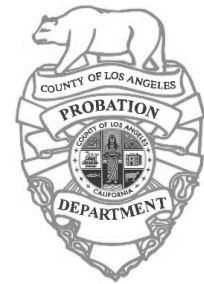




GUILLERMO VIERA ROSA
Chief Probation Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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(562) 940-2501



September 12, 2024

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

FROM: Kimberly Epps, Chief Deputy
Juvenile and Adult Services

SUBJECT: **PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE
USE OF OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC) SPRAY (21st 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 spray 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.

The Department continues to collaborate with the California Department of Justice court-appointed monitor to develop an updated OC spray phase out strategic plan. Probation remains committed to downscaling and ultimately eliminating the use of OC spray.

TRAINING PLAN

As of January 5, 2024, the Department has trained 1,604 employees in the 2-hour OC Spray course. The course covers the policy and decontamination procedures. The Department introduced the Developmental Staff System (DSS) reward behavior modification program to the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). In total, 586 employees received an 8-hour DSS training course. The training has also been provided to employees that are temporarily re-assigned to work at SYTF.

As of January 1, 2024, the Department has trained 1,254 employees in the 8-hour Use of Force Policy training.

The 16-hour Physical Intervention training has continued since March 3, 2024. There are 754 employees that completed the full 16-hour training. In addition, there are 918 employees that completed "day one" (8-hours) of training and 843 employees on Part 2 of Physical Intervention training.

The Department has completed an Annual Training Plan for the 2024-2025 year that includes continued training that supports the elimination of OC spray.

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	1,023
October-23	0	0	51	51	1,074
November-23	1	0	43	44	1,118
December-23	2	0	37	39	1,157

MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
January-24	2	0	23	25	1,182
February-24	2	0	26	28	1,210
March-24	1	0	36	37	1,247
April-24	3	0	48	51	1,298
May-24	1	0	43	44	1,342
June-24	1	0	42	43	1,385
July-24	5	0	59	64	1,449
August-24	1	0	51	52	1,501
TOTALS:	425	530	546	1,501	

Chart 1 illustrates the respective facility OC spray trends.

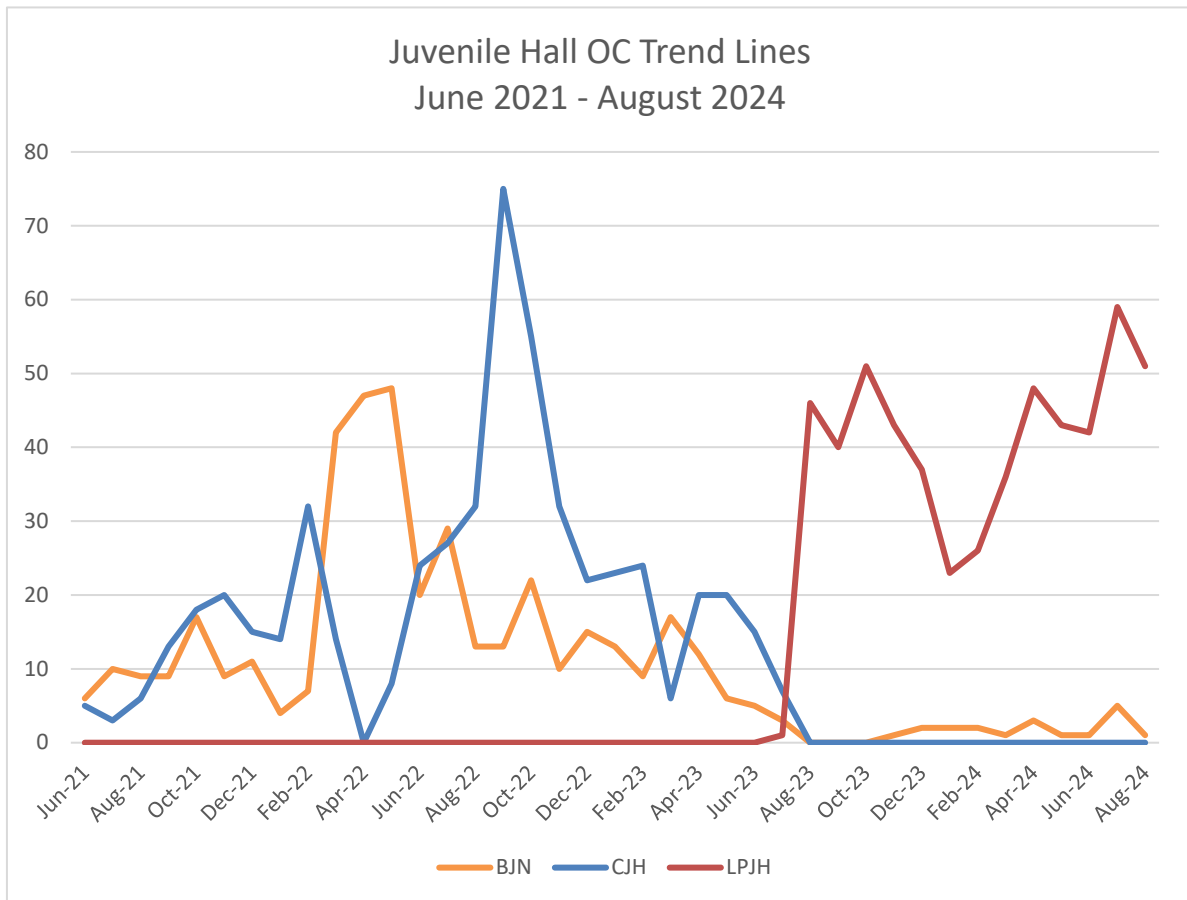
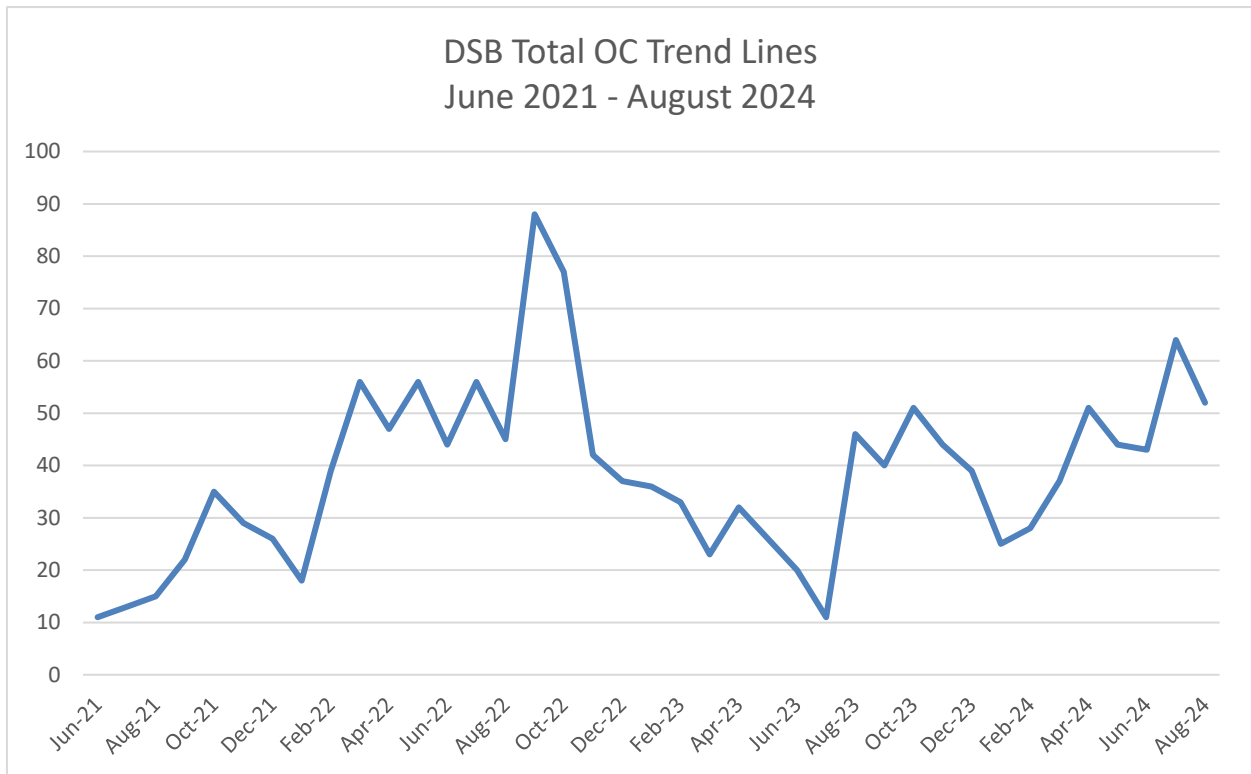


Chart 2 illustrates the combined total OC Spray trends for both SYTF and DSB facilities.



TIMELINE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF OC SPRAY

The Department continues to collaborate with the California Department of Justice court appointed monitor to develop an updated OC spray phase out strategy. Probation is committed to downscaling and ultimately eliminating the use of OC spray and a plan continues to be developed. Based on current trends of youth-on-youth violence, protocols to methodically reduce OC Spray in specific units are being considered. The Department anticipates identifying which units reduction may occur in by the end of the fourth quarter of 2024.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (562) 940-2086.

KE:ab