



# JOINT MEETING JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION



Carole D'Elia  
Chair

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES

January 19, 2016

**PRESENT:** Frederick Mills, Dennis Dulay, Gwen Jackson-Tucker, Gini Maulfair, Jane Claar, Steve Streeter, Hillary Gaines, Rachel Rios, Chief Seale, Mike Shores, Nella Huson, Robin Claren

**ABSENT:** Judge Boulware Eurie, Carole D'Elia, Daniel Okada, Stephanie Nguyen, Meer Lihony

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1. **CALL TO ORDER:** A quorum was present, and the meeting was convened at 10:02 a.m. Commissioner Hillary Gaines, sitting in for Commissioner Carole D'Elia, welcomed participants.
  2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING:** Commissioner Frederick Mills motioned to approve the December minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Dulay and unanimously approved.
  3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Commissioner Hillary Gaines shared the following information on behalf of Commissioner Carole D'Elia:

At the November meeting, Commissioners expressed an interest in holding a workshop on Saturday morning in February or March to meet with members of other Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commissions from nearby counties. In mid-December, Commissioner Carole D'Elia received email addresses for the current or former chairs of Yolo, San Joaquin, Amador, Solano, and El Dorado counties from Allison Ganter at the Board of State & Community Corrections (BSCC). Commissioner Carole D'Elia sent an email to gauge interest in participating in such an event. Commissioner Carole D'Elia received a response from all except Solano County. All four counties that responded thought it was a great idea and planned to forward the email to their members and discuss it at their next meeting. Due to the interest expressed, Commissioner Carole D'Elia requested that the Commission consider the following:

- Does the Commission want to move forward and plan the workshop?
- If anyone interested in being on a Sub-Committee to assist in planning the event?
- What are possible workshop dates?
- What is the best location for the event? (Possible location considerations include a BSCC Conference Room located slightly north of downtown or Sierra Health Foundation on Garden Highway).

Commissioner Carole D’Elia also has phone numbers for contacts in Placer, Yuba, and Sutter counties. She has not yet reached out to those counties, as she wanted to start with the initial email group and then report back prior to investing additional time.

Additional discussion was held with consensus being to move forward with holding the workshop. Commissioner Steven Streeter, Commissioner Jane Claar, and Commissioner Rachel Rios all agreed to be on the Workshop Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee will determine and send out possible event dates and locations. The Sub-Committee will also look at developing a budget and will investigate funding options.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments were made.
5. **COMMENTS FROM PROBATION:** No report
6. **YOUTH DETENTION FACILITY POPULATION REPORT:** The Sacramento County – Probation Department – Daily Population Report was distributed during the meeting. Chief Seale gave a brief overview of the report and defined the rate capacity as the total capacity that the juvenile hall could hold, not the current number of individuals placed at the facility. Chief Seale discussed the importance of the screening process to ensure juveniles are appropriately placed at the facility. The facility should not be utilized to incarcerate minors simply as an alternative to shelter care. Chief Seale pointed out that crime rates among juveniles nationwide has been cut in half over the past decade and most of the facilities across the state are currently approximately half full.

Additional discussion regarding the average length of stay for minors was held and the average length of stay is approximately one month. Chief Seale pointed out that there are minors that have been convicted of serious crimes that will be held for much longer due to their sentencing. Commissioner Frederick Mills asked what safeguards are in place to ensure Sacramento County is not holding youth an inordinate amount of time. Chief Seale informed the Commission that there are several safeguards/check systems in place to continually monitor the number of days minors are detained. Mike Shores informed the Commission that daily they have different variables they look at. In addition, they work closely with the Juvenile Court division and have in place the ability to expedite out minors (with approval from the District Attorney’s office and the Public Defender’s office), when appropriate. Mike Shores informed the Commission that they are always looking at alternatives to the Youth Detention Facility. Rachel Rios stated that a group of Commission members met with the District Attorney’s office in the past to discuss the issue. Commissioner Rachel Rios stated that at that time, the District Attorney’s office felt that the Public Defender was pushing for competency hearings and this was prolonging the minor’s stay. Mike Shores stated that the key is ensuring that everyone is communicating. Mike Shores informed the Commission that they work very closely with the District Attorney’s Office and Public Defender’s Office and look at alternatives to detention placement such as electronic monitoring and GPS.

Commissioner Virginia Maulfair asked for the definition of “Competency”. Mike Shores stated that it is a complex issue involving many factors, but generally evaluates psychiatric issues and maturity to determine if the minor has the ability to know right from wrong.

Commissioner Hillary Gaines asked what the average length of stay is for out of home placements. Mike Shore stated that the average length of stay for Level A placements is approximately 155 – 160 days. The average length of stay for Level B placements is approximately 340 days, which is primarily due to the length of the actual program the minor is in. Many of the Level B programs are one year programs.

Commissioner Hillary Gaines asked what impact the Congregate Care Reform would have. Mike Shores stated that it will have a significant impact. Mike Shores stated that they are pursuing other options for minors including shifting their focus to look at neighborhood alternative centers as an intensive community based diversion technique. They are currently looking at the possibility of utilizing the former youth center as an alternative to detention. In addition, they are looking at turning the former youth center pods into need-specific program units (i.e. alcohol and drug abuse issues, low level psychiatric needs, minors needing long-term respite from parents, etc.). It is conceptual at this point.

Mike Shores discussed the out of state placement process and stated that they look at out of state placement only after exhausting all in-state options. The process is lengthy including working with multiple agencies. The IMAC (Interagency Management Authorization Committee) must approve funding for all out of state placements. A Court Minute Order must be issued with specific out of state language included. ICPC (Interstate Compact of the Placement of Children) must approve the placement. Once all approvals are received, the facility must have an open bed, which could also result in a wait time for the minor.

Commissioner Rachel Rios asked what types of youth are referred for Level B placement. Mike Shores stated that former programs were developed around Positive Peer Culture and were focused more on youth with conduct disorders and gang involvement. There was not a lot of emphasis on treatment in the former programs. Mike Shores informed the Commission that there are now more treatment specific programs available that are targeted more towards youth that have high level psychiatric needs, are self-abusive, etc. Mike Shores stated that Glenn Mills still has a very successful program even though it is a non-treatment based program. Commissioner Virginia Maulfair gave a personal example of a youth she had knowledge of that refused to follow direction and was good at getting around systems so much that group homes declined accepting him into their programs. There was no other alternative but to look at a Level B placement. Mike Shores stated that group homes do have the right to refuse placement. Mike Shores emphasized the importance of ensuring that family engagement occurs and is hoping the Youth Center option may ensure more involvement and control, which should have a significant impact over time.

7. **TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP:** Commissioner Dennis Dulay stated Commissioner Steve Streeter, Commissioner Frederick Mills, and himself have been working together to look at the possibility of conducting a Transfer of Knowledge Workshop to address the issue of reentry. Youth face a host of barriers to their reentry into the community. Providers play an important role in helping to guide and support their successful transition, reduce recidivism and promote positive long-term outcomes for youth. The Transfer of Knowledge Workshop would provide an opportunity for providers and leaders in this area to come together to share information, expertise, and experience.

Commissioner Dennis Dulay stated that they have had a meeting with Mike Shores and are hoping to have a follow up meeting to make a decision on whether or not the workshop is a viable mechanism. Chief Seale questioned how it would be staffed. Commissioner Dulay stated that some members already have experience in facilitating a transfer of knowledge workshop and they would most likely work in separate smaller groups. They are hoping the collective input would facilitate the development of a reentry strategic plan.

Mike Shores suggested meeting to look at budget issues and review what is currently being done internally regarding reentry. Probation has a new reentry program that is coordinated between Juvenile Field and the Youth Detention Facility. Commissioner Rachel Rios stated that this may be a good opportunity to partner with the community. Mike Shores stated that they have held placement fairs in the past where providers have an opportunity to present their programs. Mike Shores suggested the possibility of having a provider fair focused on reentry. Consensus was to have Commissioner Dennis Dulay, Commissioner Steve Streeter, and Commissioner Frederick Mills meet with Mike Shores to discuss this and the new reentry program in further detail.

**8. WORKGROUP UPDATES:**

- a. Youth Involved in Juvenile Justice System: No report
- b. Detention & Re-Entry: No report
- c. Commission Visibility: Commissioner Fredrick Mills reported that a lot of people do not have knowledge of what the Juvenile Justice Commission is. Commissioner Frederick Mills stated that the purpose of this workgroup is to expand knowledge and share ideas. Commissioner Frederick Mills asked Probation what the Commission could do to assist them. Chief Seale asked if the workgroup currently has a platform with agreed upon principals. Commissioner Hillary Gaines stated that they do currently have marketing/speaking materials such as a brochure with speaking points. Additional discussion was held regarding the need to maximize value by showing support to Probation on like issues, especially as it pertains to showing support when Probation needs to request approval from the Board of Supervisors. Chief Seale suggested having an agreed upon platform that could be review and tweaked annually. Chief Seale stated he would come to the next meeting prepared with suggestions that would outline Probation's priorities in which the joint commission could consider supporting. Chief Seale stated that the Commissioners command influence in the community, which is extremely valuable and allows for a positive impact on both policy and budget issues at the County level. Chief Seale stated that it was important to share vision on what we want to see for young people.
- d. Education: Commissioner Jane Claar stated that they are currently holding training on Mental Health and First Aid. Commissioner Jane Claar stated that the training presents good information, as there is a lack of knowledge and stigma around mental health. Commissioner Jane Claar stated that she would be bringing information back to the group next month on this topic.
- e. Pre-Involvement in Juvenile Justice System: No report.

9. **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS INFORMATIONAL UPDATES:**

- a. AB922: No report
- b. Children's Coalition: No report
- c. CPPCA: Commissioner Gwendolyn Jackson Tucker reported that there is a statewide commissioner training that will be held in September in Sacramento at the Lions Gate Hotel and Conference Center. Commissioner Gwendolyn Jackson Tucker will forward the exact dates to the Commissioners and stated that she felt this would be a good opportunity to network with other Commissioners. She was hoping all Commissioners could attend.
- d. Juv. Institutions, Program & Court Committee (JIPCC): No report
- e. Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED): No report.

10. **AGENDA BUILDING FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- Mental Health Training Update
- Transfer of Knowledge Workshop Update
- Outline of Probation's Priorities and Commission Support Items

Commissioner Dennis Dulay moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:07 a.m. Commissioner Frederick Mills seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Claren, Judicial Secretary III

**NEXT MEETING:**        **Tuesday, February 17, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
Juvenile Courthouse – Walter Barkdull Conference Room #391  
9605 Kiefer Blvd., Sacramento 98527