



**MINUTES
FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
PROBATION REFORM & IMPLEMENTATION TEAM
MISSION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANDATE OF
PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION (POC)**

**Centro Maravilla Service Center
4716 East Cesar Chavez Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90022**

**Wednesday, November 14, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Chairman Saul Sarabia, Member Alex Sanchez, Member Cyn Yamashiro, Member Dr. Sheila Balkan, Member Mack Jenkins, Member Tiana Murillo, Member Carrie Clarke, Member Sheila Williams

Absent: Member Jose Osuna

Others Present: Terri L. McDonald, Chief Probation Officer
Arlene Barrera, Chief Deputy, Auditor-Controller
Agripino Alonso, Countywide Contract Monitoring,
Auditor-Controller
Jesse Urbano, Budget Division, Auditor-Controller
Sheila E. Mitchell, Chief Deputy, Juvenile Services,
Probation Department
Reaver E. Bingham, Chief Deputy, Adult Services,
Probation Department
Howard Wong, Adult Specialized and Post-Release,
Deputy Director, Probation Department
Diego H. Rodrigues, LMFT, Chief Operating Officer,
ALMA Family Services

I. Registration and Refreshments

Community members and representatives from various organizations gathered briefly prior to the start of the Probation Implementation & Reform Team (PRIT) meeting being called to order.

II. Welcome and Overview of Objectives

Chairman Sarabia called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m. and welcomed the Probation Reform & Implementation Team (PRIT) members who introduced themselves and the Supervisorial District they represent. Chairman Sarabia

Re-emphasized that the PRIT will be providing recommendations on the following to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors:

- Design a brand new entity in County government to serve as an oversight committee to the nation's largest Probation Department;
- Design a reform plan that synthesize/prioritize existing recommendations to reform the Probation Department and become a model throughout the United States; and
- Draft a plan for reform to be reflected in the Probation Department's Strategic Plan

Chairman Sarabia introduced two individuals who offered a community blessing and requested a moment of silence in an effort to re-center dialogue between the community and the Probation Department. Subsequently, Member Sanchez invited members of the public to commemorate loved ones they lost due to gang/domestic violence or police brutality; and offered those individuals an opportunity to say a few words in remembrance of those who have passed away.

Member Sanchez introduced and invited Rohini Khanna, Justice Deputy, First Supervisorial District, to say a few words on behalf of Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. Ms. Khanna welcomed the community members and encouraged them to reach out to the First Supervisorial District with any concerns.

Chairman Sarabia thanked Ms. Khanna for her welcome remarks and proceeded with providing a status update on the PRIT's objectives, which included drafting a Mission Statement as highlighted by Member Dr. Balkan. In addition, to ensure transparency and public accountability of the new Probation Oversight Commission pertaining to public funds, Chairman Sarabia provided an overview of the meeting objectives:

- Conduct investigations
- Provide active oversight/monitoring
- Secure robust community engagement

III. Budgeting and Services Recommendations

Representatives from the Auditor-Controller (A-C), Arlene Barrera, Chief Deputy; Agripino Alonso, Countywide Contract Monitoring; and Jesse Urbano, Budget Division, provided a brief description on the A-C's role in overseeing the Probation Department's expenditures. They referenced that the Probation Department receives yearly grants from either the state or federal; and further clarified the process of how grant funds are disbursed to the Probation Department. Terri L. McDonald, Chief Probation Officer, responded to budgetary concerns posed by members of the public.

Chairman Sarabia introduced Sheila E. Mitchell, Chief Deputy, Juvenile Services, Probation Department. Ms. Mitchell provided a brief background on her experience and provided an overview of the Probation Department's Juvenile Crime Enforcement and Accountability Challenge Grant Program. Ms. Mitchell outlined the criteria for grant eligibility and the composition of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), which was created to develop and implement a continuum of county-based response to juvenile crime.

Chairman Sarabia introduced Diego Rodrigues. Mr. Rodrigues introduced himself by providing a brief history of his experience, current position at ALMA Family Services and being an active member of the JJCC and Community Advisory Council. Mr. Rodrigues explained that the JJCC membership encompasses a diverse background of personal experience in the community and departments within the County of Los Angeles. Mr. Rodrigues noted that future JJCC community engagement may include youth, faith-based partners, community intervention and prevention workers and schools.

Mr. Rodrigues stated that prevention programs are available in ALMA Family Services, in collaboration with the City of Los Angeles Mayor's office, to reduce crime rates and gang membership in specific communities. Other services funded by the Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services include prevention and aftercare services to the community.

IV. Community Table Discussions and Report Out

Chairman Sarabia requested PRIT members and the community to engage in conversation by answering the following question:

What does the POC need to do to ensure that the Probation Department has the following characteristics?

- Improved service delivery
- Services in communities where people live
- Planning process that engages residents
- Additional contracts with CBOs

Chairman Sarabia continued the community table discussion by directing the PRIT members and the community to engage in conversation by answering the following question:

How do you feel about the DRAFT Mission Statement for the POC? Does the draft statement fully represent what the Commission will do, the expected results from its work, and who it will be to its clients and stakeholders?

While keeping the statement concise, what could be changed or added to make it better?

PRIT members worked collaboratively with the community.

V. Closing and Next Steps

Chairman Sarabia announced that PRIT will host its next community dialogue on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Los Angeles County Hall of Administration and thanked the PRIT members and the community for participating in today's activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.