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July 16, 2026

TO: Michael P. Dempsey
Monitor for California Department of Justice

FROM: Eric Bates 
Interim Inspector General

**SUBJECT: Monthly Report for May 2026 on Internal Affairs Bureau
Investigations, Closed-Circuit Television Review, and Searches at
Barry J. Nidorf and Los Padrinos Juvenile Halls**

This monthly report reviewing the Los Angeles County Probation Department's (Probation Department) compliance with the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) investigations, closed-circuit television review, and search mandates outlined in the Order Amending Stipulated Judgment (Amended Order) for the Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJNJH) and the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH) covers the month of May 2026.

Review of IAB Cases

The Amended Order in paragraph 18 requires the Office of Inspector General to report the number of new IAB referrals, open cases, and results of investigations conducted by the Probation Department. The Probation Department provided documentation to the Office of Inspector General indicating the following:

Summary of Amended Order Compliance

May 2026

Referrals ¹	Opened Cases ²	Results of Completed Investigations
13	7	6 investigations were <i>Sustained</i> (2 criminal and 4 administrative) 1 investigation was <i>Not sustained</i> (0 criminal and 1 administrative) 0 investigations were <i>Unfounded</i> 8 <i>Bureau Determination</i>³ (81 total number of current open cases - 61 administrative, 20 criminal).

The Office of Inspector General did not review the underlying facts of the investigations to form an opinion as to whether the results were appropriate, or if the investigations were conducted properly.

Closed-Circuit Television

The Amended Order (paragraph 20) requires that the Office of Inspector General randomly select two days per month to determine the Probation Department's compliance with the Department's Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) review protocol. The Office of Inspector General is to review documentation and video recordings of use-of-force incidents and assess whether (1) the incident violates Department policies, the Amended Order or state law, (2) the incident has been properly identified and elevated to the appropriate Department staff and (3) the video recording was tampered with. Substantial compliance requires verification by the Office of Inspector General that

¹ New cases referred to IAB for consideration for investigation.

² Cases opened for investigation by IAB during the month of May 2026.

³ Cases rejected for investigation by IAB because they do not fit the criteria for a formal investigation and sent to the facility Bureau Chief at the facility to provide training or other non-disciplinary action to Probation Department staff.

the Department is compliant with its CCTV review protocol.⁴ The Office of Inspector General reviewed CCTV video recordings to assess proper documentation of use-of-force incidents as well as the identification by Department staff of possible violations of law, judgment, or policy, and the proper elevation of such incidents for review. The Office of Inspector General also reviewed CCTV logs and monitored Department compliance with its CCTV protocols.

Methodology

The Office of Inspector General constructed a sample of two days of CCTV video recordings relating to use-of-force incidents at BJNJH and LPJH for the month of May 2026. Office of Inspector General staff reviewed Physical Incident Reports (PIR), Safe Crisis Management Incident Reviews (SCM), as well as available CCTV video recordings. The Amended Order requires monthly verification by the Office of Inspector General that the Probation Department properly identifies and elevates use-of-force incidents that are not in compliance with its policies, the original stipulated judgment, or state law.

May 2026 – Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall

Case Summary 1

Two youths started to fight on the recreation field.⁵ A Deputy Probation Officer issued verbal commands, intervened and separated the youths. Youth 2 attempted to re-engage and was secured against a wall, handcuffed and escorted to his living unit. The handcuffs were removed within 10 minutes. Youth 1 was escorted back to his living unit. Both youths were medically evaluated within the required timeframe.⁶ CCTV video for this incident was available.

⁴ The Amended Order does not provide a numerical value for determining compliance.

⁵ SCM LPJH 2026-1724.

⁶ DSB Section 1008 (C) provides: “Any youth involved in a physical intervention incident in DSB facilities shall be referred to medical staff for assessment no later than thirty (30) minutes following containment of the occurrence.” The Probation Department indicated that the delay in medical assessment was due to the occurrence of multiple incidents.

Violation of Policy or Law	Failure to Identify and Elevate	Evidence of Video Tampering
NO	N/A	NO

Case Summary 2

Two Youths started to fight in a gym.⁷ DPO 1 intervened and gave the youths a warning that Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray would be used if the youths did not stop fighting. The youths continued fighting, and DPO1 deployed OC spray on both youths. Both youths were decontaminated and medically assessed within the required timeframe following the incident. CCTV video for this incident was available.

Violation of Policy or Law	Failure to Identify and Elevate	Evidence of Video Tampering
NO	N/A	NO

May 2026 – Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall

Case Summary 1

Youth advanced toward DPO 1, grabbed his finger, and dislocated it.⁸ Three DPOs secured the youth in handcuffs. He was in handcuffs for one minute. He was medically evaluated within the required timeframe. CCTV video for this incident was not available.⁹

⁷ SCM LPJH 2026-1948.

⁸ SCM BJN 2026-0715.

⁹ Probation staff completed a video review form and concluded there was no excessive or unnecessary force used. Staff from SCM stated the actual use of force was obstructed and not captured on video.

Violation of Policy or Law	Failure to Identify and Elevate	Evidence of Video Tampering
NO	N/A	NO

Case Summary 2

Two youths started to fight in a living unit.¹⁰ DPOs 1 and 2 were able to stop the fight without force. Both youths were immediately placed in room confinement. Youth 1 was not medically assessed until two hours and five minutes after the required timeframe for medical assessment.¹¹ Youth 2 refused medical assessment. CCTV video for this incident was available.

Violation of Policy or Law	Failure to Identify and Elevate	Evidence of Video Tampering
YES The medical assessment was not completed with the required time frame	NO The SCM reviewer properly identified the policy violations.	NO

Search Logs

The Amended Order Detailed Plan, in paragraph 25, requires the Office of Inspector General to review a randomly selected representative sample of searches conducted by the Probation Department to determine the Department's compliance with its search policies and state law, and that searches were accurately documented. The Amended Order mandates that the Department follow its policies and state law in 90% of all searches. The Department's policy requires a *minimum* of two random searches of youths' rooms on the living unit during the morning and evening work shifts.

¹⁰ SCM BJN 2026-0811.

¹¹ SCM review states this was due to room confinement.

(Required Searches).¹² Based on this policy, there should be a total of four searches per living unit each day. In addition, the Department conducts body scans of youths in its interdiction efforts.¹³

For this reporting period, the Office of Inspector General included Campus Vernon Kilpatrick (CVK) in its continued review of the Department's compliance with its search policies and state law, and accurate documentation of searches. The Residential Treatment Services Bureau (RTSB) policy, to which CVK is subject, requires a daily search of youths' room or camp dorm area; including bed area, sheets, blankets, desks, any personal items that are in the room, door jams, windows and light fixtures.¹⁴ Per Department policy, these searches should be completed on each shift, and also include all areas that youth have access to (Required Searches). Based on this policy, there should be *two* total searches per living unit per day.

Methodology

The Office of Inspector General requested documentation relating to all searches conducted for all living units in both work shifts for the month of May 2026. In response, the Probation Department provided search logs for 1140 work shifts at BJNJH, 1106 at LPJH and 554 shifts at CVK for May 2026.¹⁵

¹² Detention Services Bureau (DSB) Manual 700, Section 715 and Secure Youth Treatment Facility Manual 700, Section 715 provides: Staff shall search youth's rooms daily. At the minimum, two (2) random room searches shall be conducted per each AM and PM shift. Searches should be scheduled in a manner that does not create a pattern for the youth to predict such searches. During the search, if any weapons or contraband are found, staff shall complete a Special Incident Report (SIR) and follow the procedures per the Crime Scene Evidence Preservation/Evidence Handling policy.

¹³ Directive 1519 provides: Staff members conducting the body-scan and those within sight of the visual display shall be of the same sex as the youth being scanned or adhere to the youth's stated gender search preference as indicated on the Unit Classification form (Penal Code § 4030; 15 CCR 1360). The body scanner viewing monitors shall not be in direct view of other youth.

¹⁴ RTSB 1316 Searches in Detention Facilities.

¹⁵ The daily searches reviewed were conducted in all 19 units at BJNJH and all 18 units at LPJH. In addition to daily unit searches by unit staff, there are also occasional searches by Special Enforcement Operations (SEO) officers or unit staff, typically based on suspicion(s) and/or observed activities reported by unit staff. At BJNJH, SEO or unit staff conducted no such searches in May 2026, nor at LPJH.

The Office of Inspector General randomly selected and reviewed four days of living unit searches conducted by Probation Department staff during the morning and evening shifts across all units at BJNJH, LPJH and CVK.¹⁶ The Office of Inspector General determined compliance primarily based on information provided in the Department's search logs.

Findings

Unit Searches

The Office of Inspector General found that with a 93% compliance rate BJNJH met the requirements for conducting the Required Searches, meaning the Probation Department is in compliance with the Amended Order. LPJH met the requirements for conducting the Required Searches, with a 98% compliance rate.

The Office of Inspector General found that with a 75% compliance rate, CVK did not meet the requirements for conducting the Required Searches, meaning the Probation Department is not in compliance with the Amended Order.

Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall

Of the sampled four days of unit searches at BJNJH in May 2026, the Probation Department conducted searches per unit as follows:

74 Sampled Living Unit Searches
<i>4 searches per unit</i> – 69 times; 93% of the sampled living units.
<i>3 searches per unit</i> -0 times; 0% of the sampled living units.
<i>2 search per unit</i> – 4 times; 5% of the sampled living units.
<i>1 search per unit</i> – 1 time; 1% of the sampled living units.
<i>0 searches per unit</i> - 0 times; 0% of the sampled living units.

¹⁶ The four days reviewed were May 9, 2026, May 16, 2026, May 25, 2026, and May 30, 2026. In constructing the samples described in this report, the Office of Inspector General followed current government audit standards to obtain a statistically valid sample and used a research randomizer to select incidents. (Off. of the Comptroller of the United States, U.S. Accountability Office (2018), <https://www.gao.gov/yellowbook>.)

The Office of Inspector General's review found that at BJNJH, the Probation Department conducted two searches per shift (four searches per day), as required by its policy in 93% of the sampled living units and is therefore in compliance with the Amended Order.

Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall

As noted above, the Probation Department policies require each living unit to be searched twice during the morning and evening shifts, for a total of four (4) searches per day. Of the sampled searches at LPJH in May 2026, the Department conducted searches per living unit as follows:

71 Sampled Living Unit Searches
<i>4 searches per unit</i> – 70 times; 98% of the sampled living units.
<i>3 searches per unit</i> – 1 time; 1% of the sampled living units.
<i>2 searches per unit</i> – 0 times; 0% of the sampled living units.
<i>1 search per unit</i> – 0 times; 0% of the sampled living units.
<i>0 searches per unit</i> – 0 times; 0% of the sampled living units.

The Office of Inspector General's review found that at LPJH, the Probation Department conducted two searches per shift (four searches per day), as required by its policy in 98% of the sampled living units and is therefore in compliance with the Amended Order.

Campus Vernon Kilpatrick

Of the sampled four days of living unit searches at CVK in May 2026, the Probation Department conducted searches per unit as follows:

40 Sampled Living Unit Searches
<i>2 searches per unit</i> – 30 times; 75% of the sampled living units.
<i>1 search per unit</i> – 7 times ¹⁷ ; 17% of the sampled living units.
<i>0 searches per unit</i> - 3 times; 7% of the sampled living units.

The Office of Inspector General's review found that at CVK, the Probation Department conducted one search per shift (two searches per day), as required by its policy in 75% of the sampled living units and is therefore not in compliance with the Amended Order.

Body-Scan Searches

The Office of Inspector General requested documentation relating to all body-scan searches conducted in May 2026. Based on documentation provided, the Probation Department conducted 171 body scans at BJNJH and 858 at LPJH. The Office of Inspector General selected and reviewed a representative sample of searches for May 2026: 9 for BJNJH and 20 for LPJH.

The Probation Department is required to document each body scan in its electronic Probation Case Management System (PCMS). In addition, each body-scan search is required to be conducted by a Department staff of the same sex/gender as the youth being searched.¹⁸

For BJNJH, based on the Office of Inspector General's review of PCMS records and body-scan documentation, the Probation Department entered body-scan information into PCMS in 9 of the 9 (100%) body scans conducted. In addition, the Department conducted appropriate same sex/gender body scans in 9 Of the 9 (100%) of the body

¹⁷ Documentation provided by the Department that failed to clearly identify an AM or PM search, or where the Office of Inspector General could not determine an AM or PM shift were calculated as "0"; indicating no search was conducted.

¹⁸ Directive 1519 provides: Each youth's scan records shall be included in their file and PCMS to prevent exceeding annual scan limits upon transfer within juvenile facilities. Staff members conducting the body scan and those within sight of the visual display shall be of the same sex as the youth being scanned or adhere to the youth's stated gender search preference as indicated on the Unit Classification form (Penal Code § 4030; 15 CCR 1360). The body scanner viewing monitors shall not be in direct view of other youth.

scans conducted on the youths. BJNJH is in compliance with the Amended Order regarding conducting same sex/gender body scans and properly entering body-scan information into PCMS.¹⁹

For LPJH, based on the Office of Inspector General's review of PCMS records and body-scan documentation, the Probation Department entered body-scan information into PCMS in 15 of the 20 (75%) sampled searches conducted. The Department conducted required same sex/gender body scans in 18 of the 20 (90%) of the body scans conducted on the youths. LPJH is in compliance with the Amended Order regarding conducting same-sex/gender body scans of youths; however, it is not in compliance with properly entering body-scan information into PCMS.²⁰

For CVK, the Probation Department did not provide documentation for body scan searches conducted, stating that there is no body scan unit at CVK and such searches are not applicable at the facility at this time.²¹ The Department stated that it is not required to perform body scans but rather utilize the body scan units whenever it's reasonably practicable in place of a pat down search, strip search or body cavity search. Directive 1519, the Department's body scan policy, provides:

¹⁹ The Office of Inspector General also noted that 100% of the body scans were conducted by Probation Department staff with certification for conducting body scans.

²⁰ Directive 1519 requires all staff members to complete comprehensive training prior to the operation of the body scanners. This comprehensive training includes a (2) hour course which addresses system operations, fundamental safety protocols and radiation safety, as well as hands-on training in scanning and camera operation. After certification, staff are also required to complete an annual refresher training. The Office of Inspector General noted that only 35% of the body scans were conducted by Probation Department staff with certification for conducting body scans.

²¹ The Probation Department reports that it is not required to have a body scan unit at CVK and if there is a need to conduct a body scan, the youth would be transferred to BJNJH or LPJH.

“Body Scanning may be used at intake, after visiting, and other circumstances that can jeopardize the safety and security of the youth while respecting their dignity and rights. The following requirements shall apply to the use of the Body Scanner: All youth, except those suspected or confirmed to be pregnant, shall undergo a body scan during the intake process. . . Youth returning from any transportation outside the facility shall be scanned upon return to the facility prior to transfer to housing unit or being integrated with other youth.”

The Probation Department’s policy is unclear whether the Department is required to perform body scans at all facilities. The Department’s body scan policy does not contain language specifically excluding any Residential Treatment Services Bureau (RTSB) facility or camp from conducting such searches. Additionally, the Office of Inspector General did not identify any Department policies that exclude, prohibit, or absolve any RTSB facility or camp from conducting body scan searches. The Office of Inspector General has determined that implementing that body scan searches at CVK is appropriate given that youth girls and gender expansive youth are now housed at the facility. Accordingly, the Office of Inspector General recommends that a body scan unit be deployed at CVK and all youth returning to the facility be subjected to the body scan screening in accordance with Department policy.

Because CVK does not currently have a body scanner, the Office of Inspector General could not review body scanning documentation to determine compliance with its body scanner policy nor determine its compliance with the Amended Order in this area.²²

²² The Probation Department reported that it has not discovered any contraband on any youth at CVK and therefore, there is been no need to log any relevant search information but will do so if contraband is found in the future. With respect to the body scanner policy, the Probation Department reported the policy was only intended to apply to those facilities with a body scanner and the requirements section of the policy therefore only applies when a facility uses a body scanner. However, the Department has reported that it has obtained an estimated cost for a body scanner and is in the process of purchasing it in the next fiscal year for the facility.

Conclusion

The Office of Inspector General continues to recommend that the Probation Department: (1) continue to properly review CCTV video recordings for misconduct involving uses of force and investigating and determining whether staff engaged in misconduct, (2) continue to conduct living unit searches as required by policy, (3) continue to enter body-scan information into the PCMS system, (4) continue to ensure that body-scan searches are always conducted by a staff member of the same gender as the youth searched or the stated gender search preference of the youth, (5) ensure that medical assessments are conducted in a timely manner.

c: Guillermo Viera Rosa, Chief Probation Officer
 Joseph M. Nicchitta, Chief Executive Officer
 Edward Yen, Executive Officer
 Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel
 Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, Probation Oversight Commission

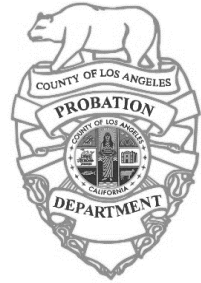


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July 15, 2026

TO: Eric Bates, Interim Inspector General
Office of Inspector General

FROM: Guillermo Viera Rosa
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **RESPONSE TO MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 2026 ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU INVESTIGATIONS, CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION REVIEW, AND SEARCHES AT BARRY J. NIDORF, LOS PADRINOS AND CAMPUS VERNON KILPATRICK JUVENILE HALLS**

On July 1, 2026, we received a validation draft of the above-referenced Monthly Report for May 2026. After reviewing the report, we provided feedback to the Office of Inspector General (OIG), which we appreciate will be incorporated into the finalized report.

As the validation report indicates, Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall appears to be fully compliant with the relevant provisions of the settlement agreement with the Department of Justice (DOJ) that the OIG audited for this reporting period. With respect to Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall, the Department is continuing its efforts to come into compliance with the single area where the OIG's audit indicated it fell short by reminding staff and supervisors to consistently document all body scans in a timely and thorough manner.

Additionally, as noted in our response to your April 2026 report, a court has not yet determined whether Campus Kilpatrick falls under the DOJ settlement agreement and, if so, whether the agreement applies to the entire facility or only to those areas housing pre-disposition youth. Regardless of this pending determination, Camp Kilpatrick's management is actively addressing any areas identified by the OIG as needing improvement.

GVR:RA:SW:dt