

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2006 MEETING

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street, Room 739

Los Angeles, California 90012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Antonovich, Chair
Mark Arnold
Steve Cooley
Janice Fukai
Anthony Hernandez
Jaclyn Hill
Gabriella Holt
Michael Judge
Jeanne Kennedy
Loretta Martin
Jeffrey Prang
Richard Propster
Robert Taylor
John Torres
Rod Uyeda

ALTERNATES

Tony Beliz for Marvin Southard
Ed Brekke for John Clarke
R. Doyle Campbell for Lee Baca
Ellen Conley for Gary Dominguez
Rudy Diaz for Michael Nash
Xiomara Flores-Holguin for Trish Ploehn
Briane Grey for Ralph Partridge
Andrew Key for Robert Todd
Dennis Landin for Peter Espinoza
Aldean Lee for Adam Torres
Steve Lieberman for Margaret York
James McDonnell for William Bratton
William Montgomery for Dave Lambertson
Steven Olivas for Antonio Villaraigosa
Don Pedersen for Randy Adams
Wilson Poon for William Fujioka*
Greg Scott for Stephen Tidwell*
Peter Shutan for Rockard Delgadillo*
Buren Simmons for Roy Romer
Gordon Trask for Ray Fortner
***Not a designated alternate**

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT OR REPRESENTED

Cynthia Banks, County Community and Senior Services
Bruce Chernof, Department of Health Services
Jon Fullinwider, Chief Information Officer
Karl Henry, Indigent Criminal Defense Appointments Program
Michael Hoff, Judge, Superior Court
David Janssen, County CAO
Sean Kennedy, Federal Public Defender
James Lewis, San Gabriel Police Chiefs' Association
Bill Lockyer, California Attorney General
William MacLaughlin, Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Darline Robles, County Office of Education
Bill Rosendahl, Los Angeles City Council, 11th District
Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, County Coroner
Patricia Schnegg, Judge, Superior Court
Dennis Tafoya, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance
Robin Toma, County Human Relations Commission
Michael Tynan, Judge, Superior Court

Frank Venti, Independent Cities Association
Larry Waldie, Undersheriff
Mike Webb, County Prosecutors' Association
David Wesley, Judge, Superior Court
Debra Yang, U.S. Attorney

STAFF

Peggy Shuttleworth, Executive Director
Kenna Ackley
Vincent Holmes
Cynthia Machen
Craig Marin

GUESTS/OTHERS

Clayton Anderson, Quality and Productivity Commission
Richard Castro, Sheriff's Department
Lori Fernandes, Drug Enforcement Administration
Randall Hew, California Department of Justice
Jitahadi Imara, Probation Department
Terrence Judge, Sheriff's Department
Ken McWaid, Sheriff's Department
David Meenk, Sheriff's Department
Anna Pembedjian, Justice Deputy, Board of Supervisors, Fifth District
Sarah Pullen, Drug Enforcement Administration
Steven Reyek, Alcohol and Drug Programs Administration
Devallis Ruthledge, District Attorney's Office
Bruce Staniforth, Economy and Efficiency Commission

I. CONVENE / INTRODUCTIONS – Michael Antonovich

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Mayor Michael Antonovich, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Chair of this Committee.

Self-introductions of members and guests followed.

II. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Michael Antonovich

There were no requests for revisions to the Minutes of the meeting on September 20, 2006. A Motion was made to approve the Minutes.

ACTION: The Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 20, 2006 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.

**III. JUVENILE JUSTICE COORINDATING COUNCIL/SCHIFF-CARDENAS –
Jitahadi Imara**

Jitahadi Imara of the Probation Department appeared before this committee to present the annual report on the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) and the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) activities in the County. The Los Angeles County Probation Department receives funding through JJCPA to implement juvenile crime prevention programs. The JJCC oversees the expenditure of the funds.

The JJCPA was passed in 2000 as the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act. It was subsequently renamed as the JJCPA in 2001.

The JJCPA efforts consist of the following three Initiatives:

- (1) Mental Health Services;
- (2) High-Risk/High-Needs Youth Services; and
- (3) School and Community-Based Services

Under these Initiatives are the following eleven programs:

- (1) Inside Out Writers;
- (2) Special Needs Court;
- (3) School-Based Probation Supervision;
- (4) Mental Health Screening & Assessment;
- (5) After-School Enrichment;
- (6) Multi-Systemic Therapy;
- (7) Youth Substance Abuse Intervention;
- (8) High Risk/High Needs;
- (9) Abolish Chronic Truancy;
- (10) Gender Specific; and
- (11) Housing-Based Day Supervision

It was noted that there were initially sixteen programs. The High-Risk/High-Needs (HRHN) program was subsequently added, and six programs were either discontinued or combined into HRHN.

Under JJCPA, each program is mandated to be measured according to the following six outcomes:

- (1) Increase in the successful completion of probation;
- (2) Increase in restitution payments;
- (3) Increase in community service;
- (4) Decrease in arrests;
- (5) Decrease in incarcerations; and
- (6) Decrease in probation violations

The total County JJCPA budget for Fiscal Year 2005/2006 was \$29,334,523. This provided for 32,299 program participants (24,311 on probation and 7,988 at-risk) at an average cost of \$908 per participant.

Broken down by the three Initiatives, Mental Health Services had 13,503 participants at \$409 per participant; High-Risk/High-Needs Youth Services had 1,446 participants at \$5,528 per participant; and School and Community-Based Services had 17,330 participants at \$844 per participant.

Outcome data based on the six mandated measurements, as well as supplemental outcome data, was presented for the Multi-Systemic Therapy Program (MST), Housing-Based Day Supervision Program, High Risk/High Needs (HRHN) Program, Youth Substance Abuse Intervention Program, and School-Based Supervision Program (includes Middle School probationers, High School probationers, Middle School at-risk group, and High School at-risk group).

The mandated outcome data and the supplemental data indicate that overall these programs have been effective in meeting the goals of the JJCPA.

JJCPA works with other existing programs to enhance the effectiveness. One example is the Probation Department's Developing Increased Safety Through Arms Recovery Management (DISARM) Unit, which has a significant enforcement role in dealing with the at-risk population.

The Probation Department has set forth the following five focus areas for JJCPA in this Fiscal Year: (1) Replicate the success of various school collaboratives and intervention efforts with families; (2) Continue the training of Community-Based Organizations (CBO's); (3) Continue to foster parental skill building; (4) Expand the evidenced-based programs; and (5) Expand performance-based contracting with CBO's.

Mr. Imara thanked Mayor Antonovich and his staff for leadership and guidance of the JJCPA programs. He also thanked the members of Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC) for their continued collaboration with the Probation Department.

ACTION: For information only.

IV. SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT (SAFE) TASK FORCE –

Greg Scott

Greg Scott, Supervising Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), appeared before this committee to present the annual report on the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) program. SAFE is a federal task force hosted by the FBI, and was first begun in 1993. The Task Force consists of representatives from Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies.

The SAFE Task Force is responsible for investigating crimes against children, such as the sexual exploitation of children on the Internet, child abductions, sex crime fugitives, interstate travel for the purpose of committing crimes against children, travel to foreign countries for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity with minors, distribution of child pornography, and juvenile prostitution.

Representatives from SAFE also make presentations to the community to educate people, particularly parents, on ways to safeguard children and prevent their exploitation.

Several Federal Initiatives exist to combat crimes against children. One such Initiative is Project Safe Childhood, which started in August of this year. Another is Innocent Images, which began in 1993 and has since expanded nationally. This focuses on crimes involving the use of computers, and it provides substantial funding to SAFE. A third Initiative is the Innocence Lost Task Force, which began in 2003 and focuses on child prostitution.

A number of cases have been successfully investigated by SAFE within the past year. One example involves NAMGLA, which is similar to NAMBLA but involves minor girls rather than boys. In this case, child pornography was traded over the Internet. Arrests were made in 24 states and 17 countries.

Another case involved child prostitution. The first trial of the defendant ended in a mistrial due to witness tampering that involved intimidation of witnesses. However, during the retrial, the witnesses were protected and the case ended with a successful prosecution.

A third case involved a kidnapping by two women that took place this past summer. The kidnapping took place in Los Angeles, and the suspects were apprehended in Dallas. The child was safely recovered.

It was noted that the SAFE team is also involved in stings set-up over the Internet in which suspects attempt to arrange to meet for the purpose of having sexual relations with a minor.

It was suggested that publicizing the convictions for these crimes can serve as a warning to pedophiles that may be contemplating the commission of similar crimes.

Additionally, it was also recommended that the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act be used to prosecute some of these organizations, such as NAMBLA and NAMGLA, as well as groups involved in child prostitution.

ACTION: For information only.

V. **TASK FORCE FOR REGIONAL AUTO-THEFT PREVENTION (TRAP)** –
Captain Terrence Judge

Captain Terrence Judge of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department appeared before this Committee to present the Taskforce for Regional Autotheft Prevention (TRAP) semi-annual progress report.

The mission of TRAP is to reduce the incidents of auto theft, increase the recovery rate of stolen automobiles, identify trends and patterns of vehicle theft, provide training and expertise to participating law enforcement agencies, and coordinate a deterrence program with the private sector. TRAP is funded by a one-dollar fee on all registered vehicles in Los Angeles County.

The Task Force consists of representatives from various law enforcement agencies throughout the County, and partnerships have been formed with other government and private organizations.

There have been several equipment upgrades in the past six months. These include two satellite security tracking systems, two punch and pull breaching tools, and 12 new desk top computers.

As part of the training and outreach program, TRAP held a First annual Auto Theft Symposium. There were 160 attendees from Los Angeles County and neighboring counties, and several presentations and round table discussions were held. The event was sponsored by the New Car Dealership Association.

From March 2006 through September 2006, TRAP has been responsible for 292 arrests, 145 warrants served, and 848 vehicles recovered. The value of the recoveries is over 15 million dollars.

One of the major TRAP investigations during this time period involved an employee at a car dealership who provided car thieves with the key codes needed to make the car keys. A total of 25 search warrants were served in June of this year, 16 arrests were made, and 13 vehicles were impounded/recovered.

For 2006/2007, TRAP will be targeting auto thieves in the northern portion of the County. Two detectives will be assisting a new Task Force targeting Part I crimes in the Antelope Valley.

In addition, a new bait car has been donated to TRAP by All State Insurance. This will be strategically deployed at sporting events, conventions, concerts, and other areas where there are large gatherings of people.

It was noted that when TRAP began in 1994, auto thefts in the County were on the rise. In the years since the formation of TRAP, the numbers of auto thefts have declined noticeably.

ACTION: For information only.

VI. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY – Lori Fernandes

Lori Fernandes, Field Intelligence Manager for the Los Angeles Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), appeared before this committee to present information on DEA activities in this region.

The Los Angeles Field Division is one of the largest in the DEA. It covers seven counties in California, and all of Nevada, Hawaii, Saipan, and Guam.

The following drug enforcement programs and strategies have been implemented in this area:

- Mobile Enforcement Team Program (MET)
- Financial Investigations Program
- Intelligence Program
- Diversion Program
- Transportation Interdiction Program
- Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCE/SP)
- Southwest Border Initiative
- Club Drug Initiative
- Southern California Drug Task Force/HIDTA
- Methamphetamine – Operation Wildfire

Cocaine is the most potent stimulant of natural origin, and 90% of the cocaine entering the United States is now coming across the border with Mexico. Much of this is coming across in small quantities in order to limit the amount of the drugs seized in the event that a smuggler is caught.

In Los Angeles, the cocaine is being made available in multi-kilogram quantities (one kilogram is about 2.2 pounds). The price ranges from \$12,000 to \$17,000 per kilogram, which is less than in other areas of the country due to the proximity of Los Angeles to the Mexican border.

The heroin trafficking primary comes from Afghanistan/Pakistan, Columbia, Southeast Asia, and Mexico. The primary heroin markets in the United States are in the big cities, such as New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. The dominant type of heroin in the Los Angeles region is Mexican Black Tar, although there has been an increase in South American heroin.

The price range for Mexican Black Tar heroin is \$16,000 to \$40,000 per kilogram, Brown heroin is \$24,000 to \$34,000, and South American heroin is about \$80,000 per kilogram.

Fentanyl is a schedule II synthetic opioid that is roughly 40 to 100 times more potent than morphine. It is often in powder form, and is mixed with or substituted for heroin. Fentanyl laced drugs have appeared in various forms over the past 20 years, and Fentanyl related deaths have been reported in New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Recently, there have been increased Fentanyl seizures in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, and Mexico.

Methamphetamine production has changed over the years. Whereas California had previously been a primary production site, most of the production has since moved to Mexico. Small labs still remain in the United States, and these are spread throughout the country.

It has become more difficult in both the United States and Mexico to obtain the precursor chemicals needed to make methamphetamine. This has created an increase in price so that in Los Angeles the cost has risen to \$9,000 to \$13,500 per pound.

Marijuana is the most frequently used illicit drug, and it can be grown wild. Most of the marijuana trafficking in this area is coming from Mexico, but about 35% of the amount consumed in the country is grown domestically.

MDMA, or Ecstasy, is a drug that is used primarily by youth. It is taken in pill form, and usually takes several hours to have an effect. This drug is coming into the Los Angeles area primarily from Europe. In Los Angeles, one thousand pills may be sold for \$8,000.

Other dangerous drugs sold in this area include PCP, LSD, GHB, and Rohypnol. A large amount of PCP is still produced in California.

Pharmaceutical drugs are also a problem because some people, particularly youth, misuse them. "Doctor shopping", ordering over the Internet, and fraudulent prescriptions are some of the ways in which these drugs are being obtained in large quantities.

The DEA works closely with other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to reduce the use of illegal drugs. Several recent successful operations were discussed.

Following the money trail is an important means for tracing the flow of drugs back to their source. The majority of the money is going back into Mexico in bulk currency within vehicles, but money laundering through businesses is also still prevalent.

ACTION: For information only.

VII. OTHER MATTERS / PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional matters or public comments.

VIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Antonovich adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m. The next CCJCC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 15, 2006, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 739 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.**