



**Riverside County**  
**Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission**

Christopher Collopy, Chair  
Micheal Malsed, Vice-Chair  
Tierra Bowen, Secretary-Treasurer

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**JJDC Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**February 09, 2023**

Location: Rustin Conference Center  
2085 Rustin Ave.  
Riverside, CA 92507

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**IN ATTENDANCE:** Christopher Collopy, Micheal Malsed, Paul Parker, Cynthia Magill, Pam Torres, Tierra Bowen, Charles Trembly, Jennifer Kopfler, Ashley Parker, Daniel Castañeda, Cathy Piech, Kelly Moran, Brian Ortiz, Ramon Leija

**Unexcused / Excused Absence:** Laurel Cook (excused)

**Guests:** Ramon Leija

**Applicants:** Brian Ortiz

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**1. Call to Order**

- a. With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 1:35pm.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

- a. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Parker.

**3. Roll Call, Welcome, Introductions and Special Recognition**

- a. Roll call - Executive Assistant, Cynthia Magill
- b. All the participants were welcomed by Chair, Christopher Collopy and given the opportunity to introduce themselves (by name and title).
- c. Chair Collopy noted that today's meeting will be adjourned in the memory of Riverside County Sheriff Deputy Darnell Calhoun, who was killed in the line of duty. Furthermore, he asked the group to send thoughts and prayers to former commissioner Kelly Curtis, as he battles an aggressive cancer diagnosis.
- d. Applicant - Brian Ortiz, Attending today's meeting as a prospective commissioner. Mr. Ortiz will be interviewed by commissioners after today's meeting.

**4. Public Comment**

- a. Out of state vendor, Ameelio Communication, requested to present for the JJDC on SB 1008. Chair, Collopy, noted Ameelio Communication, should be referred to Riverside County Procurement to be included in future RFP contract opportunities.

**5. Motion to Approve Agenda:**

- a. Motion made by Charles Trembley, and seconded by Paul Parker.

**6. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:** January 12, 2023, Monthly Business meeting minutes.

- a. Motion made by Paul Parker, and seconded by Charles Trembley

**7. Presentation** - Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR). Postponed to a later on the agenda.

**8. County Counsel Report:**

- a. N/A

**9. Probation Report: Daniel Castaneda, Probation Division Director**

- a. Population count for the three (3) Juvenile youth facilities.
  - i. A total of one hundred forty-five (145) are housed between the three (3) facilities. Of those, eighty-one (81) are in detention (Males: 75, Females 6).
- b. **Current Critical Incidents:** (January 2023)
  - i. Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH) - Fights: 4
  - ii. Southwest Juvenile Hall (SWJH) - Fights: 8
  - iii. Alan M. Crogan Youth Treatment and Education Center (AMC-YTEC) Fights: 8



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- c. Upcoming Events: For the three (3) Juvenile youth facilities.
  - i. Super Bowl Sunday - Special menus will be prepared for youth.
  - ii. Black History Month - Dr Norman Towels will present at YTEC on the 21<sup>st</sup>
  - iii. Cal Poly Pomona Tour, March 2<sup>nd</sup> for some youth in the YTEC/Omega unit
  - iv. Members of the JJDPCC are invited to attend the YTEC/PTS High School Graduation Ceremony on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - v. Employee Recognition (In-Person) Awards Ceremony, March 9<sup>th</sup>. It will be an opportunity to celebrate Probation accomplishments for 2022, celebrate staff, employees of the year, and present a Probation hero award.
- d. Staffing - Facilities are continuing to hire new staff. Southwest and Indio, will have six (6) new employees starting soon, and YTEC will be hiring over that number in the upcoming weeks.
- e. Market Study Comparison - Daniel responded to comments and questions regarding staff pay, alternative schedules, and medical subsidies being offered to current staff, and new recruits in an effort to retain and recruit employees. Additionally noted are the department's steps to speed up background checks for oncoming recruits.
- f. Further discussed:
  - i. Integration of youth from RivCo affected by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) closure and migrating to Pathways to Success (PTS).
  - ii. Probation is in the process of getting a concrete number of youth returning from DJJ. In addition, Probation is determining strategies, for youth who get reintegrated into the community and/or to a respective unit.
  - iii. June 30, 2023 is the defined closure date for DJJ. Daniel noted, to date, there is no mention of any of Los Angeles County's DJJ youth being housed in Riverside County.

**10. DPSS Report: Jennifer Kopfler, Deputy Director**

- a. Clarification on youth who are juvenile who could go through standard probation process. Jennifer noted that youth who normally would have committed a crime and normally would have a sentence to time are being released.
  - i. New legislation requires counties to develop plans to move the youth into a more of a homelike setting. Youth who would have normally served a sentence, and actually have charges, may no longer be serving them. They could now be in a home-based setting that's less restrictive.
  - ii. Youth that have just been released can't be placed with other youth, due to instance of violence or complex needs, a lot of times it is their behaviors that prevent them from being placed in Cottages. So that's where hotels come in, and at any given time we have hotels fully staffed by DPSS around the county where youth are placed, and every effort is made for placement.
- b. DPSS Updates:
  - i. DPSS is engaged in continuous hiring, 82% of hired social workers are new to social work. DPSS is developing a training region for new hires. With the counties' new wage increases, new Medical Benefit Subsidies, and flexible work schedules, they are beginning to be in a place where caseloads are closer to what they are supposed to be.



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- c. DPSS Report Overview:
  - i. Review of area of focus and information that would be most useful for the commission.
  - ii. Next month's data will consist of a pie chart with fewer categories and the breakdown of youth in and out of home placement. e.g., relatives, FFA's and STRTPs.
- d. Review/Breakdown of the month of January 2023, DPSS Report (Provided in Packet)
  - i. Three month referral trend.
  - ii. Allegation Type by Client and by Region - Example of: Other in the Break down by Region.
    - A call when a child is a victim of sexual abuse, with no other information that they are directly a victim, but they are still at risk, and in-person response and in-person interview and full investigation ensues.
  - iii. Open placement by placement facility type for: Foster Family Agency, Foster Family Home, Group Home, Guardian Home - Dependent, Relative/NREFM Home, Resource Home, Supervised Independent Living, and Other.
    - It was noted that a Resource Family Home is now the term used for foster homes.
  - iv. Open placement by detailed placement facility type for: Placement Facilities / Resources Homes, e.g., FFA - Certified Home, Foster Family Home, Relative/NREFM Home, Group Home, Short-Term Residential
  - v. Therapeutic Program, Guardian Home, Supervised Independent Living, and others.
  - vi. Children with Exposure to Covid-19
  - vii. CSEC Referrals and Cases
- e. Further discussed - The month of January DPSS had 1039 youth, 300 hotline calls requiring immediate response investigations by the command post team throughout the county.
  - i. Evaluate out calls – Do not require any personnel response. However, they do require services that could prevent them from coming into care.
  - ii. Expansion of the central intake , includes fifty (50) positions, for prevention services.
  - iii. An increased spike in the number of calls in September and March, with an average of 5800 calls a month, approximately 3600 resulted in investigations; the rest are informational. Also, noted was, March is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**11. Presentation - Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) - Ramon Leija**

- a. The presentation provided a brief run-down of The Office of Youth and Community Restoration (hand-out provided in packet).
  - i. The OYCR is responsible for developing reports on youth outcomes; identifying policy recommendations for improved outcomes and integrated programs and services to best support delinquent youth; identifying and disseminating best practices to help inform rehabilitative and restorative youth practices, including education, diversion, re-entry, religious and victims' services; and for providing technical assistance as requested to develop and expand local youth diversion opportunities to meet the varied needs of the justice involved youth population.
- b. After the presentation, an opportunity for Q&A session, and discussion with Mr. Leija ensued.



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**12. New Business:**

- a. Key Initiatives for 2023
  - i. DJJ Closure / Impact on PTS - The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) subcommittee is working on a build out of PTS, and the JJDPC Commission will be included in future JJCC subcommittee meetings, and will be kept up-to-date of progress made, which will be imperative for the JJDPC in terms of oversight.
  - ii. Continuing Legislative Updates - The Legislature is back in session. It is vital to keep tabs on legislation changes that are impacting the Juvenile Justice and Child Protective Services.
  - iii. Scheduling All Inspections – Commissioner's consensus is to schedule future inspections for September - October 2023.
- b. Awards Presentation May 18, 2023
  - i. Commissioner Torres recommended renaming one award for PCO, Ryan Santana, who passed away in 2021 to Covid-19. Commissioner Torres provided a brief example of CPO Ryan Santana's outstanding character, as an officer who cared for the youth. She believes he is a deserving candidate for renaming an existing award or creating a new award in his honor. rename or create
  - ii. Chair Collopy requested that the commission vote to rename or create a new award in honor of PCO Santana. Motion made by Commissioner Malsed, and seconded by Commissioner Trembley. The Commission unanimously voted in favor of the motion, and chair Collopy declared the motion adopted.
  - iii. Service Above Self Award - Reserved for candidates who have gone above and beyond their normal job duties. Chair Collopy requested a motion to add a definition and criteria for the Service Above Self Award. Motion made by Commissioner Malsed, and seconded by Commissioner Bowen. The Commission unanimously voted in favor of the motion, and Chair Collopy declared the motion adopted.
  - iv. A list of award categories will be distributed to the commission before the next meeting.
- c. Group Home/STRTP/Lock up Inspections Scheduling (Schedule Final Inspections)
  - i. Chair Collopy, recognized and thanked the commissioners for their hard work and dedication in their efforts in completing inspections.
  - ii. Remaining Inspections (Guiding Light - Moreno Valley, Father Heart Ranch (Desert Hot Springs, Plan It Life (Riverside, Banning, Murrieta and Temecula). Lock-Up inspections (Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Cabazon Substation). Commissioners Trembley and Bowen volunteered to complete all three lock-up facility inspections on February 16,2023. Other Commissioners will provide availability for remaining inspections to be completed.
  - iii. Brief discussion on inspection report forms (Full vs. Short version), and which reports is used for which facility type.
  - iv. Commissioner's inspection reports are due as soon as possible.
- d. Expense Reimbursement – Commissioners were briefed on the instructions on procedures for the New JJDPC Mileage reimbursement. The electronic version of the Expense Reimbursement form will be emailed to the group after today's meeting.



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- e. Application for Nomination to Membership
  - i. Mathew Jenkins and Krista Huckabaa: Applications closed/not moving forward.
  - ii. Brian Ortiz - Applicant interview will be conducted after adjournment.
- f. JJDC Website – Currently there are no new updates on the status of website revamp. Other than that, IT is currently awaiting new content to add to the JJDC webpage. Commissioner Malsed is currently working on content for submission to IT.
- g. Ashley Parker, Assistant Probation Division Director, Informed the group that, per Community Care Licensing, is not a mandate that the STRTPS train their staff on Narcan. In addition, she noted that at the next monthly Director Provider meeting a review of the mandate will be conducted, along with training options that can be offered to Providers and their own staff.

**13. Correspondence Discussion Items:**

- a. Brief review of letters sent on behalf of the JJDC (Board of Supervisor’s letter and Condolence letters to Riverside County Sheriff).

**14. Activities of the Commissioners:**

- a. Anti-Bullying: Chair: Michael Malsed
  - i. Commissioner Malsed (Human Trafficking) Commissioner Malsed will begin his efforts in the fight against human trafficking by contacting both the Riverside County Districts attorney’s office, and Sheriff Department’s anti-trafficking task-force/units.
  - ii. Chair Collopy – Will assume the activity of the anti-bullying efforts. Commissioner Malsed will continue to offer support in the efforts of anti-bullying.
  - iii. Further conversation ensued on the positive difference the JJDC anti-bullying efforts have made in the community.
- b. By-Laws/Policies/Procedures: Laurel Cook
  - i. Tabled
- c. Ad-hoc Legislative Committee: Chair Tierra Bowen
  - i. Previously discussed
- d. JJCC Activity:
  - i. Previously discussed
- g. DPSS Liaison: Chair
  - i. Tabled

**15. Old Business**

- a. N/A

**16. Commissioner Member Reports**

- a. N/A

**17. Meeting Adjournment**

- a. Adjourned in the memory of Riverside County Sheriff Deputy Darnell Calhoun.
- b. Motion to adjourn, made by Commissioner Parker and seconded by Commissioner Malsed.

**18. Next Meeting:** March 09, 2023 @ 1:30 PM  
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507 (Room #1048)