



LOS ANGELES COUNTY

PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

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# **INSPECTION REPORT FOR CAMP CLINTON B. AFFLERBAUGH (CBA)**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC), in its mission to oversee and make recommendations to the Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation), is completing the 2025 Annual Inspections of all of Probation's detention facilities, marking the fifth year of inspections.

The POC has found it of critical importance to provide substantial feedback to Probation, the Board of Supervisors (Board), and public stakeholders after each inspection of the conditions observed within the facilities. This summary presents the findings of the third facility inspected during this annual cycle: Camp B. Afflerbaugh (CBA). While the POC collected a large amount of information at this inspection, takeaways were derived from the most impactful observations and interviews made during the day.

**The following list represents key findings from the inspection of Camp Clinton B. Afflerbaugh (CBA):**

- ***A rapidly increasing population strains the facility's long-running successful functioning*** – Since the closure of Camp Joseph Paige (CJP), the number of youth had steadily increased at CBA, with staffing numbers increasing only slightly. A small number of youth transferred from CJP, and the numbers of youth dispositioned to CBA from Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall continued to rise, placing strain on youth already there, decreasing the amount of time and energy Probation Officers could dedicate to each youth's transition into the facility, straining the supervision abilities of a small number of officers, and creating need for more supportive programming in the facility.
- ***Probation Officers need support during transitions*** – The integration of CJP, increases in population, and reports of a highly stressed staff indicate that the Probation Department needs to provide Probation Officers with more than the basic check-box training, but to communicate regularly with staff to their employees and respond to their professional needs.

## BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles County Probation Oversight Commission (POC) was established in 2021 as a civilian-led oversight commission focused on systemic reform of the Probation Department. The POC advises the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) and the Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation) about progress and challenges within Probation. The POC has considerable authority and responsibilities directly related to juvenile institutions. Specifically, Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations, section 1313 (f), requires the POC to conduct annual inspections of the buildings, grounds, and services delivered to the young people detained in each of the County's juvenile facilities on an annual basis. The Board also granted the POC specific authority to "as permitted by law... conduct unannounced inspections of any facility, and its non-confidential records, where any juvenile probationer can be held or where probationers receive services and "prepare reports on inspection findings" for the Board



(LACC Sections 3.80.040(B) and 3.80.050(A)). The POC submits these annual reports to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), a statutory agency that inspects for compliance of standards of detention facilities in California, by December 31<sup>st</sup> each year and shares the report with the Board and the public. This report marks the fifth round of annual inspections conducted by this body.

## **METHODS**

### **Details about the September 8, 2025 inspection of Camp Afflerbaugh:**

- This inspection was conducted by two POC Commissioners with the support of three staff members.
- The inspection took seven hours to complete.
- Dates for the inspections were coordinated with Probation leadership, leaders from the facility, and partner agencies were aware of the inspection in advance.
- The BSCC does not have a required template for the inspection report. The POC developed a detailed facility inspection template that was updated this year and reviewed by Probation and the BSCC. The POC's inspections template includes key themes to ensure a thorough inspection of both physical structure and environment. The template also highlights the need to examine practices and the treatment of youth at the facility.

The information below depicts data gathered directly from the Camp Afflerbaugh inspection. It should be noted that the data is a “snapshot” of information recorded only on the day of the inspection. The data collected was provided to the POC staff by the facility's Director; and each of these numbers was reported as received. The findings stated in this report are a compilation of POC Commissioner and staff observations made while conducting the inspections.

## **GENERAL DATA FOR CBA**

- **Address:** 6631 Stephens Ranch Road, La Verne, California 91750
- **Facility Type:** Camp
- **Housing:** Open dorm sleeping quarters
- **Rated Capacity**<sup>1</sup>: 105
- **Youth population present at facility:** 47 (1 released during inspection)
- **Number of boys/young men:** 47
- **Youth at Court/Medical:** 7
- **Youth with DCFS services:** 5
- **Total number of Probation employees assigned to the facility (sworn and non-sworn):** 103
- **Probation Officers on duty at time of inspection:** 20-AM, 18-PM

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<sup>1</sup> [BSCC Rated Capacities of Juvenile Detention Facilities, June 2025](#)



## FACILITY AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The entrance of Camp Clinton B. Afflerbaugh (CBA) had two locked gates and a front lobby door that were buzzed open for visitors. There was a metal detector at the front door of the facility, but it was not turned on, and searches did not occur as POC inspectors entered the facility. The facility buildings and the grounds in general appeared aged but well-kept. There is a large grassy field in the center of the facility with shade structures, sports equipment and courts for recreation. The facility had an outdoor pool, though it had not been used since July 19, 2025, due to expired certification.

The facility director shared that the camp was currently housing boys between the ages of 14 and 19. The facility had no CCTV inside but had three cameras in front of the facility for security. Due to the consolidation of CJP, it was reported by the facility Director CBA received half of the population and half the Probation Officers from CJP while the other half were sent to Camp Glenn Rockey (CGR). It was reported that the facility was previously short staffed, but the small number of staff reassigned there helped to alleviate that shortage. It was reported that in the previous week five youth were sent from LPJH which led to fights and conflicts at the facility. Officers reported that the transition time for youth is critical and that it is difficult to successfully integrate more than a couple of youth at a time due to the environment of the juvenile hall that youth adapted to. Officers and co-located partners expressed concerns that they could tell almost immediately which young people spent more time in the juvenile hall as it related directly to aggressive and violent behaviors expressed by youth.

The sleeping arrangement in the dorm consisted of a camp-style layout where young people do not have their own rooms, rather they shared the space and wings were separated via walled partitions that do not reach the ceiling. The dormitories were divided into four wings (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta) with mixed populations. The wings were historically divided by behavior-based stages, but this changed due to uneven groups that resulted from the recent influx of youth. The sleeping quarters felt like they had sufficient number of Probation Officers who were spread out while supervising the dorm, and the tone was very comfortable and relaxed. Each young person had a cabinet next to their bed in which they could store books, journals, pencils, photographs, mail, hygiene items, and snacks awarded from the Behavior Management Program (BMP). One young person showed the POC his high-quality artwork on display on the cabinet next to his bed.

Head call was observed, during which the young people have a 20-minute break from school at about 10:00a.m, where they can use the restroom and rest before returning to school. The movement and mood during the break were organized and relaxed. One young person shared that this facility “feels more structured” than others they had been at previously, including the juvenile hall. They stated that they clearly understood and could follow the rules of this facility and therefore were allowed more independence which looked like young people having the ability to walk freely around the campus with Probation Officers keeping close track of them. This made the environment feel significantly less restrictive than Probation’s other facilities and contributed to the relaxed overall tone of the facility.



Young people explained that they receive one phone call per week, and they go to the main office to make their phone calls. Probation Officers dial the phone and supervise phone calls. Young people can call their lawyer at any time; they just must inform staff of their wish to do so. Visitation happens on Sundays. One young person noted that they do not receive visits because, “it’s too far and too difficult to get here”. Visitation usually occurs in the gym but was also sometimes occurring in the dining hall “because it’s cooler” per young people. Parents and young people sit across from each other in chairs. It was reported that no hugs or contact was allowed during visits. One youth shared that “visitation here is only one hour” and they missed the longer visitation hours that they had in juvenile hall.

In the middle of the inspection Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) was observed taking a young person away from the facility. Commissioners asked about this incident, and facility leadership explained that these incidents occur rarely. It was explained that when this does occur, there is not a clear policy about when to call the youth’s attorney and that sometimes that is left to the discretion of the Probation Officer of the Day and the law enforcement agency.

### KITCHEN AND FOOD

The kitchen at CBA was out of service due to renovations and all food was prepared in the CJP kitchen (at the adjacent facility). The mess room (cafeteria) at CBA was still available and used for congregate meals. Inspectors walked over to the Camp Paige kitchen to interview staff and watch the process. The Camp Paige kitchen appeared “very clean”. Young people were then observed having lunch in the mess hall. The lunch meal consisted of teriyaki chicken with rice, carrots, cabbage, broccoli, fruit salad, and milk. Probation Officers passed out food as young people entered the room, and provided extra portions whenever requested. Commissioners observed that Probation Officers were provided the same lunch meal. Young people were allowed to speak to one another and officer upon finishing their meals, as Probation Officers supervised and some interacted. After finishing their lunch, two young people in the kitchen program cleaned up, and the facility Director along with other Probation Officers gave youth a pep talk, encouraging and acknowledging good behavior in the camp. Young people expressed few complaints about the food during interviews. Young people reported that they received plenty of food, but are not fans of some of the meals, and would like juice as a drink option other than milk and water. It was noted that a meal schedule was not posted in the dorm, so young people do not know what meal or programs to expect daily.

### EDUCATION

- **Number of full-time LACOE teachers: 4**
  - **Assigned: 2**
  - **Day-to-Day (not long-term) Substitutes: 2**
- **High School Students:**
  - **In School: 41**
  - **Suspended: 0**





- **Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs): 7**
- **High School Graduates: 5**
- **College Students: 5**
- **Dual enrollment students: 0<sup>2</sup>**
- **College(s) supporting this facility: Mt. San Antonio College**

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## High School Students

Several Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) classrooms were observed during school time; most classroom settings appeared outdated but clean, with student work and education-related posters decorating walls. Although Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Ombuds flyers, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) poster, and Youth Bill of Rights posters were not inside classrooms, they were clearly visible and posted at eye level in English and Spanish in front of the school administration building. All classroom environments appeared calm, and young people were not distracted with POC observations. Students on stage 3 or higher wore polo shirts. Probation Officers did not sit in the classrooms but were stationed outside closed classroom doors. The outside stationing of Probation Officers was an arrangement made by the facility director as “it creates more of a classroom atmosphere”. It was reported by LACOE administration that they preferred to have the officers inside of the classroom, but there was ongoing disagreement about what the best practice would be to minimize disruption to the learning environment.

Classrooms differed in teaching approaches. The art class observed had a football game on the screen while students worked on their artwork, and the math/science class had young people watching a YouTube video of the UNESCO top heritage locations while working to complete unrelated assignments on their laptops. Both classrooms had substitute teachers with one to two student aids. In another classroom, there were 10 students with one teacher and one paraprofessional. All were working on math worksheets together. In the fourth classroom, there were 10 students, one was laying on the floor but returned to their seat when asked to do so by the facility Director. The rest of the students were attentively watching educational videos and subsequently wrote a paragraph related to what they watched. The classroom temperature felt cool and comfortable as it was hot outside, the tone was relaxed, and everyone was paying close attention.

The LACOE wellness room was observed, with inspectors noting it was “lovely and calming”. It was reported that because there were three young people detained at the facility who are parents, the LACOE behavior counselor was creating baby bonding classes and a fatherhood program. It was reported that there was no substitute to fill in for the LACOE counselor who runs the wellness programs during LACOE’s mandatory summer break session, so these services stopped when the counselor was out on the mandatory three-week break. Young people explained that their experience with LACOE at CBA was positive in relation to what was experienced during their juvenile hall detention

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<sup>2</sup> It was reported that the term for dual enrollment would not start until October 2025 and no students were enrolled yet.



by reporting that “they actually try to teach you”. Some youth reported the positive rapport they held with teachers and other aides who support them in the classroom.

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### High School Graduates

Probation Education Services occupied a LACOE classroom for the five college students who were being served by Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC). Probation Education Services reported that young people were able to work on their college courses twice per day. Students were divided into two groups, and each was assigned to a morning and an afternoon session. The two morning sessions were from 9:00-10:30am and 10:30-11:45am, and the two afternoon sessions took place from 1:00-2:30pm and 3:00-4:30pm. It was reported that extra time for students to complete their work was available if necessary. College students were able to take Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) classes and money smart courses during their allotted time in addition to college and shared that they “would like more classes” as they were limited to taking a single college class per term. Young people shared that only students “who are behind go to the afternoon sessions”. The money smart program was scheduled to run from 3:00-4:30pm which coincided with another popular program offered simultaneously to the rest of the facility.

The college students had just completed “Study 100”, a standard class for first time college students, during the summer session and were currently taking psychology. A student expressed that although they had enough help and time to complete their class successfully, they did not have access to some required videos or other assignments because of the security firewalls on the laptops that block their access. Probation Education Services reported that when this issue arose, they would help contact the professor and explain the issue, and then youth would generally be excused from those assignments. The college student said that when they were not in the college class, they were typically reading or sleeping. One young person had already finished the OSHA program and was earning money through the facility’s work program. The student reported having the opportunity to meet with the representative from Rising Scholars to support next steps once released and was ready to attend East Los Angeles College (ELAC) upon going home.

### GRIEVANCES

- **Total Grievances<sup>3</sup>:** 14
- **Grievance system:** Paper only
- **Emergency grievances:** 0

Grievance rules and procedures were posted throughout the facility, including inside the dormitory. CBA reported fourteen grievances for calendar year 2025 to date. Interviews with youth indicated that they understood the grievance procedure. All grievances

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<sup>3</sup> POC generally requests all the grievances from the current calendar year, unless that number is deemed too small to get a reasonable sense of common grievance themes for the facility. The grievances provided and reviewed were from January 2025 onward.



reviewed were responded to, often on the same day and always within three business days as required by Probation's Grievance Policy. Grievances included building issues (television damage), basic needs (shoes, toothpaste, food) and sleeping quarter changes. No emergency (Prison Rape Elimination Act/Health/Suspected Abuse) grievances were observed. The grievance officer was available at the site Monday through Thursday, they reported reviewing all five grievance boxes on the campus and there were two other officers that provide coverage while the primary grievance officer's days off. It was reported that the grievance officer would be receiving a new GMS training the following day. Young people reported having little need to write grievances but also expressed limited faith in action being taken to resolve larger issues long term, like with any staff behaviors or getting better hygiene products which they believed would cost the department more money. Young people also shared that "no one calls the [Probation] Ombudsman because staff say they don't care about consequences". In addition, young people shared that during visits from OYCR and other oversight visits "no one talks to them, because they just walk around in tuxedos" indicating a barrier that youth see for communicating with those they find difficult to approach due to formality.

### DISCIPLINE/POSITIVE BEHAVIOR REINFORCEMENT

Camp Afflerbaugh facility leadership shared that they relied on the Behavior Management Program (BMP), where points are allotted to young people for good behavior and school/program participation which can then be exchanged at the BMP store for snacks, and a quasi-Developmental Stage System (DSS), where young people increase in stage (1-4) for good behavior, and included rewards and privileges like field trip opportunities. Young people expressed a mix of experiences with the officers at CBA, including positive mentor-like relationships held between some youth and officers. Various young people also commented that they felt that "staff threaten too much" or treated them unfairly during a frustrated moment. One young person shared that while on ordered bedrest, an officer ordered him to participate in programming. The youth reported that he advocated for himself and asked the officer to call JCHS, but the officer ignored his request. The youth reported that he was threatened with having his personal items thrown away, complied and went to the program, and came back to find his personal items gone. The youth reported that the officer later learned of his bedrest, but his items were never returned, and he continued to resent the actions of the officer. Multiple young people remarked during the day that the discipline and treatment they receive differed between shifts with one youth sharing how impressed he was that the facility helped another youth attend the birth of his child. Young people reported that they learned the behavior of staff and attempted to change their behaviors between shifts and individuals just to get along.

LACOE also managed their own positive behavior reinforcement program called the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS). PBIS uses a point system which rewards good behavior, where students receive snacks for good behavior and work completion. PBIS standards and the schedule for the day were written clearly on the board in classrooms and young people explained fully understanding that PBIS points were earned based on the quality of work they did in the classroom and their behavior. Students explained that they could move up stages through positive behavior and other





accomplishments. One of the rewards included wearing polo shirts that indicate their stage which also makes them eligible to participate in the work program. One young person shared that they were ready to participate in the work program, but waiting on a Social Security card.

### ACCESS TO MEDICAL/MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Department of Health Services-Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) reported having twenty-four (24) hour on-call coverage. The hours of operation on site are 6:30am-10:00pm, seven days a week including holidays, with a physician available on site on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) reported hours of operation from 7:00am-7:00pm, seven days per week and access to a 24-hour on-call psychiatrist for psychiatric emergencies after-hours. DMH staff shared that they meet with young people weekly and when possible, any time that youth indicate need. Multiple youth reported that they would sometimes ask a Probation Officer to call so they could be seen by a mental health clinician but that sometimes Probation would say that there was a shortage of DMH clinicians that day and that they could not be seen. DMH reported that they were only short one clinician and were surprised that Probation was allegedly choosing to not call. It was reported that Probation's staffing shortages caused some difficulty for being able to see youth in the mental health offices since there must be an officer dedicated to sitting in the building so that sessions can occur. DMH reported that there is insufficient staff each Sunday to have office sessions. When there was no available Probation staff to supervise, DMH reported holding sessions outside in the open grassy areas. It was reported that it was extremely rare for youth at this facility to be placed on an elevated supervision level, and no youth were on DMH enhanced supervision during the inspection. DMH staff noted that at the time of inspection only one youth in the facility had family therapy within the last month.

### AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS

JCHS staff shared that their relationship with Probation was "good," and medical operations had improved in the last several months. JCHS credited regular multi-agency meetings and increased transportation staffing for the strengthened relationship with Probation. It was reported that previous strain in the relationship was due to youth missing medical appointments because of Probation transportation issues, but that Probation's operational changes resolved the issue this year. JCHS shared that since Probation addressed the issue, on average just one appointment was missed on average each month. JCHS noted that the consolidation of camps did not hinder their functions.

LACOE reported positive relationships with Probation overall and expressed that they would like Probation to locate officers inside of classrooms.

DMH reported that while relationships were good between clinicians and Probation Officers, significant concerns existed for the well-being of youth and officers at the facility



and how DMH could continue to effectively support the camp under stressful and rapidly changing conditions. Out of concern for youth and staff, DMH interviews included ideas about how to make the environment less stressful with more opportunities for deescalating conflict before it leads to violence. This included the idea of having a higher wall between the four parts of the dorm and having additional space for youth self-separation and cool off. It was also reported that optimally, the camp population should be lowered since it was observed over the last year that longer amounts of time in detention at the juvenile hall negatively affected youth behavior, including initially displaying violent behaviors that required a longer period of adjustment to shed than observed in previous years. DMH interviews expressed that the ripple effect of the juvenile hall on the youth population added stress to all aspects of life at CBA.

### **STAFFING**

- **Callouts by Supervision Staff (AM and PM): 1**
- **Supervision Staff on Leave(s) (AM and PM): 13**
- **Deployed Staff Providing Supervision (AM and PM): 0**
- **Supervision Staff on Holdovers and Overtime (AM and PM): 4**

It was reported that staffing at CBA was slightly short, though Probation Officers banded together to complete necessary tasks and to sign up for overtime as needed. The overall feel for the facility was calm, with a sense of respect amongst the young people and the Probation Officers.

It was reported that while staff was sent to CBA from CJP, full integration had not yet occurred and that there were some fundamental differences in the ways that officers from one facility interacted with youth compared to the other despite being on the same campus and having the same director over both camps for more than a year. It was reported that CBA had historically utilized more compliance-based approaches and that CJP used more rapport-based approaches, so there were ongoing disagreements between officers and shifts about how to approach daily interactions. When interviewing young people about their experiences with Probation Officers, they mentioned that they were treated differently depending on the shift. It was explained that the Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday shift “treats us like shit... totally different from the other shift.” Another youth said, “The Director is cool and some staff, too, but just like one or two make it bad”, and when asked further about what is done that makes it bad, the young person replied, “They just threaten us too much and too fast. Like if you don’t do everything right away, they tell you ‘Do this or get a refile’, and I don’t see how I can get refiled just for not jumping up right when they say. It’s too much.” The same young person suggested that some officers should get training to address being overly emotional during conflict and to learn better de-escalation approaches. Co-located partners expressed concern for Probation Officers and reported that officers needed help and training to depersonalize the behaviors of young people and that supportive training for preventing burnout and coping with vicarious trauma is critical for improving coping strategies. It was acknowledged by partners that many officers put considerable effort into their work and that many were skilled at de-escalation, but stress and higher populations challenged



even the most patient officers. It was reported by Probation facility leadership that all staff had been trained in Gracie Jiu-Jitsu.

While observing the dormitories in the afternoon, the tone also seemed calm. There were a few new staff that came in on shift. Probation Officers are on the 56-hour shift, but there is some overlap which allows for some fresh folks to come in while others can take some kind of a break. During this overlap, an arriving staff member brought in a box of ice cream bars, which they shared only with other and with one youth. This did not seem to cause stress to the young men, but appeared odd to POC inspectors to see staff enjoying a cool treat right in front of all the youth and just one youth receive a special treat.

### HOPE CENTER/ROOM CONFINEMENT

CBA used the offsite Hope Center at Camp Rockey for young people to decompress after an incident or due to medical fragility. It was reported that there were two young people there during the inspection for a fight that had happened a couple of days prior.

### PROGRAMMING

The programming schedule provided matched what was occurring at the facility. All programs occurred as scheduled. The program provided by Affirmative Athletics drew the most attention, with a large number of youth engaged and participating. The photojournalism program occurring at the same time had one participant, and this was attributed to the overlap, not to a lack of interest in photojournalism. Young people also expressed they wanted more programs, in particular workforce training and the opportunity to learn vocational skills to transition to jobs upon release. The young people and staff mentioned their interest in bringing back a program with a carpenters' union that was previously at CJP. Probation Officers also provided an exercise program for youth. While in the sleeping quarters, the credible messenger program, Amer-I-Can, was observed with four young people very engaged in a discussion with the credible messenger at a table in the unit.

It was reported that religious services and programming occurred on Sundays and Tuesdays. It was reported that three vocational programs were available for the young people, including OSHA and all were managed by Probation Education Services.

One young person noted that they "loved art class with LACOE", and that art teacher had made a big difference for them, but that they had been transferred out of art class and were hoping to get back in.

### HARM REDUCTION

All Probation Officers interviewed were carrying Narcan and had received training on opioid intoxication and overdose in county trainings and via a fellow officer trained on the subject.



JCHS staff shared that they were empowered by the facility leadership to carry Narcan and were provided Narcan training. JCHS staff had not deployed any Narcan since the previous annual inspection and always carry it on their person. It was reported that two young people at CBA were receiving Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT), where one arrived with a prescription, and the other was prescribed the treatment while at camp. It was reported that 45 out of the 48 young people at the facility received some kind of psychotropic medication, many of which included sleep medication. JCHS staff provided significant health education to youth one-on-one, in particular about the use and impact of the medications as well as the need for them to get activity.

### OLEORESIN CAPSICUM SPRAY

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray was not available as a use of force option at CBA at any point since the last annual inspection of the facility.