

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 MEETING

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street, Room 739

Los Angeles, California 90012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair: Yvonne B. Burke, County Supervisor for the Second District and
Chair of the County Board of Supervisors

Lee Baca, Sheriff and Vice Chair of CCJCC
Cynthia Banks, Director, County Department of Community & Senior Services
Peter Espinoza, Assistant Supervising Judge of Criminal, Superior Court
Ray Fortner, County Counsel
Janice Fukai, County Alternate Public Defender
Gigi Gordon, Directing Attorney, Post Conviction Assistance Center
Anthony Hernandez, Director, County Department of Coroner
Gabriella Holt, President, County Probation Commission
Michael Judge, County Public Defender
Al Leiga, Chair, County Quality & Productivity Commission
Loretta Martin, Chief U.S. Probation Officer
John Noguez, President, California Contract Cities Association
Ezekiel Perlo, Directing Attorney, Indigent Criminal Defense Appointments Program
Richard Propster, Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County
Richard Sanchez, Acting County Chief Information Officer
Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, County Coroner – Medical Examiner
Greg Savelli, President, South Bay Police Chiefs Association
Dennis Tafoya, County Affirmative Action Compliance Officer
Robert Taylor, County Chief Probation Officer
Margaret York, Chief, County Office of Public Safety

ALTERNATES

Michael Brady for Adam Torres, United States Marshall
Ed Brekke for John Clarke, Superior Court Executive Officer
Doyle Campbell for William Fujioka, County Chief Executive Officer
*Del Cole-Bigelow for John Torres, Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Bureau of Alcohol,
Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Kathleen Daly for Marvin Southard, Director, County Department of Mental Health
*Peter Espinoza for J. Stephen Czuleger, Presiding Judge, Superior Court
Xiomara Flores-Holguin for Trish Ploehn, Director, County Department of Children and
Family Services
*Gus Frias for Darline Robles, Superintendent, County Office of Education
Pamela Hamanaka for Edmund Brown, California Attorney General
Jason Killeen for Raymond Ciranna, Interim Los Angeles City Chief Administrative Officer
*David McGill for William Bratton, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

*Debbie Migliaro for Tom Tindall, Director, County Internal Services Department
Steven Olivas for Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Robert Philibosian for Ronald Ikejiri, Chair, County Economy and Efficiency Commission
Devallis Rutledge for Steve Cooley, District Attorney
*Peter Shutan for Rockard Delgadillo, Los Angeles City Attorney
Buren Simmons for David Brewer, Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District
Sue Stengle for Jack Weiss, Los Angeles City Councilman, District 5
Wayne Sugita for Jonathan Fielding, Director, County Public Health Department

***Not a designated alternate**

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT OR REPRESENTED

Mark Arnold, Judge, Superior Court
Marilyn Diaz, President, San Gabriel Valley Police Chiefs Association
Salvador Hernandez, Assistant Director in Charge, Los Angeles Division, Federal
Bureau of Investigation
Sean Kennedy, Federal Public Defender
Richard Kirschner, Judge, Superior Court
Tim Landrum, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
Michael Nash, Supervising Judge, Juvenile Court
Thomas O'Brien, U.S. Attorney
Kim Raney, President, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
Stephanie Sautner, Judge, Superior Court
Patricia Schnegg, Judge, Superior Court
Warren Stanley, Southern Division Commander, California Highway Patrol
Robert Todd, President, Southeast Police Chiefs Association
Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Human Relations Commission
Michael Tynan, Judge, Superior Court
Frank Venti, President, Independent Cities Association
Larry Waldie, Undersheriff
Mike Webb, County Prosecutors Association

CCJCC STAFF

Mark Delgado, Executive Director
Kenna Ackley
Craig Marin

GUESTS/OTHERS

Victor Allende, Sheriff's Department
Henry Arevalo, Sheriff's Department
Dardy Chen, County Chief Executive Office
Lilian Coral, County Children's Planning Council
Karen Dalton, Sheriff's Department
Richard Dinsmoor, Sheriff's Department
Vincent Holmes, County Chief Executive Office
Steve Kawamura, County Chief Executive Office
Lisa Mandel, Third District, County Board of Supervisors

Steve Miller, County Chief Executive Office
Mario Miranda, Office of County Ombudsman
Leo Norton, Sheriff's Department
Gustavo Partida, Office of County Ombudsman
Joel Sappell, Third District, County Board of Supervisors
Randi Tahara, Second District, County Board of Supervisors

I. CONVENE/INTRODUCTIONS

Yvonne B. Burke, County Supervisor, Second District

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair of CCJCC.

Self-introductions followed.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Yvonne B. Burke, County Supervisor, Second District

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the July 16, 2008 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2008 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.

III. COUNTYWIDE WARRANT SYSTEM

Henry Arevalo, Director, Sheriff's Records & Identification Bureau

Henry Arevalo, Director of the Sheriff's Records & Identification Bureau, presented on the Countywide Warrant System (CWS). CWS is a countywide system that has been operational since April 1988. It is designed to provide accurate warrant information in a timely and effective fashion.

Director Arevalo introduced Sheriff's Department Lieutenant Victor Allende, Manager of the CWS unit, to provide details on the current condition of the system.

Lieutenant Allende stated that the CWS database currently contains 1.4 million warrants. Of these, nearly 106,000 are felony warrants, just over 1 million are misdemeanor warrants, about 275,000 are infractions, over 3,200 are juvenile warrants, and almost 72,000 are "No bail" warrants.

CWS is heavily relied upon by the Superior Court, Probation Department, State Prison System, California Highway Patrol, Sheriff's Department, and each of the local municipal law enforcement agencies in the County of Los Angeles.

The system is currently staffed by the Sheriff's Department 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

Given the age of the system, there are a number of issues and concerns that Lieutenant Allende has found that need to be addressed. These are as follows:

- CWS is a legacy system which is no longer supported by any county vendor;
- The CWS database functions on an antiquated COBOL/Assembler language platform;
- The County of Los Angeles has few programmers trained in the Assembler computer language;
- The current underlying CWS technology is not sustainable; and
- The CWS technology does not allow for system enhancements to meet the growing business needs of the justice community (e.g. inclusion of photographs, fingerprint-based identification, etc.).

If CWS were to fail, it would be difficult to repair the system or provide an accurate estimate of how long it would take. Furthermore, the few technicians in the county that are skilled in the COBOL/Assembler language will be retiring in the coming years.

Because of these circumstances, the current technology is not sustainable. In addition, the state court system expects to deploy a new court case management system in 2012. In order for our technology to interface with this new system, CWS will need to be improved.

Lieutenant Allende stated that the implementation of a new countywide warrant management system incorporating biometrics, embedded photographs, and various other new technologies would significantly enhance the overall efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement within Los Angeles County.

Given this background, the Sheriff's Department CWS Unit recommends the following:

1. That CCJCC identify key stakeholders and form a CWS Steering Committee to:
 - Fully evaluate the current Countywide Warrant System;
 - Determine if CWS should be enhanced and how;
 - Provide governance over the CWS enhancement process; and
 - Identify a funding source for new CWS technology.
2. That the CWS Steering Committee report back to CCJCC in January 2009 with a qualitative analysis and recommendations.

It was suggested that the CWS Steering Committee should consist of representatives from the Superior Court, Sheriff's Department, LAPD, County Police Chiefs Association,

California Highway Patrol, Probation Department, County CEO, County CIO, and the Information Systems Advisory Body.

A motion was made to accept the CWS Unit's recommendation and create a CWS Steering Committee.

ACTION: The motion to create a CWS Steering Committee was seconded and approved without objection.

IV. JAIL OVERCROWDING SUBCOMMITTEE

Doyle Campbell, Deputy CEO, County Chief Executive Office

Doyle Campbell, Los Angeles County Deputy CEO for Public Safety and Chair of the Jail Overcrowding Subcommittee, appeared before CCJCC to provide an update on the activities of the Jail Overcrowding Subcommittee.

In April of this year, CCJCC formed the Jail Overcrowding Subcommittee to address the problem of overcrowding in the county's jails. The first meeting was held in June and the subcommittee has been meeting on a monthly basis since then.

The goals of the subcommittee are to identify and remediate the systemic causes of jail overcrowding without compromising public safety.

The membership includes representatives from the Superior Court, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Alternate Public Defender's Office, County CEO, County Prosecutors Association, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, and the Information Systems Advisory Body.

The subcommittee has agreed upon the following two-phase approach to addressing jail overcrowding:

1. The subcommittee has begun to identify and work on areas that are viewed as ripe for efficiency gains.
2. The subcommittee will hire a consultant to conduct an independent analysis of our local criminal justice system to identify inefficiencies and leverage points that the subcommittee has not addressed. Working with the subcommittee, the consultant will then develop strategy recommendations to remediate such inefficiencies and provide technical assistance needed to implement them.

The Request For Proposal (RFP) for hiring the consultant was prepared by CCJCC staff and released by the CEO on July 30, 2008. Final proposals are due by September 26, 2008, with the selection process and contract negotiation period to follow. It is expected that the consultant will be hired by the end of this year.

With regard to the first phase, the following areas have been identified:

Electronic Monitoring

For several years, the Sheriff's Department and Probation Department have used electronic monitoring for probationers and eligible convicted offenders who volunteer for the program. The volunteer basis covers eligible convicted offenders and those that are on probation, as well as those that have been put on electronic monitoring on a pretrial status by the Superior Court. In addition, pre-trial inmates have been placed on electronic monitoring by court order on a case-by-case basis.

On September 9, 2008, the County Board of Supervisors expanded the use of electronic monitoring by approving the implementation and funding of an involuntary electronic monitoring program for eligible convicted offenders.

The subcommittee has established a workgroup that will focus on issues concerning electronic monitoring, develop best practices, and explore opportunities for expansion.

Video Arraignment

A workgroup has also been created to address video arraignments. The success of using video arraignments could in turn influence the use of video visiting and video conferencing that can take place with attorney-client visits.

The Sheriff's Department, Superior Court, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and others plan to begin a pilot project in Department 30 of the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in the next few months to test and refine both the policy and technology aspects of video arraignment. The Sheriff's Department is in the process of releasing an RFP to identify a vendor to assist with this effort.

Early Disposition Program

The Early Disposition Program (EDP) provides the opportunity for cases to be settled at an early stage in the judicial process. Many different versions of EDP exist in courts throughout the country.

Judge David Wesley is leading a small workgroup to determine if and how EDP can be improved and expanded in Los Angeles County.

Psychologist/Psychiatrist Panel Issue

More than 5,000 felony cases each year require a court-appointed psychologist/psychiatrist for a pre-trial defendant interview.

The number available for appointment is very low, and it is particularly difficult to obtain the services of a psychologist/psychiatrist who is bilingual. Additionally, the availability of jail space for interviews is very limited.

As a result, interviews are delayed, court continuances are needed, and prolonged pre-trial lengths of stay for these defendants result. The Superior Court has estimated that the average delay for these cases due to the lack of interview capability is at least 20 days.

Since the subcommittee began to address this issue, the Sheriff's Department has taken action to make more interview space available for psychological interviews of defendants and to accommodate the needs of court-appointed psychologists. For example, the number of rooms available has been increased from one to ten.

In addition, Sheriff's Department policy revisions have been circulated internally, which has led to great strides in addressing this issue.

One of the underlying causes for the shortage of court-appointed psychologists/psychiatrists is that the fees paid are well below market rate. The flat payment of \$350 for the interview and report and the \$100 per hour payment for additional services have not been adjusted since 2002.

The Superior Court has proposed augmenting these fees to \$500 and \$150, respectively, in an effort to increase the number of psychologists/psychiatrists available. Fees set by the court are paid for through the county's general fund.

The court's proposal would increase county costs from approximately \$3 million per year to \$4.5 million per year. However, if it increases the number of psychologists/psychiatrists on the panel and eliminates interview delays, it will save tens of thousands of jail bed days per year and result in significant savings in incarceration costs.

The court has statutory authority to make this fee change. However, given the historical partnership and cooperation between the court, the county, and the entire criminal justice system, court management has asked for support of this proposal from CCJCC.

The County CEO has identified funding to cover the cost increase recommended by the court and supports the court's proposal for this fee adjustment change.

Deputy CEO Campbell stated that, as chair of the Jail Overcrowding Subcommittee, he requests that CCJCC take a position supporting the Superior Court's fee adjustment proposal for court-appointed psychologists/psychiatrists.

Deputy CEO Campbell made the motion to support the Superior Court's fee adjustment proposal.

ACTION: The motion to support the Superior Court's fee adjustment proposal for court-appointed psychologists/psychiatrists was seconded and approved without objection.

V. DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTYWIDE GANG STRATEGY

Doyle Campbell, Deputy CEO, County Chief Executive Office

Doyle Campbell introduced Vincent Homes, Principal Analyst with the County CEO, to make a presentation on the development of a countywide gang strategy.

On May 8, 2007, the County Board of Supervisors, on a motion by Supervisor Burke, directed the County Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to review the findings and recommendations of the Advancement Project Report, the Los Angeles City Mayor's Gang Reduction Strategy, and the Sheriff's Report, to address the crisis of gang violence in Los Angeles County through the coordination of services provided by social service, public safety, and juvenile justice agencies. The motion also directed the CEO to develop a comprehensive implementation plan.

Since the adoption of this motion, the Office of the CEO has taken the following steps toward the development of a countywide gang strategy:

- Convened a steering committee to assist in the development of recommendations. This steering committee has created a framework by which strategies can be further developed and policies analyzed.

The committee is comprised of the following stakeholders: Sheriff's Department, County Office of Education, District Attorney's Office, County Police Chiefs Association, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Unified School District, City of Los Angeles Deputy Mayor for Gang Reduction, and the Advancement Project.

- Convened a forum of local representatives from governmental, community, and academic institutions to solicit their expertise and recommendations concerning solutions to the issue of gangs and gang violence.
- Reviewed the county's relationship with many of the communities affected by gangs and gang violence and the effects that uncoordinated delivery of services has on those communities.
- Sought input from the County Board of Supervisors and taken account of the specific concerns regarding gang crime in the diverse areas of this county.

- Considered the lack of information-technology infrastructure and the need for county departments to share client information in order to better coordinate and leverage the resources that are being provided.
- Reviewed the county's relationship with youth involved in gangs and gang violence and considered the mandated role the county has in the lives of youth who have been abused and neglected, as well those who engage in delinquent activity.
- Reviewed the county's funding of gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs.

As a result of these actions, CEO staff have developed a set of recommendations that have been presented to the CEO for review and approval.

Supervisor Burke questioned how the Interagency Gang Task Force (IGTF) would integrate with the countywide gang plan.

In response, Mr. Holmes stated that IGTF is not addressed in the plan. However, he noted that one of the proposed recommendations is that a multi-jurisdictional intergovernmental body be established to coordinate the countywide gang strategy. This group would be comprised of representatives from various county and non-county agencies, and the representatives would be at a sufficient level within their organization to be effective in the development of policy.

In response to a query from Supervisor Burke as to when the CEO's countywide gang strategy would be presented to the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Holmes stated that the report and recommendations may be available for submission to the Board of Supervisors in October of this year.

Mark Delgado, Executive Director of CCJCC, reported that IGTF has not met for several months. The intention has been to reconvene after the CEO's gang plan is presented to the Board so that IGTF's priorities could be developed consistent with the Board action. Given the pending recommendation, Mr. Delgado asked for committee direction on IGTF.

Gus Frias of the County Office of Education recommended that IGTF continue to meet given that it is uncertain as to when the CEO's gang plan will be finalized. Xiomara Flores-Holguin from the Department of Children and Family Services concurred with this.

It was agreed that IGTF will resume meeting.

ACTION: For information only.

VI. OTHER MATTERS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional matters or public comments.

VII. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Supervisor Burke adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

The next CCJCC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 15, 2008, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 739 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.**