

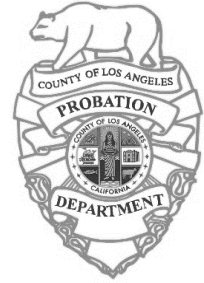


GUILLERMO VIERA ROSA

Chief Probation Officer


COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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



September 12, 2025

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

FROM: Robert Arcos, Acting Chief Deputy
Juvenile and Adult Services 

SUBJECT: **PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELIMINATION OF THE
USE OF OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC) SPRAY (27th REPORT)**

On September 11, 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 is actively working with the California Department of Justice's court-appointed monitor to create a revised strategic plan for phasing out OC spray. This updated plan will encompass an evaluation of alternative de-escalation strategies, and a comprehensive implementation of our behavioral management programs aimed at addressing behavioral challenges. These strategies may involve verbal de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention teams, additional staff training, and various positive reinforcement initiatives. The commitment to reducing and eventually eliminating the use of OC spray remains a priority for Probation.

TRAINING PLAN

As of July 9, 2025, the Department has trained 96 employees in a two-hour OC Spray course, which includes instruction on policy requirements and decontamination procedures.

The Department has also launched a Block Week training program for all sworn staff. This mandatory program includes courses on BSCC Title 15 Standards; Use of Force Policy Refresher (covering de-escalation techniques, duty to intercede, duty to report, and

Rebuild Lives and Provide for Healthier and Safer Communities

anti-retaliation); Use of Force Report Writing; Trauma-Informed Care; Equity and Justice: Understanding and Addressing Bias in Juvenile Justice; Supervision of Developmentally Disabled Youth; Gender Responsiveness; and Deployment of NARCAN (Naloxone).

Additionally, the Department continues to provide Gracie Survival Tactics training, which focuses on effective physical control techniques designed to reduce the risk of injury for both staff and individuals during use-of-force situations.

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
MONTH	BJNJH	CJH	LPJH	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
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
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
June-25	2	0	28	30	1,872
July-25	6	0	37	43	1,915
August-25	11	0	29	40	1,955
TOTALS:	484	530	941	1,955	

Chart 1 illustrates the respective facility OC spray trends.

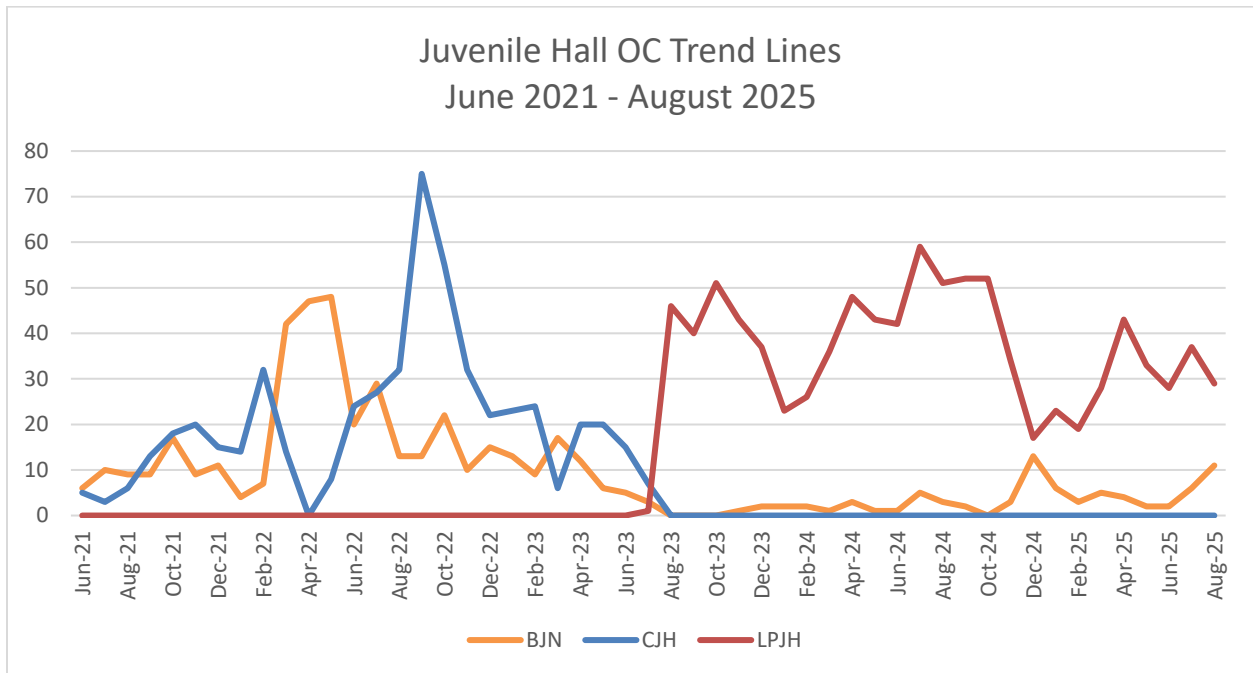
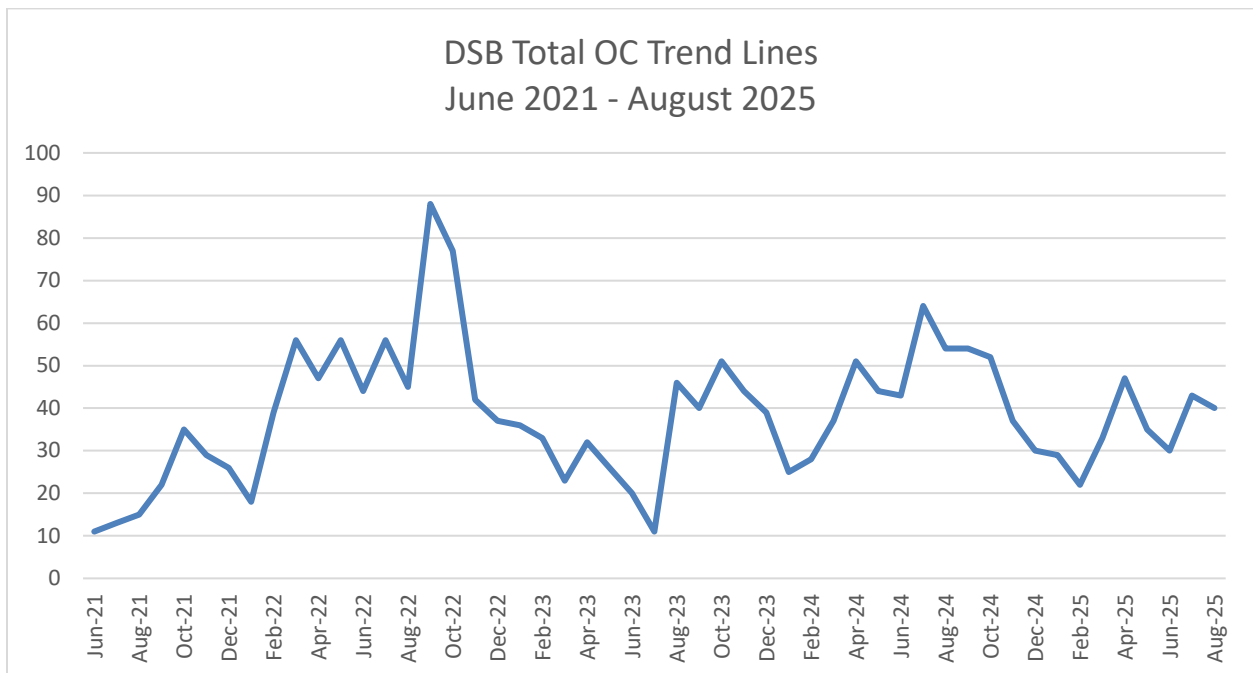


Chart 2 illustrates the combined total OC Spray trends for both SYTF and DSB facilities.



TIMELINE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF OC SPRAY

The Department continues to collaborate with the California Department of Justice's court-appointed monitor to develop a revised strategy for phasing out OC spray. There is a strong commitment to reducing and eventually discontinuing the use of OC spray, and efforts are ongoing to create a comprehensive plan. 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 by the end of the fourth quarter of 2025.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 305-4707.

GVR:RA:sp