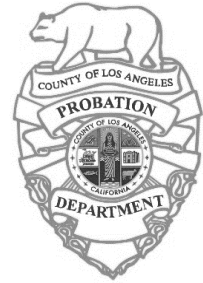




COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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



GUILLERMO VIERA ROSA
Chief Probation Officer

March 15, 2024

TO: Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director
Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission

FROM: Kimberly Epps, Chief Deputy *Kimberly Epps*
Juvenile Services

SUBJECT: **PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE
USE OF OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC) SPRAY (18th REPORT)**

On July 8, 2021, the Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) requested that the Department provide a written report to the POC on the progress of implementing the elimination of the use of oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, including a timeline with dates for key interim benchmarks and steps toward elimination, and a specific target date when the use of OC spray will be eliminated. As of this date, the plan and timeline for eliminating OC have not been completed, as we assess how to address and mitigate ongoing incidents of youth-on-youth assaults, physical altercations between youth, incidents of riots and escape attempts, and assaults against staff.

Specific timelines will be identified as the facility culture of violence previously noted subsides through staff training, youth education, and influence through reimagined strategies of effective youth programming and youth supervision, care, and safe and secure custody management.

TRAINING PLAN

As of January 4, 2024, the Department has trained 1076 employees in the 2-hour OC Spray course. The Department introduced the Developmental Staff System (DSS) reward behavior modification program to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). In total, 230 employees received the 4-hour DSS training, and 59 employees received an 8-hour DSS training. The Department is expected to complete the 8-hour DSS course within the month.

As of January 4, 2024, the Department has trained 70 deployed field staff in the Supervision of Developmentally Disabled Youth. Additionally, there have been 68 field deployed employees who have received Trauma Informed Care training.

Rebuild Lives and Provide for Healthier and Safer Communities

The Physical Intervention training resumed on March 3, 2024, and 23 employees have completed the 16-hour training. The Department is scheduling the training six (6) days a week, in an effort to train employees from Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH), Barry J. Nidorf – Secure Youth Treatment Facility (BJN-SYTF), and field deployed employees.

OC UTILIZATION

Table 1 documents OC spray incident totals by month.

OC Utilization by Month

MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
June-21	6	5		11	11
July-21	10	3		13	24
August-21	9	6		15	39
September-21	9	13		22	61
October-21	17	18		35	96
November-21	9	20		29	125
December-21	11	15		26	151
January-22	4	14		18	169
February-22	7	32		39	208
March-22	42	14		56	264
April-22	47	0		47	311
May-22	48	8		56	367
June-22	20	24		44	411
July-22	29	27		56	467
August-22	13	32		45	512
September-22	13	75		88	600
October-22	22	55		77	677
November-22	10	32		42	719
December-22	15	22		37	756
January-23	13	23		36	792
February-23	9	24		33	825
March-23	17	6		23	848
April-23	12	20		32	880
May-23	6	20		26	906
June-23	5	15		20	926
July-23	3	7	1	11	937
August-23	0	0	46	46	983
September-23	0	0	40	40	1023
October-23	0	0	51	51	1,074

MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
November-23	1	0	43	44	1,118
December-23	2	0	37	39	1,157
January-24	2	0	23	25	1,185
February-24	2	0	26	28	1,210
TOTALS:	413	530	267	1,210	16,294

Chart 1 illustrates the respective facility OC spray trends.

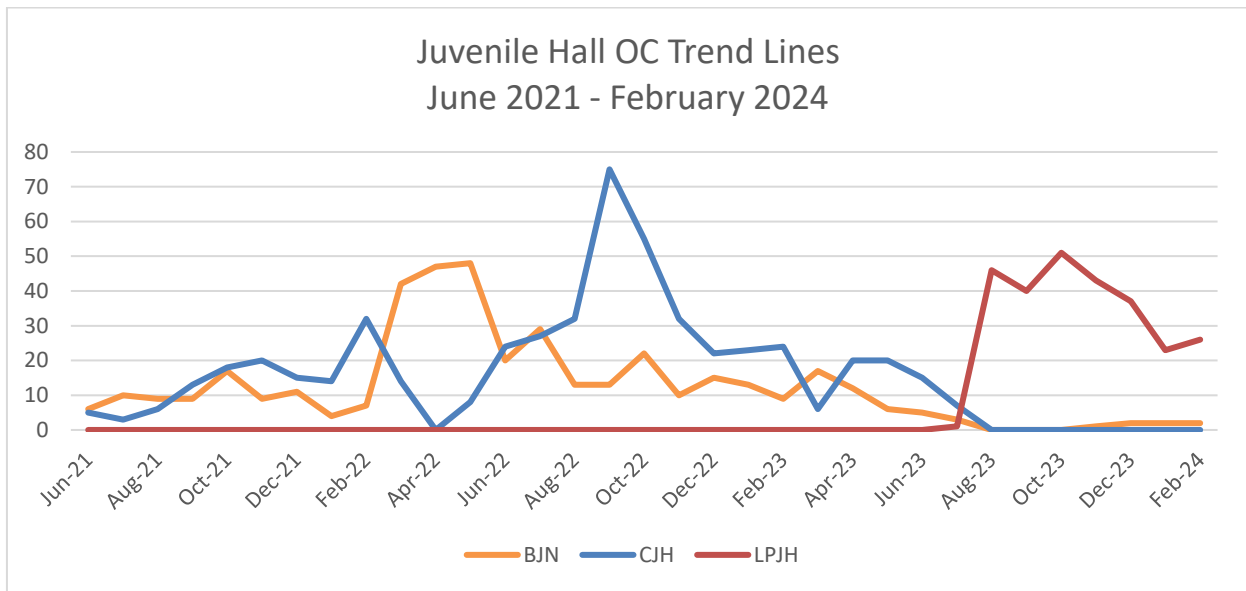
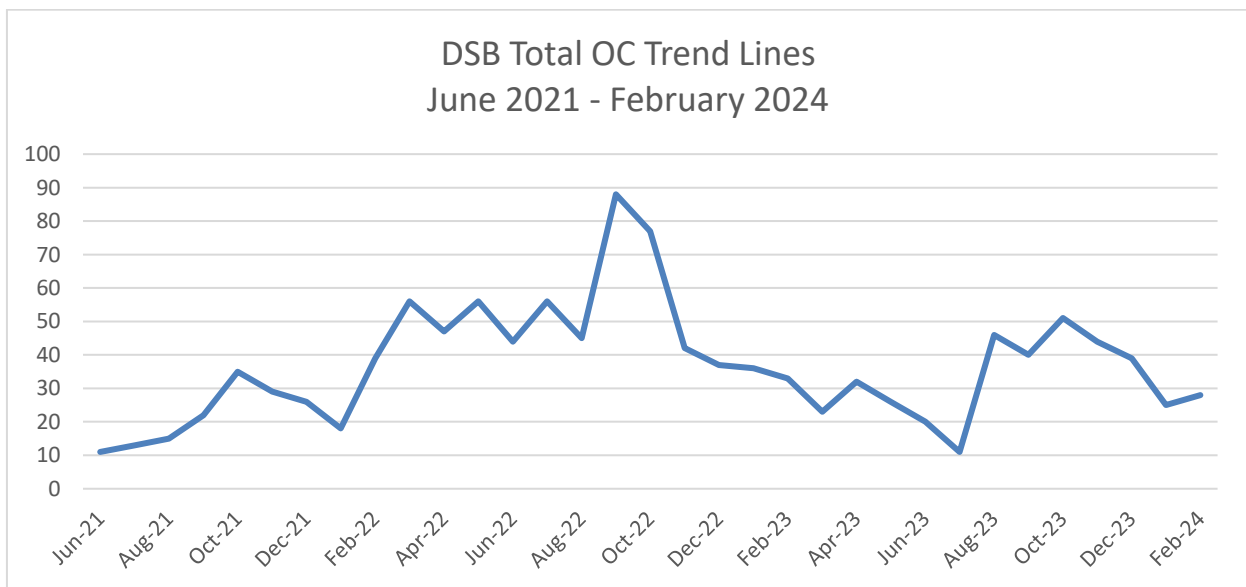


Chart 2 illustrates the combined total OC Spray trends for both SYTF and DSB facilities.



TIMELINE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF OC SPRAY

The Department continues to collaborate with the California Department of Justice court appointment monitor to develop an updated OC spray phase out strategy. Probation is committed to downscaling and ultimately eliminating the use of OC, and a will be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2024.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (562) 940-2513.

KE:rs