



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PROBATION COMMISSION  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION TRAINING CENTER  
3300 SANDOVAL AVE. – AUDITORIUM  
PICO RIVERA, CALIFORNIA, 90660**



**Thursday, March 12, 2020**

**10:00 AM**

Present: President Joe Gardner, Commissioner Levine 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Commissioner Meredith, Commissioner Herbon, Commissioner Seaver, Commissioner Shutan, Commissioner Butler, Luis Dominguez, Dalila Alcantara, Mark Garcia, Howard Wong, Adam Bettino

**Attachment:** [Audio Transcript](#)

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Commission President Joe Gardner welcomed all and called the meeting to order. President Gardner announced that meetings are recorded and asked that everyone identify themselves prior to addressing the Commission.

1. Excused Absences: Commissioners Caster and Mitchell
2. Roll Call

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3. The following meeting minutes were approved:

- February 13, 2020
- February 27, 2020

**The Probation Commission will receive, exchange, distribute information, conduct discussion and take vote and action relevant to Item 3.**

**III. PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

4. **Report from the Probation Department regarding responses and protocols to be implemented during infections related to Corona Virus.**

The Commission inquired about measures the Probation Department (Probation or Department) is taking in lieu of the Corona Virus. Howard Wong, Deputy Director, stated the Department is collaborating with the Office of Emergency Management to keep Probation's Leadership team informed regarding alerts and protocols.

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**Commissioners**

Joe Gardner-President,

Hon. Jan Levine (Ret.)-1st Vice President, Gale Swartz– 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Donald Meredith-Sergeant at Arms,  
Daniel Seaver, Azael Martinez-Sonoqui, Cyn Yamashiro, Esq., Jacqueline Caster, Esq, Jo Kaplan Esq, Olivia E.  
Mitchell, Peter Shutan, Rev. Zachary Hoover, Randy Herbon, Hon. Betsy Butler (Ret.),

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Deanna Carlisle, Human Resources Manager, is actively disseminating notices/guidelines to all staff; and adhering to Center for Disease Control and Public Health procedures and recommendations.

The Department established its Department Operations Centers at Downey Headquarters and increased preventive measures at camps/halls, such as the frequency of sanitizing facilities, restraints, and transportation vehicles. Youth and anyone entering the facilities are screened for symptoms/fevers. A video has been created for the youth emphasizing the importance of handwashing and remaining healthy. Management and staff are also being monitored for the emotional and psychological impact the virus may have on both employees and youth. Departmental staff, partnering staff, and parents are receiving notifications regarding the virus as well. The Department is closely monitoring the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and local law enforcement agencies' protocol for guidance.

**Speaker(s):** Howard Wong, Probation Deputy Director  
Mark Garcia, Bureau Chief  
Dalila Alcantara, Probation Deputy Director

**The Probation Commission will receive, exchange, distribute information, conduct discussion and take vote and action relevant to Item 4.**

5. **Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest within the subject matter of the Commission. Three (3) minutes are allowed, per person, on each agenda and non-agenda item with a total of 15 minutes for public comments unless the Commission sets alternative limits or other allocations of time.**

No public comments received.

6. **Discussion of recommendations for dedicated mental health center(s).**

The Commission supports the Departments efforts to increase Mental health access to youth impacted by trauma.

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) stated that they envision a tiered support system with a greater need for youth that suffer more psychosis. DMH's report back from April 2019 indicated their involvement in the juvenile justice system needs to be reimaged. A workgroup has been established to discuss the development of the Alternatives to Incarceration initiative to address these concerns.

The Commission expressed frustration with the County of Los Angeles taking over 50 years to incorporate trauma informed juvenile justice.

**Speaker(s):** Dr. Christopher Thompson, Department of Mental Health  
Luis Dominguez, Deputy Director  
Mark Garcia, Bureau Chief

**Action Item(s):** Commissioners to provide updates to mental health document and submit them to Commissioner Gardner.

**The Probation Commission will receive, exchange, distribute information, conduct discussion and take possible action relevant to Item 6.**

**IV. COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND UPDATES**

None provided.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

LACOE staff was assaulted at Camp Paige.

**The Probation Commission will receive, exchange, distribute information, conduct discussion and take possible action relevant to COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND UPDATES.**

Discussion regarding proposed topics for next meeting, scheduled for March 26, 2020.

7. Response from the Probation Department regarding Commissioner Herbon's inspection of Camp Paige submitted February 13, 2020.
8. Response from the Probation Department and Los Angeles County Office of Education regarding Commissioner Butler's inspection of Central Juvenile Hall submitted February 25, 2020.
9. Case study of actions taken by the Probation Department after assault on staff within a facility.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

10. The meeting scheduled for March 26 was canceled in observance of the Stay at Home order due the Corona Virus pandemic.

The April 9 meeting will remain on calendar and held at L.A. Co. Probation Training Center, Auditorium, 3300 Sandoval Avenue, Pico Rivera, CA 90660. The Commission gave President Joe Gardner authority to cancel this meeting if necessary.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 A.M.