

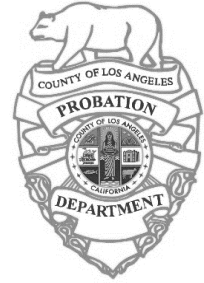


**GUILLERMO VIERA ROSA**

Chief Probation Officer


# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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



June 16, 2025

TO: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair  
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis  
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell  
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath  
Supervisor Janice Hahn

FROM: Guillermo Viera Rosa   
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **ELIMINATION OF THE USE OF OLEORESIN CAPSICUM SPRAY  
STAFF TRAINING ROLL OUT (SET ITEM NO. 1, AGENDA OF JUNE 25,  
2019) 22nd QUARTERLY REPORT**

At the June 25, 2019, Board of Supervisors (Board) meeting, following the Probation Department's (Department) report on the Elimination of the Use of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray, the Board took various actions, including instructing the Chief Probation Officer to provide quarterly updates on the roll out of staff training; and on conducting exit interviews with staff after the training sessions to determine if the provided training was sufficient. In addition, on December 20, 2022, on motion of Supervisors Solis and Horvath, the Board directed the Department to update our quarterly reports, starting with the thirteenth report, to include the following:

- The number of staff that still need training
- The percentage of trained staff per unit
- Updated timeline on the elimination of OC spray at each facility
- The number of staff who still carry OC spray post-training and, for those who do carry it, how often it is used

## **STAFF TRAINING UPDATE**

The Department continues to provide ongoing training to Field Deputy Probation Officers to assist with the staffing needs in the institutions. As of April 1, 2025, the Department has trained 131 employees on the 2-hour OC Spray course.

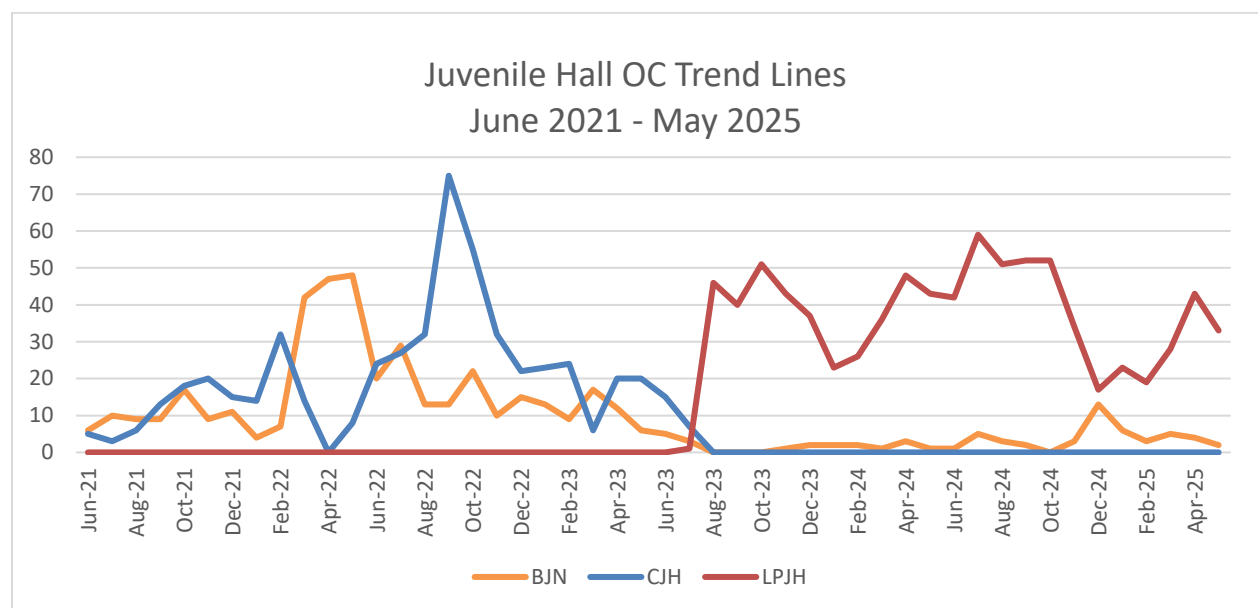
Since the last report, the Department has trained 185 staff in Developmental Stage System and Behavior Modification Program.

The chart below illustrates OC Spray Incident by facilities totals from June 2021 through May 2025.

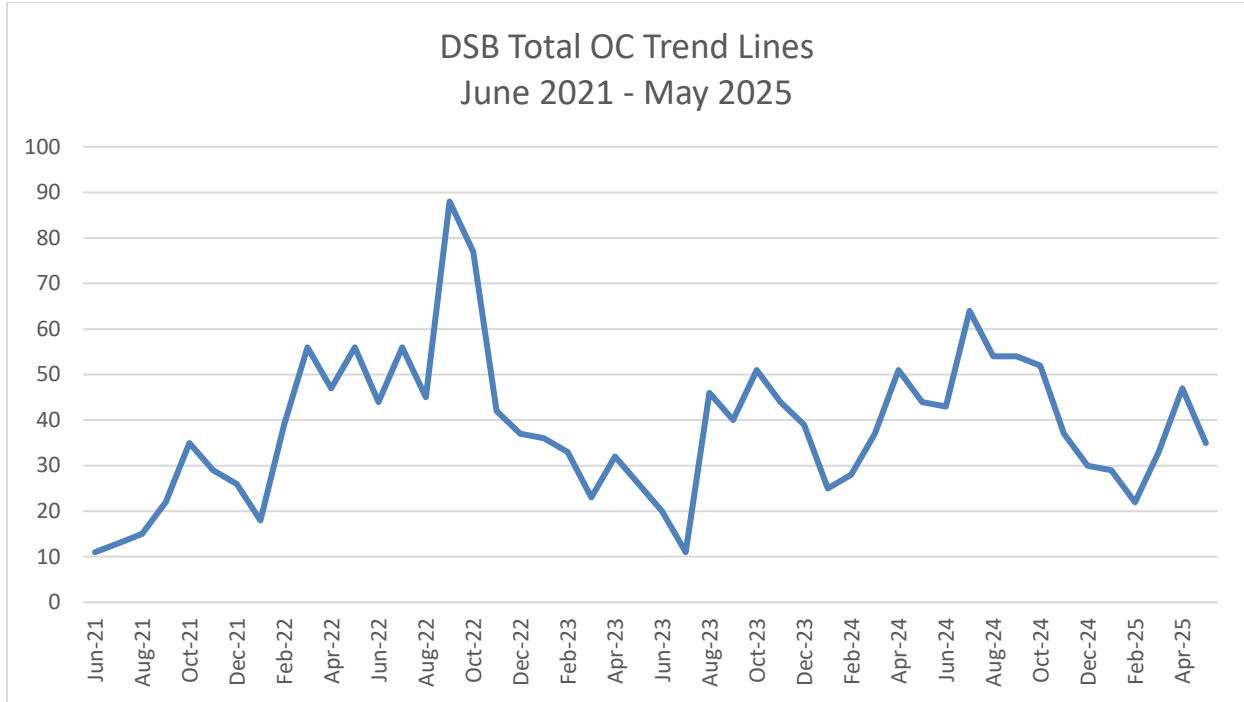
MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
June-21	6	5		11	11
July-21	10	3		13	24
August-21	9	6		15	39
September-21	9	13		22	61
October-21	17	18		35	96
November-21	9	20		29	125
December-21	11	15		26	151
January-22	4	14		18	169
February-22	7	32		39	208
March-22	42	14		56	264
April-22	47	0		47	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

MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
December-23	2	0	37	39	1,157
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	3	0	51	54	1,503
September-24	2	0	52	54	1,557
October-24	0	0	52	52	1,609
November-24	3	0	34	37	1,646
December-24	13	0	17	30	1,676
January-25	6	0	23	29	1,705
February-25	3	0	19	22	1,727
March-25	5	0	28	33	1,760
April-25	4	0	43	47	1,807
May-25	2	0	33	35	1,842
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>1,842</b>	

The chart below illustrates the OC spray trend lines for facilities listed since June 2021



The chart below illustrates the combined total OC Spray trends for both SYTF and DSB facilities since June 2021.



### PERCENTAGE OF TRAINED STAFF PER UNIT

Due to the current staffing shortages, it is not feasible to consistently assign staff to a specific unit as they are needed to support units that are understaffed throughout the facility. As such, staff are assigned to a unit based on the daily needs of the facility. Consequently, the percentage of trained staff per unit cannot be determined at this time.

### NUMBER OF STAFF CARRYING OC SPRAY POST-TRAINING & USAGE FREQUENCY

As of July 23, 2023, BJN is no longer classified as a juvenile hall and is now a SYTF facility.

The number of staff at LPJH carrying OC spray fluctuates daily. The reason for the fluctuation is staff are not mandated to carry OC but if requested, a canister is issued. OC is strictly handled as an additional tool to either prevent or deescalate violence.

After a thorough assessment of the Department's resources is completed, we will be able to analyze the frequency of OC deployment by staff to better enable us to guide our phase out plan. This approach aligns the Department with best practices in using data to formulate a methodical approach to the phase out.

## **UPDATED TIMELINE ON THE ELIMINATION OF OC SPRAY AT EACH FACILITY**

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 is committed to downscaling and ultimately eliminating the use of OC, and a plan will be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2025.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Probation Department remains committed to partnering with our stakeholders to promote a safe culture that supports staff and youth in a secure, stable, and healthy environment. In addition, the Department is committed to providing enhanced training to staff in our effort to discontinue the use of OC spray as instructed by the Board in February of 2019. We will continue to inform your Board of our training status and anticipate providing an update of any significant changes on a quarterly basis.

If you have any questions, please contact Gabriella Aguilera, Acting Chief Deputy, Juvenile and Adult Services, at (323) 430-2049.

GVR:GA:ab

c: Honorable Akemi Arakaki, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court  
Fesia Davenport, Chief Executive Officer  
Edward Yen, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel  
Christina R. Ghaly, Director, Department of Health Services  
Lisa H. Wong, Director, Department of Mental Health  
Barbara Ferrer, Director, Department of Public Health  
Max Huntsman, Inspector General  
Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Probation Oversight Commission  
Debra Duardo, Superintendent, Los Angeles County Office of Education  
Rene Philips, Acting Senior Manager, CEO  
Justice Deputies