



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Probation Department  
**Department No.:** 22  
**For Agenda Of:** September 22, 2020  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer, (805) 882-3652  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, (805) 803-8588

**SUBJECT:** **Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act/Youthful Offender Block Grant Annual Report**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Receive and file the Department's annual Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)/Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) statistical and budget report to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) as mandated by statute.
- B. Determine that the above actions are government fiscal activities or funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.

**Summary Text:** Assembly Bill (AB) 1998 (effective January 1, 2017) combined the annual JJCPA and YOBG reports to the BSCC into a one year-end report (Attachment A) due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The report shall be in a format specified by the BSCC and provides expenditure detail for both JJCPA and YOBG, as well as specified county-wide juvenile offender data, taken from existing statewide juvenile justice data systems or networks, as specified by the BSCC. AB 1998 further requires that each county receiving an allocation submit its report concurrently to the county board of supervisors.

**Background:** AB 1913 was signed into law on September 7, 2000, as the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act. Subsequent legislation renamed it the JJCPA. The JJCPA is a state-funded initiative that supports local programs and services that address crime and delinquency among at-risk youth and youthful offenders. The JJCPA requires the County to establish and maintain a multi-agency Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) for the purpose of developing, reviewing, and updating a Comprehensive Multi-agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) that describes the local juvenile justice system and its efforts to address delinquency. The CMJJP is reviewed annually and revised as necessary by the JJCC. The 2020 CMJJP (Attachment B) was approved by the JJCC on May 1, 2020.

In 2018, the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Workgroup (JJCCW) was formed by the JJCC. Members of the workgroup were appointed by the JJCC and include county and community partner agencies. The JJCCW continues to review and analyze gaps, trends and service delivery, discuss data and resources, and review issues of interest in order to present recommendations to the JJCC. The JJCCW has sought input and perspective from a range of stakeholders, with a primary focus on development and refinement of the CMJJP.

Historically, JJCPA funding has been used for assessment, supervision, treatment and aftercare services. In addition to JJCPA, the Probation Department uses a variety of other funding sources to provide services to at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, and their families. These sources include Federal Title IV-E funds, Juvenile Camp and Probation Funding, Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) funds and County General Fund.

Senate Bill (SB) 81 and clean up legislation under AB 191 resulted in significant policy changes regarding commitments to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), formerly California Youth Authority, commencing September 1, 2007. The legislation allowed for incarceration of wards who have committed the most serious offenses (i.e., murder, arson and robbery) under section 707(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) but prohibited the further incarceration of wards adjudicated for non-707(b) offenses (excluding certain sex offenses) at DJJ facilities after September 1, 2007. The legislation included funding to offset the cost of providing services to the non-707(b) WIC wards returning to the county and to increase officer capacity to supervise these wards. YOBG funds are allocated based on county population aged 10-17 and juvenile felony dispositions.

Prior to 2017, counties submitted separate year-end or annual reports for JJCPA and YOBG. With the creation of a combined plan, counties now report once yearly on both programs on a format specified by BSCC. The report includes required program descriptions, expenditures, and juvenile justice data as reported through the Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System. The reporting for that system relies on specified definitions that may not directly match local data definitions.

This year's combined report reflects expenditures within expectations. Data reflects an overall continued decrease in the number of youth referred to Probation, as well as a decrease in the number of petitions filed and youth placed on wardship. This downward trend is reflective of statewide trends overall, and continues to be a positive indicator of fewer youth entering the local juvenile justice system as a result of proper assessment, diversion and appropriate intervention. The Department continues to partner with community-based organizations (CBO) to offer evidence-based treatment and interventions for youth, including diversion, mentoring, cognitive behavioral treatment, family therapy, and family skills training. JJCPA and YOBG funding streams continue to support local mental health assessments and transition services for youth, as well as risk/needs assessment and strength-based case management.

The 2019-20 CMJJP outlined a number of objectives, the majority of which have been successfully achieved. These included: complete implementation of the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) risk/needs assessment; partnering with community-based organizations (CBOs) to offer diversion alternatives in the community; developing and implementing standardized evidence-based outcome measures for contracted programs and services; and providing ongoing training to staff regarding innovative approaches, evidence-based strategies, and racial and ethnic equity and inclusion, which included stakeholder participation in the Reimagining Juvenile Justice (RJJ) Initiative during the fall/winter of 2019.

**Performance Measure:** The 2020-21 CMJJP includes a number of objectives, including: increase agency skills and capacity for accurate data collection and reporting on lesbian, gay, bisexual and questioning (LGBQ) and gender nonconforming or transgender (GNCT) youth participants in the juvenile justice system; establish a youth-led, adult-guided workgroup for input into Department processes; conduct fidelity checks on contracted services; develop and refine a discharge planning process which will allow for family input and information sharing at the point of case termination or release from the Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC); and conduct exit interviews for youth terminating probation and their families, to solicit feedback on their experience.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

None

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The attached report recaps FY 2019-20 statistical and budget information for the JJCPA and YOBG programs. Receiving and filing the attached report has no fiscal impact.

**Staffing Impacts:**

None

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act/Youthful Offender Block Grant Annual Report  
Attachment B: Santa Barbara County 2020 Consolidated Annual Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan

**Authored by:** Holly Benton, Deputy Chief Probation Officer