the time. [One officer] was specifically singled out as 'being on people's bumper' all the time but in a good way." Commissioner D observed several instances of staff giving youth positive verbal reinforcement and getting group rewards of food as encouragement, but some youth complained about female DPOs being "too sensitive." While it was an obviously sexist statement (which Commissioner D pointed out to them), it also seems to indicate that there is more that the male staff can do to ensure the youth respect female staff equally.

Interviews with Probation staff revealed concerns expressed about judges giving youth long detention time in the Hope Center. It was highlighted that there was a youth dispositioned to 30 days in the Hope Center, for which staff felt that this was "too long." In addition, concerns about the utilization of the Hope Center, outside its intended use as "cool-down" was noted.

#### **Inspection Questions – Rockey**

- 1. Is there a work order in place to address the leaking air-cooler in the kitchen (which has a layer of moss or mold along the outer edge of the roof)?
- 2. Does the Department have a plan to incorporate credible messengers into the camp framework?
- 3. How is the Hope Center being utilized by neighboring camps (Afflerbaugh, Paige)?
- **4.** Are there any administrative procedures in place to avoid prolonged periods of time spent in the HOPE Center?
- 5. Is there an identified graffiti-prevention or graffiti removal program?

###

### 2022 Facility Inspections: Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH), Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and Campus Kilpatrick ("Kilpatrick")

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION (POC)

#### **BACKGROUND**

This year (2022) marks the second full year in which the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) completes inspections in juvenile facilities operated by the Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation or the Department). In both 2021 and 2022, the POC completed facility inspections in eight juvenile facilities, two juvenile detention centers ("juvenile halls"), and six juvenile camps, including the Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) (2021 Facility Inspections report). However, in 2022, the POC also completed two facility "pre-inspections" at Central Juvenile Hall and Campus Kilpatrick earlier this year (2022 Pre-Inspections reports).

This report includes the facility inspections of Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH), Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and Campus Kilpatrick (or "Kilpatrick) which were conducted in October 2022.

In the interest of following the recommendations of the Board of Supervisors (BOS), the POC now communicates the findings of its inspections to the Probation Department with increased frequency, following each inspection, in addition to the delivery of an annual report. Further, each inspection includes recommendations and questions from the POC to which the Department are expected to respond in writing.

#### **METHODS**

Each official POC inspection is conducted by at least one Commissioner who utilizes direct observations as their primary method of reporting as well as relies upon interviews with youth and staff assigned to the respective facilities.

Two POC Commissioners inspected BJNJH, two inspected CJH, and one POC Commissioner inspected Campus Kilpatrick. At least two POC staff members provided support during each inspection.

The inspections of each facility were coordinated by POC staff, giving full notice to Probation leadership and leaders at each facility. Further, the template for the inspection was shared with Probation along with detailed email correspondence indicating information needed, expectations, and suggestions for preparing for each inspection.

It should be noted that the data is a "snapshot" captured for the day of the inspection. This means that data reporting, observations, youth, and staff interviews are indicative only of the date of the inspection and this report does not purport to suggest long-term trends or provide a comprehensive analysis.

Additionally, the facility's demographic data, such as the "facility's rated capacity," "population" and "staffing" information herein is provided to the POC directly by the facility's Director, Administrative Director or Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (SDPO). The partner agency data was received from Department of Mental Health (DMH), LA County Office of Education (LACOE) and Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) managers or leads.

#### **FINDINGS**

The information in each table depicts data gathered directly from each juvenile facility. Although these facility inspections were all conducted in October 2022, the facility reports appear in order of chronological sequence by date (first inspected to last inspected). However, in an abundance of precaution, to protect youth and staff members' identities and ensure confidentiality in a reasonable manner, each inspection date and individual names have omitted from this report.

The narrative portions following each table include youth and staff accounts derived from face-to-face interviews with POC Commissioners. For the sake of this report, we will refer to the Commissioners who conducted the inspections at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall as "Commissioner A" and "Commissioner B;" the

Commissioners who conducted the inspections at Central Juvenile Hall as "Commissioner C" and "Commissioner D" and the Commissioner who conducted the inspection at Campus Kilpatrick as "Commissioner E."

#### Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH)

Youth Population (Physical) – Co-Ed.	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll) - all	Total Active Staff (DPO's and GSN's)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
205*	5	584	378	221	1:2	1:3	1	0

<sup>\*5</sup> youth attended court physically

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates	
14	155	50	

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Nursing Coverage: (3 shifts)
		6:30 AM - 2:30 PM, 2:30PM - 10:30PM and 10:30PM -
		6:30 AM
*Dental Clinic available as needed		Doctors on site M – F (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM) and on-call on
		the weekends
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:30 PM (Staff Shifts: 10-hour days,
		Sun – Wed or Wed – Sat.) <i>plus 24-hour access to on-call</i>
		DMH psychiatrist

#### **Inspection Report #1**

Commissioner A first visited the holding area of BJNJH's Juvenile Courthouse to report on its conditions. It was Commissioner A's observations that no youth were in the holding area at the time of the visit. There were two identical holding tanks next to each which contained a small holding area with a wooden bench, and a semiconcealed area for youth to use the restroom. It was unclear to Commissioner A whether the restrooms were being actively used because one toilet was not working in one of the holding areas and there was no tissue in the other, and overall, they appeared to be unused. No staff member was available during this time to provide further detail about the restrooms' condition, but it was noted that holding rooms could use repainting to cover the graffiti that appears to be longstanding.

Commissioner A inspected the cafeteria which appeared safe and sanitary with all staff wearing proper gear and menus, schedules and signage was posted appropriately. It also appeared that the food was stored at the appropriate temperatures.

#### Unit R/S

Commissioner A spent most of their inspection time dedicated to visiting SYTF units and interviewing youth and staff. Commissioner A visited unit R/S during school hours to see how youth were occupying themselves during the day. This unit is said to be the unit for SYTF youth who "earned" their way out of Unit X and the compound. Staff have told them they are working toward moving to Kilpatrick; one staff referred to the youth in these units as "the good kids."

Most of the youth assigned to the unit were high school graduates who spent the prime of their day in the dayroom watching movies.

It is noted that there are no wet rooms in this unit. Restroom facilities are shared. Restroom conditions were disappointing and unsanitary. There was soiled paper on the floor, open soap containers on the counter and on the floor, and two large grey bins that had used clothing and trash combined throughout. While the condition of the bathroom did not seem very concerning, Commissioner A noted that it was dirtier and less hygienic than it was during their previous visit.

Commissioner A reviewed safety check logs to inspect for BSCC compliance. Probation staff appeared to do timely checks. Commissioner A expressed a great concern that one room had a wool blanket adhered to the window and completely blacked out the room; even if a safety check was conducted, the room was so dark that unless the staff turned on the light, the person could not be effectively monitored. After [Commissioner A] asked staff, it was casually mentioned that 'they do that sometimes but are supposed to take it down,' which indicated that the blanket was up during the checks throughout the morning. Commissioner A noted that although understandably the daylight can be bright in the rooms, having blacked out rooms can be compromising and unsafe.

During Commissioner A's walkthrough, staff was useful in explaining recent R/S activity along with the challenges that have come with SYTF youth movement throughout the facility. The key argument being that communication was poor and often decisions are made with poor planning and/or poor communication. One of the greatest challenges noted within the STYF transition was the application of the "DSB programming model," which does not account for population or circumstantial differences. Issues arise when it comes to behavior management and incentivization. Times might call for policies that are specific to SYTF in DSB facilities, given the fact that most secure track youth are adults and current policy is more applicable to children under 18; A DSO and supervisor explained that they do not fully understand the SYTF policies including use of force and the policy around earning points for the SYTF commissary. Youth are simply not motivated by the behavior management model or current program offering because the point systems are not complimentary.

At approximately 10:30am, four youth returned to the unit from school. Probation staff asked why these youth returned early; it was explained that if the youth want to leave, they (the youth) either say that they don't feel well or say that they're leaving, LACOE school staff do not stop them from leaving and they are able to return to the unit. According to staff, these boys thought they would be able to return to the unit to play video games with the college aged youth, but Probation did not allow them to do so. They then remarked that they wanted to return to school, thus Probation staff called movement and control but there was not enough staff available to take the boys back to school. Probation staff appeared frustrated not only at the lack of staffing, but also because someone at school had given one of the boys a full Jack-in-the-Box meal, and another one of the boys appeared "high".

Commissioner A spent an ample amount of time interviewing youth in unit R/S. The Commissioner's goal was to get as much perspective on their experience, including their goals, the condition of the facility, the treatment of the staff, the availability of programs and the effectiveness of services.

Youth Interview (#1): Program is optional, but not interested in the lineup. Wednesday's program is interesting and "ARC is cool." The days are said to be extremely boring. This young man suggested that it would be nice to have programming that was more interesting and things that are more entertaining, such as gaming systems, more vocational training, and music programming, including a studio to create music. This youth has already been sentenced and really wants to spend his time more productively. Youth further reported that food is "whatever; he had "no complaints" about the food or the staff and comfortably remarked that "it's jail." Commissioner A noted being impressed by how mature and responsible the youth replied.

**Youth Interview (#2):** The themes discussed with this youth echoed that of the initial interview. This young man shared that he spends most of his time "doing nothing" and desperately seemed to want other options on how to spend his time. He also came to the conversation with a level of maturity that allowed him to express his wants for more personal development through programming, especially having only six months of his sentence remaining. This youth believed that youth should be served better food after comparing it with the type of food staff get from the cafeteria.

This youth had plenty to say about educational programming, believing that the teachers have flaws that effect students' learning experience. It was stated that the instructors often have language barriers, will not go the extra mile to get students to understand the lesson, and 'just throw materials in front of them' and disengage.

Commissioner A expressed concern about youth disengagement in the classroom; particularly noting that less committed teachers seem to be teaching and/or less live instruction is being provided, thus students may not be receiving an enriched learning experience.

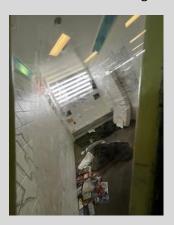
#### Unit X1

[POC Staff] Note: Youth in the compound are no longer restrained with zip ties when on regular movement (e.g., from the compound to medical). Staff witnessed multiple groups moving without restraints. Supervisor informed POC that [this] change happened many months ago.

Commissioner A visited the compound next, unit X1. First note: BMP and posters were all torn down. Probation staff informed that they had been torn down by a youth in the morning.

The Commissioner was taken aback by the poor condition of the unit which was noticed immediately after walking in. Though it was daytime, the unit was poorly lit due to multiple burned ballasts. Commissioner A noted that ISD was actively repairing, but noted that once the ballasts break, the lighting system will have to be rewired. A few concerns reported by Commissioner A related to poor lighting; one, historical workorder delays, thereby maintaining a poorly lit unit until issue is addressed and two, poor lighting is a cause for concern when considering safety risk.

Commissioner A noted that the bathroom in this unit was 'in a terrible state'—severe rusting around window frames, in the shower and on other surfaces, paint peeling from floor to ceiling, trash everywhere, graffiti everywhere, wet floors and sink area, and the reeking smell of mildew. Rooms were messy and trashed with mattresses and bedding thrown around and graffiti-painted walls (see photos below).









Commissioner A observed several minors sitting around watching gangster music videos on YouTube or sat on the pay phone in the Dayroom. While these activities may have kept them occupied, the Commissioner was concerned about the content on the TV and how that may exacerbate gang activity.

While in Unit X1, the Commissioner interviewed a few youth and staff members.

Commissioner A interviewed a youth that seemed bored and agitated. During their conversation, the youth shared that he graduated and spends all his time in the unit where he is often frustrated by the lack of programming. He shared that all they do is sit in the unit all day long with nothing to do but watch YouTube and that they are only able to do that when 'certain staff with Wi-Fi access are on duty.' This youth spoke on the behalf of others in the unit in stating that he and his peers wanted to have more Facetime (calls) with their families.

The youth further explained to Commissioner A that he felt strongly that the lack of "good" programming equaled more fights because everyone is bored and, perhaps, finds entertainment in fighting. This youth also believed that bringing in new youth [into the unit] typically escalates issues and caused more fights.

Prior to this inspection, Commissioner A received alarming information that concerned youth relieving themselves in empty water bottles or other containers due to not being allowed to leave their rooms to use the bathroom. Also concerning, the Commissioner heard that youth were also possibly tossing the urine-filled water bottles at others, so the Commissioner inquired about it. In speaking to a unit X1 staff member, they shared that there is 'serious racial tension in the unit right now and that recent violent attacks are the result of an effort to remove all Black youth from the unit' (staff confirmed that no Black youth were currently assigned to X1). Because of [these] recent violent attacks and staff shortages, youth are said to be confined in their rooms longer than usual. Staff understand that excess room confinement contributes to behavior issues but the issues on the table leave staff short of options when trying to maintain their safety.

Commissioner A confirmed that bathroom access was/is temporarily restricted for safety purposes. Youth are let up one at a time so they can be easily monitored when there are outstanding issues or tension. Things are "slowed down" to ensure safety but not completely halted. Commissioner learned that this is primarily because staff assigned to the unit are females who can easily be overpowered by the young men.

Staff further spoke to the Commissioner about difficulties of trying to oversee unit operations with poor staffing levels and how much this impacts youth. Staff stated that the unit conditions prevent other staff from coming in and helping; staff are concerned that staff are 'scared or simply don't want to work with this population' and 'avoiding this unit (X1) places existing staff at a disadvantage and in danger.' Further the staff member reported that they believe there is contraband in the unit, and though (they acknowledge) that searches should be conducted twice each shift, they explained that there are no staff to conduct these searches at this time. One DSO suspected and expressed concern that youth were disposing of contraband (e.g., vape pens) in the bathroom.

Before leaving unit X1, Commissioner A confirmed that there were no issues with access to supplies, but it was noted that there were only five chairs in the unit – staff informed that they had ordered more.

Recommendation: Request of a minimum of 10 chairs on each side to accommodate the population.

#### Unit X2

Unit X2, compared to its neighboring side (X1), 'was slightly in better shape but could use some physical improvements', according to Commissioner A, such as conducting deep cleaning and temperature control (i.e., dirty bathroom mirror, food spattered on the ceiling, and the unit is freezing cold).

Commissioner A noted that the tone on the X2 side was lighter and the youth in the dayroom seemed more positive and communicative with one another. The Commissioner randomly spoke with a few young men who

expressed a need for a speaker to listen to music, board games, good sports equipment, and, most importantly, the ability to have recreation on the grass. They also wished to play volleyball and have access to 'better snacks.'

Several young men communicated with Commissioner A about search procedures being violating and unnecessary. One youth shared that during searches personal items are taken and never replaced. Another youth reported being aggressively searched and having his genitals touched.

One youth expressed to Commissioner A his frustration behind being an adult who left the county to be housed at the compound where his family cannot visit. His parents are physically unable to visit, but able family members are not able to because of facility policy. He argued that policy should be consistent with the person and population versus something blanket policy that does not account for demographic differences.

During the last inspection cycle (2021), two Commissioners (including Commissioner A) made note of the classroom windows being painted over with a dark mustard color, leaving no natural sunlight to enter the room (see photo below). This said paint was reported to have been originally applied years ago for the purpose of having no outside distraction for the youth inside the classrooms, such as having 'line movements of youth walk by' who would 'encourage gang activity.' During that time, it was also noted that the classrooms, across the hall do not have the windows painted but rather have half natural glass and half frosted glass, thereby ensuring privacy to those classrooms and prevention of others walking by to distract the youth in class (see photo below). POC staff was asked to follow up with Probation management, including the facility director to request the removal of the paint on the classroom windows. A work order remains unconfirmed by management and the status of this project remains unknown.





### **Inspection Report #2**

### Facility notes:

- Unit W (compound unit) was being used to house youth identified as developmentally disabled
- Units A/B and C/D were closed for upgrades, including installing cameras and due to not having enough staff
- Unit T/V currently under construction for renovating to "a home-like environment" and installing cameras.

  Noted: Probation intends to move youth from unit R/S into T/V when the renovations there are complete
- Unit N/O is currently being used as the HOPE center (eight young men currently housed there) the compound HOPE center is currently closed.
- According to HOPE center staff, youth are reported to receive unlimited and unsupervised collect calls
  during the week which helps youth stay connected to family, but staff also complained about this privilege
  being misused by some 'there are some units that allow the youth to stay on the phone all day, which may
  contribute to the contraband problem.'

Commissioner B started the morning at BJNJH by interviewing the lead from the Department of Mental Health (DMH). The Commissioner and [DMH] supervisor discussed both the scope of the DMH services provided to youth as well as some of the challenges at the hall. The supervisor described the full complement of services such as: initial assessments, psychotropic medication planning, individual therapy, group, family, substance abuse, and case management. Commissioner B noted that it appeared that they need additional mental health staff but was also impressed with her description of the breadth of services provided, especially considering the transitory nature of the population at BJNJH.

### Unit N/O: HOPE Center

It was noted that all youth in the HOPE center are high school graduates except one who is taking classes virtually. He was seated in the hallway in front of a computer on virtual school.

Commissioner B interviewed youth housed in the HOPE center and noted observations from being in the unit and upon reviewing logs from a sample of youth housed there. Three (3) youth were there for periods time far exceeding the guidelines prohibiting solitary confinement. Noted by Commissioner B, one youth had been at the HOPE center since December 2021; second youth had been there since March 2022 and third youth since May 2022 – all those were housed in Unit Y.

Commissioner B interviewed a youth who was recently transferred to the HOPE center from the compound. He described a situation in the compound where he interacted with Probation staff from outside the juvenile hall. He described their appearance as "military-like" wearing tactical gear and military style clothing and carried batons. He described their behavior as consistent with aggressive LASD personnel in the field, using regimented approaches to dealing with the youth, using a field, "command voice" and ordering youth in units being searched to lay face down on the ground in what law enforcement calls a "felony prone position." This youth noted that in the searches, all personal effects were removed from their cells and were not returned for three days. Most notably, he noted that he was required to remove his pants and stood in his underwear while members of the unit searched his body by pulling his underwear away from his body and looking at his groin, rear, and genitals. He also noted he observed more intrusive searches taking place in areas of the unit where there was no security camera coverage. The youth also described observing a youth being searched while bending over naked with one of the searching Probation officers behind him wearing surgical gloves and holding an implement resembling a tweezer.

### Programs / Services

On this inspection day, POC received schedules indicating scheduled recreational activity and programs offered to youth, by unit. POC staff attempted to audit activities described on the program lists. Most programs were noted to be offered after school, starting at 3:30/4:00 PM. Because of the light rain fall on this day, most outdoor recreational activities were cancelled. Probation supervisors indicated that in lieu of outdoor recreational activities, most youth remained in their units, playing games, or watching TV. In Unit R/S, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM, the staff observed a community-based organization, Asian Youth Center, or "AYC" conduct a social skill, process-group with approximately 8 young men participating. The co-facilitators of this group were two gentlemen, each with lived experience or "credible messengers" as Probation staff referred to them. The group appeared to run smoothly, and all youth seemed to be fully engaged (other than the occasional youth stepping out to receive their meds. from the visiting nurse dispensing them, by unit).

### Inspection Questions – Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall

- **1.** Are there formulated plans by Probation management, MSB or janitorial services to maintain regular deep cleaning schedules and/or regulate temperature in buildings, particularly living units?
- **2.** What progress has been made in developing and helping staff understand the SYTF policies including use of force, behavior management and the policy or structure around earning points for the SYTF commissary?
- **3.** How is the Hope Center being utilized by regular population units and by compound units and how is the Department ensuring that youth are not housed there for prolonged periods of time?
- **4.** May you please confirm work orders in progress for the aforementioned items in this report? (Lighting ballasts in compound units, window glass replacement in classrooms, camera installations, and order for extra chairs).
- **5.** What policies or procedures are followed by staff if they suspect a youth may be actively under the influence (e.g., taking drugs)?

#### **Central Juvenile Hall**

Youth Population (Physical) – Co-Ed.	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll) - all	Total Active Staff (DPO's and GSN's)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
169*	15	556	620	192	1:3	1:4	0	2

<sup>\*15</sup> youth attended court physically and 6 youth attended virtually

#### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Nursing Coverage: (3 shifts) 6:30 AM – 2:30 PM, 2:30PM – 10:30PM and 10:30PM – 6:30 AM
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 7:30 AM – 10:00 PM (Mon – Fri); 8:30 AM – 10:00 PM (Sat/Sun) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates		
11	154	unverified		

### **Inspection Report #1**

Upon arrival, Commissioner C noted that the grass was generally well kept, cut, nothing obstructing walkways. The pave ways with broken concrete (noted during the Pre-inspection), were fixed. And there were neon markings on the floor indicating that work might be done in the future.

Commissioner C had previously inspected the Central Juvenile Hall facility for the 2021 POC Annual Facility Inspection and this year's Pre-inspection, during construction, thus paid close attention to the progress. Commissioner C noted feeling "disappointed" due to the absence of a work-order spreadsheet that was being

used last year to track progress. It was observed that most of the repairs appeared to be done but was unsure of the progress in other areas due to the absence of said progress spreadsheet.

#### Girls' CARE Unit (XY)

Commissioner C then visited Girls CARE (XY) unit, which appeared clean at a glance, and adequately supplied as the storage closet appeared to have sufficient sanitary supplies, linens and clothing. It was noted that clothes and linens were exchanged twice a week. Bathrooms appeared clean, and the couple of youth observed also appeared clothed appropriately. Commissioner C noted that repairs were visibly being done as the ceiling with the water damage (noted during last inspection) was being repaired. The assigned Probation escort confirmed that ISD repairs were underway. However, it was unclear to Commissioner C when the repairs were scheduled to take place and when the unit would be habitable again. Reportedly, the unit would remain vacant until projects were complete.

### Girls' Unit C/D

The commissioner then proceeded to Buildings C and D where it was noted that the bathrooms were clean, the staff mentioned that the utility closet was clean, and the log was current. Commissioner C expressed concern for building "D" as 2 doors were not secure while the girls were in the day room. In addition, Commissioner C was concerned that there were full size personal items in bedrooms. Personal items should not be stored in youth rooms, especially full-sized products that can conceal contraband more easily. Generally, contraband policy must be enforced routinely as Commissioner C witnessed several rooms with personal items during "rec" that were not permitted by policy, such as excessive clothing, books, and personal belongings including full-sized toiletries. Youth must store personal items in an area that can be monitored and inspected by staff, such as dayroom cubby holes. Commissioner C noted that buildings C and D had really small TV's (30 inches) mounted on the walls and added that this was the second time this issue was being identified (first mentioned during the 2021 Annual Inspection Report). The size of the TV in the girls' dayroom in C/D is inadequate (too small). Originally, there was a TV installed that was proportionate to the size of the dayroom and distance of the seating area. After the TV was broken during an incident (presumably, several years ago) it was replaced with a smaller one. The concern is that a TV of this size and poor proximity may cause strain to the eyes and neck of those watching. Commissioner C understands that access to a TV is a privilege; however, if youth will have access to television for recreational or educational use, they should have a better viewing experience. If Probation is concerned that the TV can be broken again, it is suggested that a protective, glare-free covering should be installed over an appropriately sized TV. During previous inspections, Probation has remarked to Commissioner C that a larger TV can be ordered with no problem. Recommendation: Commissioner C would like to see a larger TV installed prior to the POC's next inspection cycle.

Commissioner noted that there was a non-functioning water fountain on side D, and a work order was in place which was outstanding as it had been placed 2 weeks ago.

#### Kitchen

Commissioner C then walked to the facility's kitchen and noted that the sink was leaky; and it perhaps needed a better drain. The floor was wet, not as wet as in the previous inspection, but a lack of a signage was a hazard. This observation was mentioned to kitchen staff, and they eventually placed wet floor signage. The commissioner saw no visible plumbing issues; issues from previous inspection appeared addressed. Other areas in the kitchen appeared dried and clean; the storage room appeared clean, food appeared appropriate and not expired, everything appeared to be stored at appropriate temperature and in adequate condition.

Recommendation: Precaution signage should be displayed whenever the floor is wet.

Note: After leaving the kitchen, Commissioner C observed a security hazard, as the Chapel gate was left open and unlocked.

#### Medical Unit / Medical Housing Unit

Commissioner C noted that the Medical Housing Unit was temporarily used for anyone under medical observation. During the March 2022 Pre-Inspection, the commissioner noted several concerns regarding this unit, and observed that most work orders were addressed. The commissioner noted that the flooring was done, most walls had been painted, water damage was repaired, but still concerned about the walls in some of the rooms as they appeared to have graffiti, and some windows needed bar guards replaced. The commissioner observed that all the pending repairs were in vacant rooms. A few occupied rooms observed; one youth was sleeping, and they had a one-on-one (staff member) in the hallway observing.

#### Interviews:

Commissioner C met with a young lady from Unit C/D who talked about the shower water temperature not being regulated properly, and how it was too hot. Due to this water temperature, they cannot take thorough showers. This young lady also expressed concerns about not having opportunities to Facetime her family, yet in further inquiring about this with a CJH Director, it was informed that Facetime was only a COVID-accommodation, not a standard practice, but the girls don't understand this.

Another young lady expressed concerns about not getting sufficient *Brown phone calls* (calls made using landline county phones in the unit). Commissioner C cross referenced this concern with call logs; this young lady had made at-least (3) phone calls this week.

Commissioner C continued to speak with a small group of young ladies, and several complained about the food having hair in it, and the food being "nasty". The young ladies also complained about pests (like crickets and ants) coming in from the vents/ units.

Commissioner C was informed by a group of young ladies that overall, the staff are "cool." However, some youth also stated that there was "petty staff" who took things personal, and one staff was mentioned by name, who they stated had been working with youth for about a year. The young ladies mentioned that this staff threatened to use OC Spray without having a viable threat, and this was a normal practice for this staff as this staff is aggressive. In addition, the young ladies stated that this staff did not respond to requests for tissue. They further stated that staff practiced favoritism, and they were concerned about a youth practicing witchcraft as this made them uncomfortable.

Commissioner C then interviewed a youth from the "D" side. It was noted that she was being "cheated" for her time as she was made to shower earlier than her usual time. In addition, this young lady stated that she was not offered razors, for shaving and she complained about not getting brown calls. It was noted that she plans to request access to unlimited payphones. This young lady then expressed concern over the AC, as she described it as "not working" which makes rooms hot, and "staff don't do anything about it."

Commissioner C then continued to speak with other young ladies and they stated that when staff is short, they are locked in their room for long periods of time. The young ladies also informed the commissioner that the schedule shows programming that they do not receive. The young ladies expressed a desire for increased recreational activities and physical space to go along with it; they expressed wanting to go outside and several noted that they did not have enough couches in the day room, and the ones available were not big enough, especially on side C.

#### **Inspection Report #2**

Commissioner D arrived after Commissioner C, thereby arranging the facility's inspection in a staggered manner. Commissioner D easily gained access to all sections within the facility as they were greeted escorted by the facility's superintendent for most of the inspection. In turn, Commissioner D was able to ask questions in real-time (to the superintendent) as well share immediate concerns and make verbal recommendations directly.

Commissioner D received notations by the superintendent that upon CJH's return from its temporary closure (in March 2022), it was decided to concentrate all the units with specialized populations or "vulnerable youth," such as girls and gender expansive youth, youth identified with developmental disabilities, CARE and youth on enhanced levels of supervision to one side of the facility. Reportedly this was done for several reasons, including to avoid potentially violent interactions between youth; place these units in closer proximity (and on ground levels) to probation staff or medical staff who may need provide immediate responses during a crisis and more availability to wet rooms. Commissioner D decided to concentrate their inspection to these units, visit the school, and audit programs, recreational activities and/or other services being provided to youth. As Commissioner D walked through the facility, they made an immediate observation – it appeared there was a large number of "black shirts" (referring to Special Enforcement Officers, SEO's) positioned throughout the facility, in several units. It was clarified by the superintendent that Probation officers with a "black shirt" is *not* synonymous with an SEO. But if the PO is wearing (army) green pants *and* the black shirt, they are an assigned SEO.

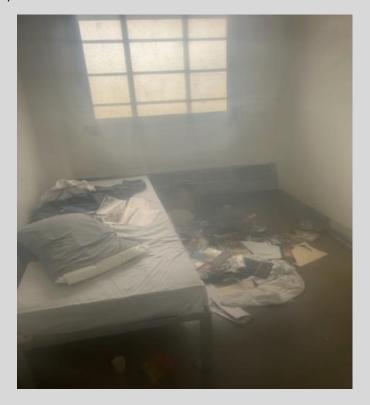


Deputy Probation Officer pictured above (not a SEO)

### Boys' ESU

Commissioner D visited the Boys' Enhanced Supervision Unit ("B-ESU"). Upon entry, Commissioner D noted that the staff to youth ratio appeared odd as there were more staff than youth in this unit. It was clarified that the staff ratio may be higher because many youth in this unit have "one-on-one staff" assigned to them, due to safety concerns. Although the staff ratio was higher in this unit, it did not seem to Commissioner D that this population of youth was receiving adequate support needed nor did staff appear to be giving the youth necessary attention. Commissioner D observed youth finishing their meals, watching TV and talking amongst each other around two small tables in the dayroom. One youth was observed to be talking to himself since the Commissioner entered the room. Another youth sat by a wall in the corner of the dayroom and proceeded to fall asleep. A PO later shared with the Commissioner that that youth was "overmedicated" (in her opinion). There appeared to be between 8 – 10 young men in this dayroom and five Probation staff (one SEO standing against the wall) and three staff positioned outside the dayroom, coordinating lunch, and speaking amongst themselves.

According to Commissioner D, the conditions in this building were 'horrific;' seemed outdated, unclean, and not appropriate to serve vulnerable youth. Commissioner D noted a lot of graffiti in the hallway and messy rooms (see photo below).



The chief complaints by the youth in this unit included distasteful food, not getting enough phone calls, and generally not having enough activities or programs to engage in. Commissioner D returned in the late afternoon to this unit as there was a scheduled "psych ed" group to be facilitated by DMH staff; the Commissioner wanted to observe this program (from outside the dayroom) during its scheduled time. The program was not offered - it was later reported that DMH was not available to conduct the programming that day due to not having staff available.

### Unit A/B

Commissioner D visited Unit A/B which houses the youth who have identified developmental disabilities; this unit is interchangeably called the "DD unit." Prior to the Commissioner entering the unit, the superintendent set expectations through eluding that the youth housed here have the most behavior problems and that the Commissioner and the [POC] team should 'be careful.'

Several of the young men shared with Commissioner D that they felt "misclassified" by being assigned to this unit; understandable as housing in this unit may carry stigma or labeling associated.

Commissioner D noted that both sides of this building were different; on one side, the young men seemed to be engaged in down time (after lunch and before returning to school), either sitting around the dining area or meandering about the unit, yet the tone of the unit seemed tense. The staff were situated around the outer part of the unit, not engaging with youth other than to provide correction or brief set of instructions. One Probation staff shared with the POC that this would be her last week at CJH, she was leaving the Department altogether after serving 15 years. When asked about her decision, she shared that her personal values, purpose, and mission no longer align with that of the Department's.

As Commissioner D approached the other side of the building, the tone was immediately noted as calm, cheerful and welcoming. Youth were respectful as they greeted the Commissioner and the [POC] team. There was jazz music playing on this side of the unit and the youth seemed to enjoy it. When asked about the music, the SDPO in this unit explained that he likes to help the youth 'center themselves' and be in a calm mindset before they return to school; he believes this helps promote learning for them. Commissioner D was highly impressed by this SDPO and how thoughtful and engaging he was with all the youth in this unit; it was evident that the youth respect him greatly. The SDPO shared his thoughts about increasing learning opportunities for the youth, introducing trades in after school programming and how engagement and building positive relationships with the youth pays dividends in setting the unit's tone and in everything he does as a SDPO. The superintendent shared with the Commissioner that this SDPO is a part of his all-star team at CJH and he is heavily relied upon by his peers and by management to mentor junior staff members.

One major concern noted by Commissioner D prior to leaving Unit A/B was the room hall check list hanging on the room doors (see photo below) which listed that the hall check was complete, yet the commissioner noted seeing two of the doors had soap, Vaseline or some other type of opaque cream over the windows obstructing staff from checking in on youth through the door's vertical window.



#### **LACOE School**

Commissioner D visited both schools, on opposite sides of the facility. The Commissioner and his team were greeted by the ambassadors, who did a great job at introducing the projects alongside their teachers. In the classroom for which the Commissioner spent most of their time, there were eleven (male) students; one teacher providing instruction; three aids supporting the teacher by giving individualized attention to students, as needed and two Probation Officers positioned near the entrance of the classroom. Commissioner D noted that the youth were not given any homework to take back to their units although several youth and school personnel were keen to this idea. Commissioner D spoke with LACOE staff about the varying types of behavior management programs among juvenile facilities. Both the school principal and superintendent informed the

Commissioner that they intended to merge the current point systems at CJH; LACOE's PBIS and Probation's BMP, with a heavier emphasis on PBIS.

Recommendation: Provide youth with homework

#### Recreation / Programs and Services

Commissioner D observed recreation time happening on the westside field at about 4:15pm. The Commissioner noted that youth from unit's M/N, and K/L were engaged in playing football. Commissioner D noted that they seemed to be enjoying their time being outdoors, playing and "just being boys." There appeared to be no incidents during this rec time – two Probation staff watched the boys play (it appeared there were eleven boys on the field at that time).

Recommendation: Encourage/increase more outdoor activities

Commissioner D then walked to the girls' units; C and D to observe the Life Skills program provided by the Probation Department. Here, the girls were engaged in writing an essay regarding a film about Juvenile Justice they had watched. Mostly, the girls appreciated the program - some girls were observed to be working on their essays and others were painting their nails, which the staff permitted them to do. Commissioner D noted witnessing a "comradery among the girls" and "a level of calmness because of how engaged the staff were with the girls." Commissioner D spoke with several of these young women; some commented on how they enjoyed their essay project and other stated that they enjoyed having the opportunity to do their nails.

Several of the young women requested having more programs, such as "Inside-Out Writers," "Parenting classes," "Cosmetology and Hairstyling classes," and any trade programming that would result in earning [vocational] certificates such as Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA), to give them better opportunities upon their release.

#### Youth Reports

Having visited most *Specialized Units* at CJH and talking with several youth, their general sentiments and complaints included not having enough visits with family, lack of programming or activities, and phones being in disrepair or not having easy accessibility to brown phone calls. One youth shared that his mother was being turned away week after week from visiting him. The Commissioner followed up with the superintendent on this matter; the superintendent confirmed that the visits were not occurring due to lack of staffing but also noted that this young man was identified as one of the boys that damaged a unit at BJNJH (during the period CJH was merged there).

### Substance abuse and Contraband

As Commissioner D conducted their inspection, it was evident that recent substance use concerns or increased drug usage was a problem. It was also clear that the superintendent and a director, who took a lead role in accompanying this Commissioner during the inspection, were adamant about discussing contraband issues at Central Juvenile Hall.

While discussing these issues with the superintendent, Commissioner D became extremely concerned about contraband like drug paraphernalia continuing to enter this facility. The superintendent noted being aware of the way they are getting in (mainly through being tossed over the gates or sometimes by drone-drops). The superintendent shared with Commissioner D that he was involved in finding contraband while on a perimeter walk a few months ago. Commissioner D directly asked the superintendent about initiating a plan which would cover maintaining safety and security throughout the facility and especially around these gates. Especially alarming to Commissioner D was related to a comment made about the possibility of 'guns getting into the facility' next, by similar means as the drug contraband.

### Inspection Questions - Central Juvenile Hall (CJH)

- **1.** Related to FaceTime calls:
  - What is the current policy and how has it changed post-COVID/since the pandemic began?
  - How are youth informed about the FaceTime usage?
- 2. What is the turn-around for work orders related to key amenities like water fountains and sinks?
- **3.** How can more outdoor activities, as witnessed by Commissioner D, be replicated?
- **4.** Related to contraband and possible weapons:
  - What are the steps that staff are to follow when they witness/find contraband?
  - What are the preventative measures that Probation is to follow to mitigate the risk of contraband and possible weapon drop-offs?
- 5. When will the repairs for unit XY (Girls' CARE) take place, and when will it be habitable again?

### Campus Kilpatrick ("Kilpatrick")

Youth Population (Physical)	Number of Youth at Court	Facility's Rated Capacity	Total Staff (Payroll) - all	Total Active Staff (DPO's and GSN's)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Day)	Staff to Youth Ratio (Night)	Attempted Suicides	Escapes and documented attempts
6	0	60	47	36	1:1	1:1	0	0

### **Access to Medical and Mental Health Services**

Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM (7 days a week) plus after-hours physician
Department of Mental Health (DMH)	Services Offered: 7 days / week	Coverage: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Limited staff; only 2 mental health clinicians) plus 24-hour access to on-call DMH psychiatrist

Total Credentialed Teachers (LACOE)	Number of Students	Number of Graduates		
4*	6	6		

<sup>\*</sup>Not included: One "Teacher on Special Assignment" (TOSA) and paraprofessional staff

The changes between the time the Pre-inspection was conducted (April 2022) and this official facility inspection is noteworthy. In April, that inspection coincided with plans made by the Probation Department to move the former Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) population from Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) to a permanent secure facility, hence the name, "Secure Youth Track Facility or "SYTF." Campus Kilpatrick was identified as one of two permanent secure facilities for these young men. At that time the key aim of the POC's pre-inspection at Kilpatrick was to assess the facility's readiness to receive the youth from BJNJH (no SYTF youth resided at Kilpatrick at that time), particularly in terms of security and safety measures as well as having physical space and programming available to the youth.

In September, the doors opened at Kilpatrick as the county's first SYTF facility; it welcomed six (6) young men who have remained there to present time.

#### **Inspection Report**

Commissioner E arrived at the facility and was greeted by the facility's director. The management staff also greeted the Commissioner and offered to assist for the day.

Commissioner E inspected the grounds, mainly focusing on the cottage occupied by the six young men. Although the Commissioner did also visit a few empty cottages for comparison and to look at any developments since the facility's pre-inspection.

Commissioner E first walked to Maple cottage, where they noted that the unit appeared to be in very good condition and increased physical measures were in place, such as installation of ballistic glass. All doors and entry ways appeared secure. The furniture and amenities in the dorm area appeared well-kept and organized. The same findings were noted in the Alder cottage.

Commissioner E spoke with several young men in their assigned cottage, which appeared to have what they needed and seemed well-kept and well managed by staff. Commissioner E observed youth and staff positively engaging throughout the visit.

Commissioner E reported that several youth expressed being upset with bedtime – youth felt bedtime was scheduled too early, especially on weekends. These young men (explained) that early bedtimes may be more developmentally appropriate for children or adolescents and may not be for them, since many of them are in their 20's.

### Recommendation: Consider extending bedtime to a longer time; particularly taking into account developmental factors and day of the week.

The young men also expressed wanting to have more input into their programming and services provided at Kilpatrick. While the youth reported enjoying many of the current services provided by CBO's, they also explained times where those programs or services feel repetitive or do not particularly resonate with their interests or what they would like to learn about. Some youth explained that at times CBO leaders promise support (e.g., court visits, letters of rec) yet do not deliver or the response is significantly delayed.

During this inspection Commissioner E reviewed Special Incident Reports (SIR's), Preliminary Incident Notification's (PINS) and grievances filed by youth – the Commissioner randomly reviewed reports from last year (November 2021), during which time the facility operated as a "regular juvenile camp." Reports reviewed also included the months of January through October 2022.

Commissioner E observed a lunch meal – the food appeared adequately nutritious and tasteful; the menu included turkey and bologna sandwiches, chili with cheese, a side salad, chips, and a piece of fruit. The youth seemed to enjoy it yet stated preferring "home-cooked meals."

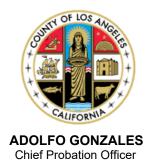
Notably, Commissioner E detected a pattern of "write-ups" by one staff member, who seemed to repeatedly write-up youth for frivolous infractions, such as going to bed or "lights out" at 8:34pm instead of 8:30pm, displaying oppositional or disruptive behavior such as "talking back" to her. It was noted that often, these write-ups led to court referrals or harsh sanctions for the youth. Commissioner E was particularly concerned with an SIR (which involved this staff member) that involved a physical altercation disturbance. Although the Commissioner requested to watch footage to gain further context and insight about this situation, the request was unable to be granted because of Probation's -90- days policy to keep video. However, the Commissioner shared these concerns with the facility director who explained she would investigate it.

The Commissioner and the [POC] team were invited to participate in an expressive arts program followed by a basketball-shooting social time that evening. The facilitator from the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) was very engaging and offered support and positive feedback to all youth who participated.

#### **Inspection Questions – Campus Kilpatrick**

- **1.** Have the work orders (relating to securing the campus) and installing perimeter fencing been completed? If not, what is the status?
- 2. How are grievances handled at this SYTF site?
- **3.** What steps can be taken to formally incorporate the youth's input in programming decisions or promote a collaborative decision-making approach with Probation?
- 4. Have youth and staff been informed of AB2417 (Juveniles: Bill of Rights) at this facility?

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## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY – DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242 (562) 940-2501



May 25, 2022

TO: Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Chair

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Janice Hahn Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Adolfo Gonzales Adolfo Gonzales

**Chief Probation Officer** 

SUBJECT: PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION - PRE-INSPECTIONS REPORT 2022

Probation was provided with Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission's 2022 Juvenile Facilities Pre-Inspections Report on Wednesday, May 18, 2022. The Probation Oversight Commission's inspection cycle is proposed to commence in June 2022. However, due to extenuating factors related to the temporary closure of Central Juvenile Hall (CJH) and subsequent merging of the two (2) juvenile halls in March and the plan to move SYTF youth to Campus Kilpatrick (CVK) two (2) pre-inspections were planned at CJH and at CVK before the formal inspection process begins. What follows are Probation's responses to the questions provided in that report.

#### **Central Juvenile Hall:**

1. Some major work like HVAC, Furnace replacement/repair, and roofing was not indicated on the workplan. However, staff noted that roofing and HVAC is underway on a couple of buildings and other projects will commence later. Specifically, at least three (3) buildings, housing units for boys, were identified as needing these major repairs which staff expect to take at least six (6) months to complete. Question: What is the plan for these major projects including goals for starting and completing the work?

Most of these projects have already begun and we are working with the Internal Services Department (ISD) to ensure progress is monitored for completion. These are considered capital projects and require coordination with the Department of Public Works (DPW), ISD, and the Chief Executive Office (CEO).

2. Guides who accompanied the Commissioners on the inspection noted that COVID created issues and further delayed work at the facility, particularly affecting work schedules over the

past year, due to the availability of ISD crews, supply chain delays, and other issues. **Question:** Are there any further delays foreseen or expected?

The County is experiencing supply chain delays. Probation is reliant on ISD work crews and employees with specialized skills to complete some of the work at our facilities. Probation and ISD are meeting on a regular basis to discuss priorities.

3. Significant concrete replacement work is underway, currently in two areas that serve as main thoroughfare from the east side of the facility to the west side and vice-versa and to outside care or appointments. Question(s): What is the timeframe for full completion of the concrete replacement project? If not complete by the time youth begin to return, what is the plan to move youth around the facility?

Concrete work surrounding Medical modular building is completed. Concrete repair leading up to Boys school is pending and will need to be scheduled and organized after all youth return to the facility. The concrete repair near PQ/RS leading to the Boy's School is in progress.

Probation is finalizing construction of a Game Room and Barber Shop for our youth. Due to electrical requirements for this project, the concrete repair for this area is being coordinated by ISD. Concrete is expected to be poured in the coming weeks. Youth will not access this area upon return, but as a safety measure, this area will be fenced off for security.

4. Intake/Receiving and Quarantine Units: The regular unit that processes youth at intake needs significant improvement. Work is currently underway to the dayroom ceiling and floor (e.g., exposed ceiling/insulation material; broken concrete; and drywall work, due to previous moisture damage on walls (bulging paint/drywall). Commissioners were informed that Unit W is currently being used as intake and quarantine (Unit W is located approx. 400 yards from this building). It was also noted that there was significant damage to the Unit W roof – the Commissioners learned that there is no active work order for the roof repair on Unit W. Question(s): What is the interim plan for boy's intake/receiving? When are these areas expected to be completed?

Currently there are no significant repairs planned for the intake and receiving units. Management Services Bureau will have the roof inspected by ISD to determine if the roof will need replacement.

The Medical Unit (MOU) has 8 Beds and will serve as the temporary intake/receiving. Unit W (1&2) is no longer being used as Intake/Receiving and Quarantine. If any youth have COVID they will remain the MOU. Unit W2 will be the temporary location for the Hope Center if it is needed. The additional repairs to Unit W are estimated to be completed before June 1<sup>st</sup>.

5. During the inspection, a Probation skeleton crew was noted to be working on-site. Per observation, it appeared that fewer than 20 staff were assigned at CJH (not counting ISD,

MSB work crews and kitchen staff). Most staff were noted to be assigned in the IDC area and court holding area. Question(s): What is the average number of youth (for intake) currently? How many youth get transported to and from CJH (on average)? With regards to the control center (admitting area, near IDC), are there plans to upgrade old equipment and renovate that area?

Central Juvenile Hall currently averages just over 3 intakes a day and approximately 100 per month. This average reflects the intake numbers since the closure of CJH (March 13th- May 17<sup>th</sup>).

Since the CJH closure there have been 226 intakes - 199 males 27 females. This number is low because it does not include Probation Department's intake which was rerouted to BJNJH. During the closure of CJH, approximately 22 youths traveled to and from CJH on a daily basis.

6. The entire Girls' CARE unit is under much needed renovations; ISD and Probation indicated that youth are not expected to return to this unit and that another unit may be used as an alternative to house girls previously assigned to CARE. The proposed unit (XY) is said to be further along regarding readiness and is equipped with wet rooms and cleaner recreational space immediately outside the unit. Question(s): When would the alternate unit be available to girls to move in? What is the projected status of the completion of Girls' CARE?

Unit X/Y is ready to receive youth. The ISD plans were recently received for improvements in the Girls' CARE unit. Project scope and timeline are currently under review.

7. Units A/B and C/D (on the east side of the facility): The work to these housing units which has typically housed girls/young women, is underway (painting walls, cracks on floor being filled, etc.). Question: Completion and readiness of these buildings – timeline?

The work in units A/B and C/D work is complete, and these units are now occupied. This work included painting, repairing cracks in the floor, cleaning of walls and windows. All units deep-cleaned for the arrival of the youth back to CJH.

8. The kitchen appeared in good repair with commissioners noting improvements since the last inspection including plumbing issues resolved and proper drainage with exception of leaky hot water bowls. The Commissioners were informed that the kitchen is currently serving approximately 20 meals/day. Question: When will remaining scheduled repairs be completed in the kitchen?

Probation is working closely with ISD to address the remaining repairs. We hope that these repairs will be completed in the coming weeks.

9. Repair work is underway at the boy's school (west side), in various classrooms. The Commissioners were informed that the steam pressure valve project (leading up to the school) is currently underway between Probation and USC). Note: This area is currently

Board of Supervisors May 25, 2022 Page 4 of 6

roped off with yellow "caution" tape. There are uneven sidewalks leading up to the school which need repair, but the projected start of this concrete replacement work is unknown.

Question(s): Is the steam pressure valve project expected to affect construction or repair completions at the school or on any other areas of the facility? What is the timeline for concrete replacement?

The steam project with USC has not begun. We do not anticipate that this work will have a negative impact on the movement of youth to school. Concrete repair is being scheduled with ISD.

10. Commissioners were informed that the area in front of the boy's school is earmarked for building chain-link fences described as "pen-like" barriers to prevent youth from different units from recreating together.

Probation is not moving forward with this project.

### Campus Kilpatrick:

1. Safety and Security Measures: As part of the pre-inspection, the Commissioners performed a walkthrough of the facility, including alongside the camp's perimeter. All housing areas, administrative and school buildings appeared secure and required key or scan access for entry. Commissioners visited one cottage (Maple) identified as a potential cottage to house the incoming youth. The perimeter fencing immediately outside the cottage did not have the new "roller bar" installed on the top of the fence. This roller bar has been identified as adding a premier layer of security to Kilpatrick. It was explained to the Commissioners that the materials for the roller bars are on back-order, thereby delayed in arriving to Kilpatrick. A precise timeline for their arrival was not given. Since the inspection, the POC has learned that a different cottage, Oak, will be used for the first group of secure track youth and that roller bars are installed on the fencing outside that cottage. Commissioners inspected Oak last year but did not visit that cottage during the April 2022 pre-inspection. Question(s): What impact does the roller bar back-order have? Are there any other safety or security measures planned for Kilpatrick?

The back order of roller bars may delay moving into some of the cottages at Kilpatrick. Roller bars and other anti-climbing measures will be completed by ISD once the materials are available. Probation is prioritizing appropriate staffing and programming for these young people, which we believe contribute to enhanced safety and security.

2. Physical Space and Programs/Services: Kilpatrick leadership shared the plan to house the incoming youth with the Commissioners: One dedicated cottage would be used for the first group, with both sides available to accommodate youth as they phase-in to Kilpatrick and to provide space for sleeping, education, and programing. As the incoming youth would have their own sleeping quarters, they too would recreate and participate in programming together as well as visit the dining hall with their group for meals. Since this first cohort arriving to Kilpatrick are all high school graduates, they would not attend the LACOE school on-site. Rather, college, vocational, or employment training would need to be identified and provided

for this population. Question(s): What will happen to the youth currently at Kilpatrick serving their camp disposition? What is the housing and school plan for the second/next incoming cohort of boys/young men? What colleges and/or CBO's have been engaged to work with the youth in an educational/vocational or mentorship capacity?

The current plan would not call to disrupt the Kilpatrick youth's program and they will remain on-site. Kilpatrick's intake was stopped as of March 18, 2022, in an effort to reduce the population foreseeing the transition and need of capacity for the SYTF population.

The second cohort will transition into the Oak Cottage where the first cohort will be living and integrate with the first cohort. The school plan is responsive to the needs and interest of the young men. The majority are over the age of 18 therefore are not required to attend our traditional LACOE educational services. Career Technical Education (CTE) courses will be offered though Mission College and LACOE.

There are an array of CBOs currently serving the SYTF population. Below are the current providers who have committed to continue and expand services at Campus Kilpatrick as the young people transition.

- ARC (Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)) Family Therapy
- Probation (Individual Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Counseling) Individual meetings with DPOII/T&C to work on Interactive Journaling
- Arts and Culture Department (Inside Out Writers)- This program focuses on language, rhyming and emotional balance through writing to enhance the youth's reading experience and literacy.
- Arts and Culture Department (HomeBoy Arts Academy) Arts programming and mentoring
- LACOE (Let it out) Self-expression through music
- County Delinquency Prevention Program (Healing Dialogue & Action (HDA)) Mentoring: HDA brings together people wounded by violence and broken criminal justice systems to change the criminal justice system, so it is one that respects and offers an opportunity for transformation for victims, offenders, and families.
- Probation Education Services College Courses (Mission College, East Los Angeles College and UCLA) A 12-week course on college enrollment. The course teaches the youth how to apply to college, register for classes, and read a syllabus and course catalog.
- Catholic and Protestant Services (Religious Services) Weekly Protestant and Catholic services
- AYC (Asian Youth Center) Curriculum-based discussions regarding Decision Making, Choices and Consequences, Anger Management, Substance Abuse Prevention, and

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Recognizing Thinking Errors as Minimizing, Self-Centeredness, and False Blaming which will help in decrease criminal and delinquency behavior.

3. Other Observations / Staff Perspectives: First, regarding parking lot safety and security, staff felt the security of Kilpatrick would be improved by enhancing parking lot security. The staff culture and leadership seemed positive, and it would be beneficial to probation to maintain that team dynamic. It would be ideal to see the director of Kilpatrick directly involved in conceptualizing youth programming and staff training for secure track under an LA model given her expertise. Related, the DPO's currently at Kilpatrick maintained that they would be willing to work with secure track youth, but the department would need to appropriately train them and increase compensation. Question(s): Are there any plans to enhance security in the parking lot? Would staff perspectives be directly sought out to inform the transition to Kilpatrick?

Probation is working with DPW to build a security gate and the entrance of the parking lot. This will provide a needed security enhancement to the facility. Staff will also enhance perimeter searches and surveillance as part of their regular duties.

The Director and staff at Kilpatrick continue to be engaged in the planning to expand the LA Model to all facilities and populations in our detention facilities. Staff currently assigned to Kilpatrick have received additional training on the LA Model and are providing valuable operational insights to the SYTF planning team. Probation is committed to fully implementing the LA Model at Kilpatrick and across all juvenile facilities.

c: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Dawyn Harrison, Acting County Counsel
Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Probation Oversight Commission

### Dorothy Kirby Center and Camp Scott Facility Inspection Report: 2022 Probation Department Response and Corrective Action Plan

Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC)

Question 1: Are you engaging CBO's that specialize in vocational training, particularly those that offer special certifications to participants? If so, how many are currently offering services, and/or how many do you plan to engage in the future?

There are currently Probation staff and community-based organizations (CBOs) that specialize in vocational training at Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC) and Camp Joseph Scott (CJS).

East Los Angeles College (ELAC) offers certification in logistics for participants who complete three (3) or more college courses in logistics which can lead to employment with UPS. Participants are also taken to UPS sites to see the logistics in motion, meet UPS managers, and are assisted with the application and interview process prior to release.

Los Angeles Trade Tech College (LATTC) provides automotive instruction and college courses. These classes are held in-person two days a week.

Probation Education Services facilitates Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) certification for General Industry, so youth will be able to apply for entry level jobs upon exiting camp. These services are individualized depending on the participating youths' schedules.

West Cal is a non-profit that was funded for a 24-week career exploratory pilot through Supervisor Hahn's office, that will last until December 2022; however, West Cal has been raising funds to continue offering this program after their pilot funding ends. The types of careers they introduce youth to includes Automotive Technician, Cosmetology, Dental Assistant, General Electrician, Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), Mariner, Medical Assistant, Medical Technician, Pharmacy Technician, Veterinary Technician, and Welder.

As a result of the pandemic, non-essential workers were restricted from providing inperson services, so vocational and career technical contracts expired or were not renewed. Once the Department of Public Health lifted these restrictions (June 2021), the County issued the mandatory vaccination of service providers, which delayed reinstatement. Once the Department was allowed to begin reintegrating services, and the quarantines reduced, Education Services began and is currently working with Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to provide Career Technical Education (CTE) for non-graduates, and community-colleges for graduates, to increase the number of vocational programs that can be offered. In addition, the Department's Education Services provides Personal Enrichment Training (PET) as part of the Youth at Work program and youth who have completed the paid training and are documented to work in California, are able to perform certain job functions around the facility and earn money. Prior to release, those youth are linked to the nearest American Job Centers of California (AJCC) to continue receiving subsidized and unsubsidized employment opportunities. The Department is also exploring certified programs through local adult schools, and in conversations with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) who provides online access to training and education to over 17,000 inmates through the issuance of laptops, which we will try to replicate with increased wi-fi and technological resources.

The Department is also working with Workforce Development and Aging Community Services (WDACS) to discuss contracting for certificated programs in construction, culinary, health and the creative economy, in partnership with the Department of Arts and Culture.

Space is currently a challenge with the multi-year construction efforts to renovate the school which has required the gymnasium and library to be utilized as classrooms. Once these renovations are completed, additional vocational programs will have space to allow multiple CBOs to provide vocational programs during limited hours of youth availability (3-4 hours afterschool weekdays and 4-5 hours weekends) which competes with mandates that require youth to have access to large muscle exercise, visitation, religious and education services, and rehabilitative services, in accordance with California, Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15, for Juvenile Detention Facilities.

### Question 2: What is Probation doing to clarify roles, responsibilities, and expectation among case carrying DPOs, and cottage staff?

Dorothy Kirby Center has two types of Deputy Probation Officers (DPO); those that only provide supervision and non-clinical services, and clinical treatment and counseling DPOs who provide co-case management and clinical services to youth in partnership with the Department of Mental Health (DMH). DKC started as a girl's placement facility "Las Palmas," that eventually became a co-ed residential treatment facility for youth with intensive mental health needs. The program was initially funded through medi-cal and utilized an Intensive Outpatient Services (IOS)/Day Treatment model, until approximately 2008 when medi-cal could no longer be utilized to provide services to youth within a locked facility. As the Department still had the need to provide more intensive therapeutic

services for youth who qualified with an Axis I diagnosis or history of psychiatric episodes, the Dorothy Kirby Center became a locked placement that still follows the IOS model. As a result of the pandemic, staff that only provided clinical supervision were placed online due to staffing shortages. In addition, the Department lost a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) that could not be replaced due to the hiring freeze. As a result, several social workers could no longer provide or receive supervised clinical hours to obtain their license, so DMH had to temporarily take over the clinical services for staff that were not licensed. In late August/early September 2022, the Department received approval to hire another LCSW and plans to retrain all DPO II T&Cs in their clinical role to work collaboratively with their DMH partner and ensure that they are trained in the DMH policies and mental health recording system to receive their clinical hours as required. The Department should complete the hiring and retraining of all clinical staff by December 31, 2022.

## Question 1: What are some opportunities being created to enhance team building, cross training, and inter-facility communication between Camp Scott, DKC, and agency partners?

Some opportunities that are being created to enhance inter-facility communication between DKC and CJS youths are outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and includes weekly team meetings, co-assessment screenings, quality assurance conferences, co-training, co-facilitation, collaborative multi-disciplinary case planning, and opportunities to engage in off campus excursion activities together with the youth. Such prosocial activities includes Game Changer events with the Dodgers, college campus tours, field trips to UPS, Rams football clinics, holiday events, birthday celebrations, etc.

The Department also enlisted the assistance of the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to develop questionnaires to determine whether group facilitation was required to mitigate any staffing conflict and complaints; however, the confidential survey sent out twice by DHR had minimal participation so further mediation was not pursued.

### Question 2: What is the plan to increase the daily programming opportunities at Camp Scott?

Currently Camp Joseph Scott has more CBO program opportunities than the female youth housed at DKC, because service providers such as Million Little and Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) female mentoring funded through Supervisor Barger's office were brought along with Camp Scott when they relocated from Santa Clarita. The majority of DKC programs are provided by clinical staff as the prioritized needs for the DKC population (psychiatric services, psychotherapy, etc.) are different than females ordered to a regular female camp requiring less intensive mental health services. However, CJS youth benefit from services afforded to the DKC population, such as, LA Trade Tech Automotive, West Cal, UPS career exploration and excursions, etc. The

plan is to continue to increase daily programming opportunities at CJS by soliciting for more services now that providers are able to return in-person.

NO.	Camp	Date of	Commis	DEFICIENCIES NOTED	Catagony			Estimated	Proof of
NO.	Camp	Inspection	sioner	DEFICIENCIES NOTED	Category	CORRECTIVE ACTION	Status	Completion	Practice
					Case				Copies of
				Scheduling is not appropriate or is not aligned with the role	Workers/Counselors or				revised
	DKC		A & B	expectation.	T&C's	Revise Schedule	Completed	9/8/2022	schedules
					Case				
					Workers/Counselors or				Roster with new
	DKC		A & B	Roles are not clearly defined	T&C's	Hire LCSW	In progress	11/30/2022	LCSW
					Case				
					Workers/Counselors or				
	DKC		A & B	Roles are not clearly defined	T&C's	Retrain DPO T&C	In progress		STC Rosters
								Board Letter is	
								targeted to be	Return of
								approved on 11/1/22.	LACOE to
	DKC		A & B	Classrooms looked a little depressing			In progress	DONE	classrooms
					Vocational/Post	Add 2 new vocational			Program
	DKC		A & B	Potential to increase the vocational programming for youth	Secondary	programs	In progress	3/31/2023	Calendar
									Provide number
									of MDTs and
									monthly
									Program
				Collaboration is important, necessary – create increased					Manager
				opportunities for DPO's, T&C's and Partner agency staff to	Multi-Disciplinary Team				meetings and
				collaborate and have multi-disciplinary discussions, with youth at	_				weekly teaming
	DKC		A & B	the center	Coordination		In progress	12/31/2022	notes
						Assess if staffing can			
						accommodate the addition of			
				Have at least two (Probation) school liaisons work alongside		another school liaision, would			
				school personnel to support educational goals and behavior		depend on number of levels			Updated
	DKC			management plans	Education/ School Staff		In progress	11/30/2022	response
				Provide access to virtual learning for youth or support by		Discuss with LACOE ability to			
				paraprofessionals – this is especially needed during quarantine		add more paraprofessionals			Updated
	DKC		A & B	periods (COVID-19)	Education/ School Staff	during quarantine	In progress	11/30/2022	response
						Review and monitor			Updated
					Behavior Management	programming schedule,			program
	CJS		С	Very limited programming offered at the camp	Program	increase where necessary	In progress	3/31/2022	schedule
]									
									Provide
				Need for better communication and collaboration among the		Manager to ensure CBOs			monthly reports
				different agencies (DMH, JCHS, LACOE) and facilities (DKC) and		provide monthly updates to			by cottage with
				would like to see more engagement and communication	Behavior Management	cottage staff and contact			youth
	CJS		С	between CBO's and Probation staff as well	Program	information.	In progress	12/31/2022	participation
									Completed
					Behavior Management				work orders for
	CJS		С	Need more life skills vs. art	Program	Solicit more life skills	Not started	6/30/2023	life skills
						Include perishable skills			Unit meeting
				Increase in practical, day-to-day type of training that could		training calendar in unit			agenda and sign-
	CJS		С	enhance their job performance at the facility	Training	meetings	In progress	12/31/2022	off sheets

### Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Camp Joseph Paige Facility Inspection Report: 2022 Response and Corrective Action Plan

## Question 1: Has the Department considered adding signage on the trails/open areas around the facilities to possible deter potential contraband or unauthorized visitors?

There is an existing plan to place Close Circuit Television Cameras around the facility which will also create deterrence from trespassers. Existing signage warnings against bears, coyotes, snakes and other animals, and those to deter trespassers are being reviewed for additional signage and/or for refurbishment.

### Question 2: Is Probation offering or facilitating supplemental training or classes for rapport and relationship-building between line staff and youth?

There are existing Rapport and Relationship-Building training that are offered by the Staff Training Office. In addition, Camp Paige relies on the positive outcomes derived from effective of relationship-building to encourage youth to progress and to help youth self-regulate emotions.

### Question 3: Have the major appliance issues been resolved?

Washers and Dryers for Camp Paige have been ordered and are pending delivery and installation. These washers and dryers are merely back-ups to the existing Clothing Exchange Process currently provided through a contracted vendor where used clothing are picked-up and delivered three times per week.

### Question 4: Has vocational or trade programming increased at either camp?

Camp Paige started a Digital Design/Silk-Screening course, which meets twice a week for 1.5 hours each class, for the youth who have graduated high school. The course will culminate in designs created by youth that will be printed on T-shirts which youth can take home with them or give as gifts to family members. This partnership between Probation, Departments of Arts and Culture, and Homeboy Industries' Art Academy will hopefully pave the way for similar programs throughout the Department. Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is planning to create a similar program for youth currently still in high school and has since hired a Digital Design teacher to teach as part of the school curriculum. The LACOE classes will create a second separate cohort of participants receiving the same support.

Work and College Programs are offered by Education Services at Camp Paige which have culminated in successful job placements with UPS. Since the beginning 2021, at least 11 youth have been hired by UPS to start as part-time workers after their release from camp. In addition, youth who participated in work programs would receive stipends and laptops after their release.

### Question 5: How is the suspected increase of drug use and contraband being addressed?

Camp Paige received contracted private security beginning November 1, 2022, and they are posted at the entrance to the camp driveway. The security service is posted 24 hours a day and 7 days per week. They conduct random perimeter checks around the facility several times per day as well as ensure visitors have official business when entering the facility. In addition, youth with court orders for random drug testing, are regularly tested for illicit substances. At Camp Paige, youth care about receiving a positive progress report. As such, the random testing works as an effective deterrent for youth not to get involved in illicit drug use since the results of the drug tests are included in their progress reports. In partnership with the Department of Mental Health, Camp Paige offers a five and a ten-week drug education curriculum to all youth, and beginning in January 2023, Department of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control will provide contracted substance abuse services.

Youth suspected of bringing in or using narcotics are required to submit to narcotic testing more frequently. The Department has established a Contraband Committee that has been meeting and consulting with various operations within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, such as Operation Safe Jails (OSJ), Narcotics Bureau, and Operation Safe Street's (OSS) Gang Enforcement Teams (GET) to develop strategies to mitigate contraband from entering the facility. Additionally, enhanced security checks around the perimeter fencing, classrooms, dormitory, gym, kitchen, and random canine searches are occurring more frequently.

### Question 6: Will specialized tactical training (related to adolescent development) be provided (or is it already being offered) to SEO's?

All Specialized Enforcement Officers (SEO) have extensive experience working with adult and youth probationers in a professional manner (requirement), to be armed and conduct compliance checks or apprehension recovery. SEO staff began their careers working in juvenile institutions and have completed Juvenile Correctional Officer Core academy which covers trauma-informed care, adolescent development, and building rapport with young people.

### Question 7: Are any measures being taken to build youth's confidence in submitting grievances, particularly paper-form ones?

During orientation, all youth are informed of their rights which includes the grievance process and how to access within the unit or online through the Juvenile Institutions

Grievance System (JIGS) application installed on all LACOE laptops. At Camp Paige, youth are encouraged and counseled to have positive interactions with staff, especially during an emotional crisis. This includes reminding them of their right to write a grievance or appeal any write-up they may not agree with. Camp management is in the process of training and encouraging staff to employ more Restorative Justice methods through the use of Sanction Forms in lieu of Special Incident Reports (SIRS). The Sanction Form process includes restorative practices such as apologizing verbally or in writing, documented self-assessments on their negative behavior and how a different approach might have resulted in a more positive outcome (Thinking Report, Brief Intervention Tool), or writing a book report.

Question 8: Since there was a mix of students with a variety of needs (i.e., some very focused on their studies, on the cusp of graduating while others are just getting started and others who are sensitive to noises or easily distracted by them), is providing headphones to students when they have to work on the laptops during school hours an feasible solution?

Headphones are made available by LACOE for use by youth depending on the given school activity.

### Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Camp Clinton B. Afflerbaugh Facility Inspection Report: 2022 Response and Corrective Action Plan

## Question 1: Has the Department considered adding signage on the trails/open areas around the facilities to possible deter potential contraband or unauthorized visitors?

Since the inspection report, the Department has a contracted security guard who is stationed at the entrance area who can observe suspicious activities. In addition, the Department will develop signage to reflect the appropriate penal codes related to the passing of contraband into the facility. Existing signage relates to bringing contraband within the facility assuming the individual has authorized access. Thereafter, Management Services Bureau (MSB) will develop and post signage around the perimeter of camp to help deter contraband and/or unauthorized visitors from congregating along the perimeter.

In addition, the Department has a monthly meeting to discuss capital projects to improve the security of the facilities. One of the action plans is to add screening along the fence to obscure unauthorized visitors sight within the facility. The long-term plan also includes Closed Circuit Cameras that will be added around the perimeter to record and alert any suspicious activities. Until the modifications are made, staff and security guards will continue to conduct perimeter searches to mitigate youth from accessing any contraband left around the perimeter.

### Question 2: Is Probation offering or facilitating supplemental training or classes for rapport and relationship-building between line staff and youth?

The Juvenile Corrections Officer Core requires that all staff are training in areas of engagement related to cultural sensitivity, adolescent stages of development, rapport building, crisis de-escalation, trauma, mental health, etc. Strategies about how to develop rapport (effective communication, motivational interviewing, core correctional practices) are embedded throughout all of the classes, and Deputy Probation Officer IIs and Supervising Deputy Probation Officers (SDPO) are tasked with addressing difficult behaviors which includes coaching and mentoring staff in the tenants of evidence-based practices outlined in the LA Model. Additionally, the Bureau has revised the camp program to include a Developmental Stage System (DSS) which includes the Forward Thinking cognitive behavioral intervention utilized during individual case management sessions. The Forward Thinking handbooks provide guided facilitation of topics that help officers create a therapeutic alliance with their clients.

### Question 3: Have the major appliance issues been resolved?

The dishwasher has been replaced and calibrated to the right temperature. While laundry services are contracted out, the Management Services Bureau (MSB) has ordered a new washing machine for emergency use only and is working on procuring driers as well.

### Question 4: Has vocational or trade programming increased at either camp?

Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) provides Career Technical Education (CTE) for non-graduates, and Education Services provides community college courses for graduates and Personal Enrichment Training (PET) as part of the Youth at Work program. Youth who have completed the paid training and are documented to work in California, are able to perform certain job functions around the facility to earn money. Prior to release, participating youth are linked to the nearest American Job Centers of California (AJCC) to continue receiving subsidized and unsubsidized employment opportunities. Education Services also provides Cal-Osha certificated trainings online and coordinates logistics certifications provided by East Los Angeles College (ELAC). Participants are also taken to UPS sites to see the logistics in motion, meet UPS managers, and are assisted with the application and interview process prior to release; Department of Arts and Culture contracts with community-based organizations to provide skills in the creative economy. Currently, Boyle Heights Arts Conservatory facilitates a music production program that teaches youth how to utilize equipment to produce music.

### Question 5: How is the suspected increase of drug use and contraband being addressed?

Youth suspected of bringing in or using narcotics are required to submit to narcotic testing more frequently. The Department has established a Contraband Committee that has been meeting and consulting with various operations within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, such as Operation Safe Jails (OSJ), Narcotics Bureau, and Operation Safe Street's (OSS) Gang Enforcement Teams (GET) to develop strategies to mitigate contraband from entering the facility. Additionally, enhanced security checks around the perimeter fencing, classrooms, dormitory, gym, kitchen, and random canine searchers are occurring more frequently.

### Question 6: Will specialized tactical training (related to adolescent development) be provided (or is it already being offered) to SEO's?

All Specialized Enforcement Officers (SEO) have extensive experience working with adult and youth probationers in a professional manner (requirement), to be armed and conduct compliance checks or apprehension recovery. SEO staff began their careers working in juvenile institutions and have completed JCOC.

### Question 7: Are any measures being taken to build youth's confidence in submitting grievances, particularly paper-form ones?

All youth are encouraged to utilize the grievance platform. The new Grievance Management System (GMS) is scheduled to go live on January 9, 2023. Youth receive ongoing orientation on how to use the new system and how to sign-on & change their password to the new GMS Youth Portal. The Department can conduct a survey to document whether youth believe that the grievance system can appropriately resolve their grievances.

Question 8: Since there was a mix of students with a variety of needs (i.e., some very focused on their studies, on the cusp of graduating while others are just getting started and others who are sensitive to noises or easily distracted by them), is providing headphones to students when they have to work on the laptops during school hours a feasible solution?

Due to the low population, Los Angeles County Office of Education continues to operate within two classrooms. Each class has a Para Educator in the classroom and headphones are provided.

# Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

Camp Glenn Rockey
Facility Inspection Report: 2022
Response and Corrective Action Plan

### Question 1: Is there a work order in place to address the leaking air-cooler in the kitchen (which has a layer of moss or mold along the outer edge of the roof)?

The work order to replace the air-cooler in the kitchen was placed. Camp Rockey is anticipating the receipt of three (3) new air-cooling units and pending confirmation from Internal Services Department (ISD) regarding scheduling of the installation.

### Question 2: Does the Department have a plan to incorporate credible messengers into the camp framework?

The Department commenced a contract with Asian Youth Center (AYC) effective October 1, 2021 and has been utilizing the Gang Reduction Youth Development (GRYD) credible messengers to facilitate Healing Circles since 2020. The Department of Youth Development (DYD) will be responsible for embedding credible messengers throughout detention; however, their existing funding is restricted to Campus Kilpatrick and Barry J. Nidorf at this time.

### Question 3: How is the HOPE Center being utilized by neighboring camps (Afflerbaugh, Paige)?

Camps Afflerbaugh and Paige utilize the Healing Opportunities for Positive Engagement (HOPE) Center when there is a need for youth to be separated from the general facility population for stabilization and/or administrative purposes. Per Departmental policy, there are three approved types of separation in the HOPE Center: Cool Down, Confinement and Specialized Supervision Program (SSP).

A youth may be referred to the HOPE Center for a brief removal from the general population as a temporary "Cool-Down." Separation may only continue until the youth's behavior has stabilized, and the return of the youth to the general population will not jeopardize the safety and security of the facility.

Confinement is defined in Title 15 Section 1354.5 and WIC 208.3 as the placement of a youth in a locked room with minimal or no contact with persons other than facility staff and attorneys in instances where a youth's behavior poses an imminent risk to the safety

or security of any youth or staff. Confinement shall not be for the purpose of punishment, coercion, convenience, or retaliation by staff and shall not be used before other less restrictive options have been attempted and exhausted, unless attempting those options poses a threat to the safety or security of any youth or staff.

Last, SSP is the separation of a youth from their regular living unit for temporary housing at the HOPE Center with full access to programming. Youth can be referred to the HOPE Center directly from their regular living unit to a SSP or youth in room confinement can transition to a SSP. Reasons for placing a youth under a SSP includes but are not limited to administrative holds, protective custody, court orders, predatory behavior, victimization (e.g., sex offender), self-harm history, medical issues, etc.

### Question 4: Are there any administrative procedures in place to avoid prolonged periods of time spent in the HOPE Center?

Yes, Probation Directive 1453 governs and details the administrative processes for HOPE Center utilization when youth are separated from the general facility population for stabilization or administrative purposes. All HOPE Center referrals for SSP require approval from RTSB Administration (Bureau Chief or designee), to ensure sufficient justification. As part of the SSP, HOPE Center policy requires that an As-Needed Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting occurs within 48 hours to develop a collaborative plan of action plan for the youth. In addition to the As-Needed MDT, weekly Re-integration meetings occur to review, update, and determine whether the plans goals and objectives are being met so the youth can be reintegrated back into general population.

In addition, Camp Rockey has a designated HOPE Center supervisor and a Board State Community Corrections (BSCC) Coordinator who conduct regular audits to ensure compliance with Departmental policy and Title 15 mandates.

### Question 5: Is there an identified graffiti-prevention or graffiti removal program?

Camp Rockey does not currently utilize an identified graffiti prevention or graffiti removal program due to the cleaning materials required. However, in collaboration with the Department of Arts and Culture, Camp Rockey offers art programs where youth can positively express their artistic talents by participating in arts and craft and other music related programs. In addition to programming, Camp Rockey often hosts cleaning completions where each cohort cleans their designated areas including graffiti removal. This friendly competition often expands to youth volunteering to remove graffiti from the overall campgrounds for extra credit. Winners of the competition are rewarded with an extra "outside" meal.



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY – DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242 (562) 940-2501



January 12, 2023

TO:

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director

Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

FROM:

Adolfo Gonzales

**Chief Probation Officer** 

SUBJECT:

PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION - POC INSPECTION

REPORT - BARRY J. NIDORF JUVENILE HALL, CENTRAL

JUVENILE HALL, AND CAMPUS KILPATRICK

On December 29, 2022, the Probation Department was provided with the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission's 2022 Facility Inspection Report. What follows are Probation's responses to the questions provided in that report.

### Inspection Questions - Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall

Are there formulated plans by Probation management, MSB or janitorial services to maintain regular deep cleaning schedules and/or regulate temperature in buildings, particularly living units?

### **Department Response**

Probation utilizes ISD custodial services to clean the youth living units daily, as well as provide a weekly rotation of power washing of the toilet/shower areas. For temperature related matters, we contact an ISD HVAC mechanic, as needed. We have an upcoming HVAC project to upgrade multiple systems in the youth living units. The upgrades are projected to be completed in phases with an anticipated start date of June 2023 and completion date of September 2024. The identified units are A/B, C/D, E/F, G/H, J/K, L/M, R/S, and T/V.

What progress has been made in developing and helping staff understand the SYTF policies including use of force, behavior management and the policy or structure around earning points for the SYTF commissary?

### **Department Response**

All institution staff are provided use of force training, which is occurring present day for the staff designated to work with the SYTF population. The BMP policy is undergoing upgrades/revisions to reflect the new population's needs and programming. The formal training for SYTF will occur when the BMP policy is revised, and staffing is finalized for this program.

How is the Hope Center being utilized by regular population units and by compound units and how is the Department ensuring that youth are not housed there for prolonged periods of time?

### **Department Response**

The use of the Hope Center has greatly decreased, as it is rarely used for discipline reasons since most issues are resolved within the units. The Hope Center population is closely monitored by the unit Director. Those currently residing in the Hope Center are there due to safety concerns and are youth that have a specialized supervision plan to address their services while in the Hope Center.

May you please confirm work orders in progress for the aforementioned items in this report? (Lighting ballasts in compound units, window glass replacement in classrooms, camera installations, and order for extra chairs).

### **Department Response**

Lighting is handled on a nearly constant basis; it is being replaced/upgraded with Home Like construction. The window issue is being addressed - supply chain and Title 24 regulations have hindered significant progress. Cameras are currently being installed throughout the facility. The facility has a supply of stacking chairs in each unit

The Home Like Improvement project is being funded by BOS. Current lighting in the compound units is being upgraded with an anticipated completion date of December 2023. Units are being rehabbed with paint, furniture, lighting, and restrooms. MSB is looking into using a film on the remaining windows versus using a light-blockage film.

There are 32 classrooms (96 windows) that are pending replacement, with a request for new estimate already in progress. The following classrooms have been completed: classrooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (total of 27 windows). These windows have been replaced and frosted.

CCTV installation is currently in progress. Cameras will be installed in all youth living units with an anticipated completion date of April 2024.

Installation of new furniture and seating is also in progress with the Homelike Improvement upgrades. The projected completion date is December 2023.

What policies or procedures are followed by staff if they suspect a youth may be actively under the influence (e.g., taking drugs)?

What about actively under the influence not needing medical attention (overdose)?

### **Department Response**

In the event a youth appears to be under the influence, the incident is handled as a medical issue. The policy states: Probation staff shall immediately refer a youth who requests medical care or who appears to be in need of medical care to the nurse (Juvenile Court and Health Services). Youth may refuse, verbally or in writing, non-emergency medical, dental, and behavioral/mental health care. The referring staff shall document such refusal (meets standards set forth in title 15, Section 1434). Upon admission to juvenile hall, it the youth appears to be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances to the extent that they are a threat to themselves or others or are exhibiting signs of mental illness, the staff member shall summon the nurse. Should the nurse determine that the youth requires medical treatment, staff shall instruct the law enforcement agency to take the youth to be medically treated and cleared before returning the youth for admission.

### Inspection Questions - Central Juvenile Hall (CJH)

Related to FaceTime calls: What is the current policy and how has it changed post-COVID/since the pandemic began?

### **Department Response**

In 2020, the Department of Public Health (DPH) stopped in-person visiting due to Covid-19. Probation instituted virtual visits via cell phones to mitigate the need to continue services and communication with outside entities. Additionally, each unit was assigned a cell phone which provided youth an opportunity to communicate with their families.

When DPH allowed outdoor visitation, in-person visitation resumed, Probation continued to facilitate virtual visits. Probation officers, attorneys, and youth parents can request a virtual visit and one will be scheduled. Quarantine and medical isolation units provide the youth daily opportunities to virtually call, as they are not able to use the unit pay phones.

How are youth informed about the FaceTime usage?

### **Department Response**

The youth are made aware of the virtual calls at court and by the unit supervisor or Senior DSO.

What is the turn-around for work orders related to key amenities like water fountains and sinks?

### **Department Response**

The turn-around time for plumbing related work orders vary in the nature of the call. Minor repairs are handled by in-house maintenance personnel and addressed immediately. All other work orders are routed to ISD Plumbing craft and have a standard processing time for assessment and/or repair of 48 hours following receipt of the work order. Supply chain issues have been noted in the past. When a fountain is inoperable, the kitchen sends a 5-gallon water jug with cold water/ice to the unit, and it is changed out at meal times throughout the day. Currently, there are work orders in the system for six sinks and three water fountain repairs.

How can more outdoor activities, as witnessed by Commissioner D, be replicated?

### **Department Response**

Due to a staffing shortage, units are only provided outdoor time one unit at a time. Additional staffing could provide for better supervision and may allow for multiple units to be outside at the same time if the supervision levels were at 5:1 or lower.

Related to contraband and possible weapons: What are the steps that staff are to follow when they witness/find contraband?

### **Department Response**

The following are the steps staff are to follow when they witness or find contraband.

- 1. The staff is to notify their supervisor and the facility OD
- 2. The staff is to complete and submit a Security Incident Report
- 3. The staff is to give the contraband to the OD who then gives it to the Division 1 Director (the OD's Manager)

Depending on what is found and if the contraband was found on a youth, the Division 1 Director will notify the Probation Officer of record of the contraband found on the youth. It is documented in a Detention Observation Report. If narcotics are recovered, they are released to the Sheriff's Department for destruction. When contraband is not found in the possession of a youth, the same steps are followed except the Division 1 Director will properly dispose the contraband after notifying the Superintendent and Bureau Chief.

What are the preventative measures that Probation is to follow to mitigate the risk of contraband and possible weapon drop-offs?

### **Department Response**

Probation has contracted security guards to screen both staff and visitors for contraband. Probation has a contract with a narcotic K9 company that comes to the facility upon request and on most weekends to screen visitors. The facility has unit searches daily. In addition, AB 109 deployed staff complete in depth searches on a weekly basis.

Exterior perimeter security checks are done twice a week and randomly when suspicious behaviors are observed outside the walls. Probation has requested a security assessment of the facility to be done by the Sheriff's Department to see what enhancements should be done to keep the facility secure and safe.

When will the repairs for unit XY (Girls' CARE) take place, and when will it be habitable again?

### **Department Response**

Unit XY is open and currently houses Girls' Care and Girls' Enhanced supervision units. Girls' Care unit is undergoing a multi-million-dollar renovation to make it more homelike. This extensive renovation will remove some walls to open up the space and will include new paint and installing new flooring and furniture. It is expected to be completed by January 2024. Unit XY is next on the priority list for the homelike improvements and will also receive new flooring, lights, paint, and furniture. It is tentatively scheduled to start in April 2023 and be completed in December 2023.

### <u>Inspection Questions – Campus Kilpatrick</u>

Have the work orders (relating to securing the campus) and installing perimeter fencing been completed? If not, what is the status?

### **Department Response**

Work orders have been placed; much of the work has been completed. The remaining installation of roller anti-climb hardware, anti-vision screen, and non-climb cloth has an anticipated completion date of April 30, 2023.

How are grievances handled at this SYTF site?

### **Department Response**

Grievances will be handled in the same manner as for non-SYTF youth. There are grievance boxes and forms located in the living units. A designated staff checks the boxes

daily to retrieve and facilitate the resolution process which includes discussing the issue with the youth, documenting the grievance, and elevating it as needed. Signatures are required from the youth and staff involved affirming their participation in the grievance process.

What steps can be taken to formally incorporate the youth's input in programming decisions or promote a collaborative decision-making approach with Probation?

### **Department Response**

As SYTF is youth-centered, the youth/young adults are included in numerous areas of acquiring programming. Formal meetings in the Commons or outside are used to obtain input for store items, type of DSS Stage Incentives, choice of holiday activities, selection of programming and phone call schedules. Town Hall meetings and surveys are also regularly conducted to gain youth input and feedback on all aspects of their daily living and programming.

Have youth and staff been informed of AB2417 (Juveniles: Bill of Rights) at this facility?

### **Department Response**

Youth and staff have been informed of AB2417, as of this date. There are posters/signs displayed throughout the facility.

AG:AB:cg

c: Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer Celia Zavala, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors Dawyn R. Harrison, Acting County Counsel