



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

Christopher Collopy, Chair

Micheal Malsed, Vice-Chair

Tierra Trembley, Secretary-Treasurer

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**JJDC Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**April 13, 2023**

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

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**IN ATTENDANCE:** Christopher Collopy, Laurel Cook, Micheal Malsed, Paul Parker, Cynthia Magill, Tierra Trembley, Charles Trembley, Jennifer Kopfler, Jessie Kelly, Melissa Cushman, Carolina Ayala, Brian Ortiz,

**Unexcused / Excused Absence:** Pam Torres (excused)

**Guests:** Jessie Kelly, Carolina Ayala

**Applicants:** Brian Ortiz

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**1. Call to Order**

- a. With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 11:50am.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

- a. Accepted from JJDC Quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting

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

- a. Accepted from JJDC Quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting

**4. Closed Session**

- a. At approximately 11:52am, the closed session meeting began.

- b. Reportable Actions.

- i. Commissioners discussed the merits of the preferred candidate and unanimously voted to nominate Christopher Wright to the position of Chief Probation Officer. The Chair notified the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the action via email on April 13, 2023.

**5. Reconvene Regular Meeting:** 12:05pm.

**6. Public Comment**

- a. N/A

**7. Motion to Approve Agenda:**

- b. Motion made by Charles Trembley, seconded by Paul Parker.

**8. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:** February 09, 2023, Monthly Business Meeting minutes, and January 12, 2023, Quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting minutes.

- c. Motion was made by Paul Parker, seconded by Charles Trembley.

**9. County Counsel Report:**

- d. N/A

**10. Probation Report: Elisa Judy, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, Institutional Services**

- a. The population counts for the three (3) Juvenile youth facilities.

- i. One hundred thirty-seven (137) are being housed between the three (3) facilities. Of those, three (3) are female detention youth. Currently, plans are in the works to move those females back to Southwest Juvenile Hall.

- ii. An effective transition process is being explored for integrating the female and male residents to receive educational services in the same classroom.

- b. Current Population:

- i. Indio Juvenile Hall (IJH) – Males: 37

- ii. Southwest Juvenile Hall (SWJH) - Males: 36

- iii. Alan M. Crogan Youth Treatment and Education Center (AMC-YTEC) Males: 25, Females: 5.

- iv. Pathways (PTS) – Males: 30 Females: 1



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- c. Critical Incidents: (March 2023)
  - i. In March there were thirty-one (31) fights, whereas in the previous month (February) only fifteen (15) fights occurred.
  - ii. Concerns over the female population, e.g., acting out, and self-harm behaviors. Institutions partnered with Behavioral Health, and Chapman to address those concerns.
- d. Staffing - Facilities are continuing to hire and bring in new staff.
  - i. Currently, job description changes are being discussed with the union.
  - ii. Some neighboring counties have mandated field staff come back to the institutions, and that's something that is currently being evaluated. All options are being explored at this point; any actions would also have to go through the union as well.
  - iii. Overtime is still not providing sufficient coverage for facilities. Southwest is generating 500 hours of overtime.
  - iv. Fifteen (15) graduates from the Probation Corrections Officer (PCO) graduation, and thirteen of the graduates were women.
- e. Further discussed:
  - i. Reintegration / stepping down for a twenty-one-year (21) old female youth, who has been in since the age of fifteen (15).
  - ii. Legal changes for youth and 707 motions, that will determine if a minor offender should be handled by the juvenile court or transferred to adult criminal court.
  - iii. Contraband Detection Scanners are now in place at all three (3) sites, and once staff have completed training, scanning will go live.
  - iv. Concerns with bringing back the three (3) female youth back to Southwest, e.g., a fully operational unit with three (3) youth.
  - v. Concerns with having both the boys and girls together for schooling, e.g., keeping the focus on the educational assignments.
  - vi. Camaras in the classrooms, as well as a new camera system that the Board of Supervisors have approved.
  - vii. Los Angeles County youth integrating into Riverside after LA county DJJ closure. It was noted that in all likelihood, LA would maximize their own resources and strategize to house LA county DJJ youth at various LA County juvenile hall facilities. In addition, there has been no mention of LA County youth being housed in Riverside County.
  - viii. Juvenile sex offender population: Discussed, 290 registrants, steps for DJJ integration into Juvenile Hall, services provided, programming, and youth who choose self-placed separation in Pathways.
  - ix. March 2023 incidents were defined, described, and context was provided of the incidents that occurred within juvenile facilities. Further discussed, was whether future incidents could be broken down by the level of violence associated with the incident.

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

- a. DPSS Report Overview: Review/Breakdown of March 2023 (Report Provided in Packet).
  - i. Review of new data report with the areas of focus and information previously requested by the commission.
  - ii. The report now comprises pie charts, with fewer categories, breakdown of youth in and out-of-home placement. e.g., Placement of Dependents Categorized by Facility Type.



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- iii. The hotline received 6000 calls in March, and approximately 2000 calls resulted in investigations, and the others were information and prevention services, or law enforcement, etc. Ninety-seven percent of calls end up being investigations, and do not result in removal.
- iv. Additional review of the Response Priority Rate ensued amongst the group.
- b. Further discussed:
  - i. Legislation requirements, STRTPs, ChildHelp, and the leasing of the ChildHelp property to reduce the number of separate hotels we're obtaining throughout the county.
  - ii. Placement of youth comes down to the screening process, and if the in-county placement facility will not accept the youth e.g., at capacity, or they've held beds for another county, etc. Youth in care are sometimes placed outside their counties of original jurisdiction. Additionally, noted, DPSS also pays for bed holds, and at times youth are still not accepted/placed.
  - iii. Finding a placement as close to home as possible to meet their treatment needs that has the availability, and waiting for in-country placement, means a prolonged detention stay, and is not necessarily in the youth's best interest. Legislation has changed and youth are no longer placed out of state, except for non-minor dependents. Non-minor dependents can live anywhere that they choose.
  - iv. The cost associated with out of county placement is a factor as well, along with competing with other counties, and the different departments e.g., DPSS, Probation, and Children's services.
  - v. Types of departmental support needed: More foster parents needed who will go through training, more people willing to accept any level of care, and more recruitment/advertisement for foster parents.

**12. New Business:**

- a. Distribute and Review BSCC Findings: (Provided in committee packet)
  - i. Letter to Chief Miller – RE: 2020-2022 Biennial Inspection Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 209 and 885.
  - ii. A brief discussion ensued amongst the group on inspection Results/Findings noted in the letter to Chief Miller.
- b. Key Initiatives for 2023
  - i. DJJ Closure Impact: The commission discussed negative impacts, challenges, and aftercare services that may affect the ability to serve the youth who have the highest-needs.
  - ii. Continuing Legislative Updates – Discussed during Commissioner's report.
- c. Group Home/STRTP/Lock up Inspections Scheduling:
  - i. The commissioners will send all outstanding/remaining reports to the JJDC Executive Assistant to disseminate. Once received, all reports, including reports submitted at today's meeting, will be sent via email for the commission to review. Commissioners shall, by majority vote, determine whether to accept reports as written at the next regular meeting.



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- ii. Commissioners provided availability for scheduling. The JJDPC Executive Assistant will contact Father's Heart Ranch to set up inspection, and notify the commissioner scheduled for inspection.
- d. Recruiting Commissioners:
  - i. Outreach: Recruitment ideas for new JJDPC members was discussed. Flyers and brochures were provided to commissioners to use as opportunities to spread awareness of the JJDPC mission, and for recruitment for new JJDPC Commission.
  - ii. Mr. Ortiz noted Ms. Jessie Kelly is an interested candidate/applicant for the JJDPC.
- e. Application for Nomination to Membership:
  - i. Application Update: Application for Brian Ortiz, still being screened/processed through Probation background investigations.
  - ii. Further conversation ensued on the JJDPC membership application approval, disqualifications, and the background process.
- f. JJDPC Website Revamp:
  - i. Commissioner Malsed noted that it continues to be a work in process. He will continue to work on additional context to add to the new and improved JJDPC website page.
  - ii. Commissioners were reminded to submit their Bios to be added to the JJDPC website.

**13. Correspondence Discussion Items: (Provided in committee packet)**

- i. Discussed: The Service Above Self Award for Deputy Anthony Colace, and the JJCC subcommittee request to review the Request For Proposal (RFP) for services available to youth across the county prior to release.
- ii. Provided for commissioner review. The Behavioral Health Crisis Support System of Care Report from April 13 2023, JJDPC Quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting.

**14. Activities of the Commissioners:**

- a. Anti-Bullying: Chair: Chris Collopy, Co-Chair, Michael Malsed
  - i. Commissioner Collopy noted raising awareness on issues of anti-bullying has been established, and appears to be moving in the right direction.
- b. Human Trafficking: Chair, Micheal Malsed
  - i. Commissioner Malsed has begun his research into ways to begin efforts in the fight against human trafficking. He is currently researching the Polaris project. DPSS has a CSEC Taskforce dedicated to providing services in Riverside County.
- c. By-Laws/Policies/Procedures: Chair, Laurel Cook
  - i. A digital copy of the updated By-Laws will be emailed to the commission for review.
  - ii. By-Laws to be finalized/approved by the commission at the next scheduled meeting.
- d. Ad-hoc Legislative Committee: Chair, Tierra Trembley
  - i. Commissioner Trembley would like to focus efforts on the DJJ Realignment legislative bills. Since those bills are currently affecting the Riverside County juvenile justice system.
- e. JJCC Activity: Chair, Christopher Collopy
  - i. The Request For Proposal (RFP) survey study should be released within the next nine (9) months. The JJCC survey was to understand the effectiveness and the reach of the CBOs.
- f. DPSS Liaison: Chair (Vacant)
  - i. A brief conversation ensued about the role of the DPSS liaison. The role is to provide the JJDPC with a deeper understanding of issues related to DPSS e.g., anti-bullying, anti-trafficking, children's issues, legislation, and best practices.



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- ii. Further, noted was that joining in on Sonoma County's Juvenile Justice Commission work group meetings may provide valuable insight and information on how other counties are addressing children's issues.

**15. Old Business**

- a. N/A

**16. Commissioner Member Reports**

- a. Commissioner Cook summarized The Riverside County Bar Association ("RCBA"), presentation she attended, about The Project Graduate program. She noted the program is comprised of volunteers that serve as mentors and educational representatives for foster youth attending high school in the Riverside County and they assist those youth with educational pursuits.
- b. Commissioner Tierra Trembley, offered commissioner support to DPSS by attending meetings, brainstorming, and or writing letters to address issues on placement situations, in efforts to keep as many youths in Riverside County.
- c. Commissioners Charles and Tierra Trembley briefed the commission of the youth non-profit organization (Girls in Motion) they started. They center the program on the sport of track and field. The goal is to give back to the community and serve at-risk, and disadvantage youth. At present, approximately fifty (50) kids are on the team, with seven (7) volunteer coaches and mentors. Currently, they are working on a grant for at-risk girls through the Department of Justice. They have received letters of support from various agencies, and would like to request a letter of support from the JJDP Commission. Noted County Counsel stated there was no conflict in providing a letter of support. The commission will officially agendize the Girls in Motion support letter at the next scheduled meeting.
- d. No other commissioner updates were provided.

**17. Meeting Adjournment**

- a. Motion to adjourn the meeting, and move to the Awards Ceremony workshop, made by Commissioner Cook and seconded by Commissioner Malsed.

**18. Workshop to Prepare for Awards Ceremony**

- i. May 18, 2023 Award ceremony planning, e.g., Assignments, Commissioner Script, PowerPoint presentation, nominees for all categories, remaining award (CPO Santana), and candidates for Service Above Self, Starfish, and Special Recognition Awards.

**Next Meeting:** May 11, 2023 @ 1:30 PM  
2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507 (Room #1048)