



**Juvenile Justice &  
Delinquency Prevention Commission**

**Joint Meeting Minutes  
June 25, 2024**

**I. Preliminary Business**

- a. Call to Order: Chair Johanna Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
- b. Sukhmani Purewal, Clerk, gave Instructions for Spanish translation services.
- c. Judge Cho administered the oath of office and confidentiality to Paul Bocanegra for his second term on the Commission.
- d. **Commissioners Present:** Chair Johanna Rasmussen, Vice Chair Administration Karin Huber-Levy, Ruchi Mangtani, Jennifer Blanco, Paul Bocanegra, Eugene Jackson, Wesley Liu, Ameya Nori, Susan Swope, and Tiffany Uhila-Hautau. Commissioners Whitney Geneviro and Sathvik Nori invoked AB2447 and participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

**Commissioners Absent:** Steve Grieb

**Staff Present:** Sukhmani S. Purewal, Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**Juvenile Court:** The Honorable Sharon Cho

**Stakeholders Present:** Sanam Aram, Assistant Deputy Chief Probation Officer-Institutions; Nora Cullen, Assistant Deputy Chief Probation- Juvenile Services; Nadia Hahn, Deputy District Attorney-Juvenile Division; Ron Reyes, Managing Attorney-Juvenile Private Defender Program; Sarah Notch, County Office of Education; Ornit Shoham, Supervising Mental Health Clinician, BHRS.

- e. Chair Rasmussen announced the resignation of Commissioner Liu as he prepares to leave the area for college.
- f. **M:** Commissioner Mangtani, Vice Chair Membership, for the membership committee, that the JJDPC recommend Shakeel Ali be appointed to the JJDPC. Approved unanimously.

**II. Oral Communications:** Mr. Ali thanked Commissioners Rasmussen, Blanco, and Bocanegra for their encouragement.

**III. Meeting Agenda and Minutes**

- a. **M:** Swope, **S:** Liu to approve the agenda as distributed. Passed unanimously.



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- b. **M:** Swope, **S:** A. Nori to approve the Meeting Minutes for April 30, 2024, as corrected by noting that the Juvenile Court was represented by Judge Susan Etezadi at the May meeting.

**IV. Presentation by Leonard Gonzales, Executive Director of LiUNA – Laborers International Union of North America**

Mr. Gonzales described the Apprenticeship Preparedness Program sponsored by LiUNA. It started in 2004 and covers all of California. They use a curriculum developed by the National Building Trades. The program was offered at the California Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ/CYA) until its closure on June 30, 2024. The adult program started in 2006 and is currently offered at Folsom Prison, Chowchilla Women’s Facility, Solano County Sheriff’s Department, Santa Rita County Jail in Alameda County, and at Santa Clara County’s James Ranch. Mr. Gonzales showed two videos that can be accessed at:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Video: <https://youtu.be/MmfiaP9Vv-w?si=nhQZ-0MRUXUq7Dk0>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Video: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uQQ4iNCWr\\_ewLu1ayA3oxKwVt\\_tSxRbB/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uQQ4iNCWr_ewLu1ayA3oxKwVt_tSxRbB/view?usp=share_link)

The cost of the program is \$5500 for a 40-hour course with from 8 to 25 person-cohort. The course is customized based on need. Those who complete the pre-apprentice course, are eligible to test for the apprentice program when they are 18-years old, or older.

**ACTION:** Johanna to schedule a meeting with Chief Keene and a representative from Superintendent Canepa’s office to explore the possibility of offering the program at YSC..

**Public Comment:** Becca Kieler, Antonio Lopez, Carter Pohl, John Aming, and Bill Newell all spoke in support of bringing the LiUNA program to the Youth Services Center.

**V. Presentation by Tamar Alexander, Attorney with the Youth Law Center, on “Elevating the Voting Rights of Youth”**

Anyone 18 years old or older, who is a U.S. citizen and a California resident, and is not serving a state or Federal prison term for an adult felony is entitled to vote.

Code 2105.7 of the Election Code requires probation departments to identify persons eligible to vote and provide them with a registration application, help them register, and submit the form. Voting in a secure facility is complex, especially since the youth are likely voting for the first time.



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The Youth Law Center recommends the following:

1. Develop written policies and clear steps to ensure implementation.
2. Partner with community organizations and credible messengers for voter outreach and education.
3. Partner with the County Elections Office and Registrar.
4. Implement measures to ensure voter privacy.
5. Provide youth-specific voting information and materials.

Chief Keene shared that he has spoken with Youth Law Center. His practice has been to ID 18-year-olds in custody and encourage them to vote. Probation has a good relationship with the County Registrar. He agrees that credible messengers from outside the Probation Department should be used in these efforts.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Huber-Levy will work with Probation to carry out YLC's recommendations. She noted the organizations that are ready to help as credible messengers.

**Public Comment:** Alicia Andrade Ligia Zuniga of the San Mateo Union High School District Board of Trustees said that they are working on getting their students to register and vote. Diane Leeds pointed out that 16- and 17-year-olds can pre-register to vote and start voter education.

**VI. Updates from System Partners**

- a. **Private Defender**—Ron Reyes reported 30 new cases assigned. Of these, 19 were out-of-custody arraignments, 10 were admitted to YSC of which 7 were alleged 707(b) offenses. There were 2 sealing requests and 24 calls on the Miranda hot line.
- b. **Probation**—Nora Cullen reported 29 youth are in custody at the Juvenile Hall, 28 males and 1 female. The racial breakdown of the 22 youth are: 22 Hispanic, 4 African American, 2 Pacific Islander, and 1 Asian. There are 2 are youths detained from Out-of-County, 1 from Santa Clara and 1 from San Francisco. There are 184 youth on supervision, 19 youths on EMT, and 177 youths on diversion.

The Asian-Pacific Islander Festival was cancelled due to lack of interest and youth participation.

- c. **Behavioral Sciences and Recovery Services-** No report



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- d. **County Office of Education**—Sara Notch reported that Hillcrest is now in summer session. They have new administrators: Jesus Jimenez, Director of School Programs, Laura Juarez Codicetti, Coordinator of School Programs, and Maria Ramos, Principal of Court & Community Schools.

**ACTION:** Ms Notch will get us the calendar for the next school year and the date of the LCAP presentation.

- e. **HSA: Children and Family Services**—Did not attend meeting,

**M:** Chair Rasmussen, **S:** Commissioner Swope to defer Items VII to IX to the July meeting as we are already past 7:15. Passed unanimously

**VII. 2024 Inspection Update – deferred to July meeting.**

**VIII. Project Updates: -- deferred to July meeting**

**IX. Announcements**

- Commissioner Rasmussen reported that Elaine Horsley, the wife of our late County Supervisor and former Sheriff, donated all of Don's suits and dress shoes to the Juvenile Court Clothing Program.
- The JJDPC annual retreat is scheduled for August 10, 2024, from 10-4. Location TBA
- Commissioner Mangtani received a two-thousand-dollar donation from an Angel Investor to assist youth in gaining employment upon their release from juvenile hall.
- Commissioner Swope reported that she and Commissioners Liu and Jackson attended the Hillcrest High School graduation on May 29, 2024, which was very well done.
- Commissioner Rasmussen announced that Commissioner Grieb has resigned effective immediately.

**X. Chair Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.**