



PLACER COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE/ DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

2013-2014 Annual Report

Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission
C/O: Placer County Probation
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Mission/Purpose

The mission of the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission is to be a public conscience in the interest of justice for youth; encourage and support the planning and evaluation of programs which prevent delinquency; and provide a leadership forum for citizen action. Mandated under Welfare & Institutions Code sections 225, 229, 230, 270 and 271, the purpose of the Juvenile Justice Commission is to inquire into the administration of juvenile justice within the County, conduct inspections of publicly operated juvenile institutions within the County, and provide the County with a coordinating body for activities designed to reduce juvenile and adult delinquency.

The Delinquency Prevention Commission is focused on activities that can prevent juveniles from entering into the court system to begin with. These activities may include advising the County department staff of policy recommendations and work with, establish, and bridge relationships with and between County staff, community groups, agencies, etc. In Placer County, the Juvenile Justice Commission and the Delinquency Prevention Commission are combined under one commission.

Commission Membership

The commission is comprised of no less than 7 members and no more than 15 members. Two seats are to be reserved for youth between the ages of 14 and 21. Commissioners are community volunteers who are citizens of the United States and residents of the County. They must be able to carry out the duties of a Commissioner in a satisfactory manner, including attendance at meetings, participation in inspections and investigations, and preparation of reports. Commissioners are appointed for terms of four years by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court with the concurrence of the Supervising Judge of the Juvenile Court, and can be reappointed upon the expiration of their terms. New Commissioners can be appointed as vacancies occur. The Supervising Juvenile Court Judge for the 2013-2014 fiscal year was Hon. Colleen Nichols.

In 2013 the Commission accepted resignations from Nancie Wiseman-Attwater, Christina Miller, Paul Comiskey, Monique Molina, Randi Swisley, and Greg A. Calac. The Commission thanks these individuals for their service to the youth of Placer County. The Commission was pleased to announce the appointments of the following commissioners: Diane Britt, Grady Pennington, Baljit K. Atwal PhD., Bethany Peterson, LMFT, Mary Ann Ellis-Jammal, M.D., Lili Aram-Bost, Olivia Buller, and David Bass, Esq.

2013-2014 Commissioners:

Seat 1: John Richardson	Seat 9: Tammy Todd
Seat 2: Diane Shinstock	Seat 10: Sam Stodolski
Seat 3: David Bass, Esq.	Seat 11: Bethany Peterson, LMFT
Seat 4: Diane Britt	Seat 12: Mary Ann Ellis-Jammal, M.D.
Seat 5: Grady Pennington	Seat 13: Lili Aram-Bost
Seat 6: Bryan Urquidez	Seat 14: Olivia Buller
Seat 7: Baljit K. Atwal, PhD.	Seat 15: <i>Vacant</i>
Seat 8: Sandena Bader	Lifetime Emeritus Member: Jane Chapman-Ames

2013-2014 Committee Assignments

Executive Committee

Sam Stodolski, Chairman
Diane Shinstock, Vice Chair
John Richardson, Vice Chair of Community Relations
Olivia Buller, Secretary

Community Relations

John Richardosn, Committee Chair
Committee Members: Diane Shinstock, Bethany Peterson, Baljit Atwal, Mary Ann Ellis-Jammal, David Bass.

Juvenile Court Evaluations

Diane Shinstock, Committee Chair
Committee Members: John Richardson, Sam Stodolski, Sandena Bader, Diane Britt, Olivia Buller, Lili Aram-Bost.

Hearing Committee

Diane Shinstock, Committee Chair
Committee Members: Sam Stodolski, Sandena Bader, Bethany Peterson.

Inspection Committee (for the purpose of revising inspection forms)

Sandena Bader, Committee Chair
Committee Members: Sam Stodolski, Baljit Atwal, Diane Britt

2013-2014 Inspections

- Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility
- Koinonia Crisis Resolution Center
- Auburn Police Department
- Rocklin Police Department
- Koinonia House 1
- Koinonia House 2
- Koinonia House 3
- Koinonia House 4

Koinonia Inspections

In February, Bill Ryland from Koinonia presented to the Commission and provided an overview of Koinonia, their group homes, school, and the Crisis Resolution Center. Commissioners completed inspections of all Koinonia homes and facilities throughout May and June. The Juvenile Justice Commission did not inspect the Koinonia Day School exclusively as much of the information regarding the school is covered during the inspections of the houses. The Koinonia inspection reports were published by the Commission.

Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility Inspection

In May, Commissioners conducted a walk thru inspection of the Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility. Commissioners also reviewed all grievances filed by juveniles from June 2013-May 2014 and all serious incident reports. Upon inspection of the grievances and serious incident reports, commissioners had some questions and concerns regarding the safety of the food, quality of education, and access to proper medical care. These same concerns were raised during interviews with incarcerated minors. The inspection team is working with Superintendent Cann to meet with the relevant administrators.

The Commission will share their inspection findings with the Placer County Grand Jury. The Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility inspection report will be published by the Commission upon completion of follow up investigation.

Police Department Inspections

In previous years, it was believed that pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code § 229, the Juvenile Justice Commission only inspects jails or lockups within the county who reported confining juveniles for more than 24 hours. At that point, it was believed that the Juvenile Justice Commission was not responsible for inspecting police departments. Commissioner Stodolski reached out to Placer County's Field Representative with the Board of State and Community Corrections for clarification. Welfare & Institutions

Code § 209 (b) requires that the judge or Juvenile Justice Commission inspect any facility that contains a lockup and holds a minor in detention *for any length of time*. The resolution from the commission is to only inspect the police departments who reported the detention of a minor during the fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

In 2013, the membership of the Executive Committee changed. Sam Stodolski was reelected as Chairman, Diane Shinstock was elected as Vice Chair, and John Richardson was elected as Vice Chair of Community Relations. In 2014, Olivia Buller was appointed as Secretary. The Executive Committee spent much of the fall recruiting and training new commissioners. In September, the Executive Committee completed a New Commissioner Orientation and Training for commissioners appointed the previous month. The Executive Committee plans to conduct another training in the fall of 2014.

The Executive Committee was successful in securing a mileage reimbursement agreement with the county. Commissioners can be reimbursed for mileage accrued outside of the regular monthly meetings (i.e. committee meetings, inspections, hearings, trainings, evaluations, etc...). Commissioners must complete online ethics training and file relevant forms to receive a vendor number form Placer County. Commissioners are not required to seek mileage reimbursement, but maintain the option to do so. Mileage claim forms must be turned in on a monthly basis.

Community Relations Committee

In an effort to better engage the community of Placer County in supporting the youth served by Placer County Probation and to engage in delinquency prevention efforts, the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County formed the Community Relations Committee in early 2011. The 2013-2014 objectives of the Committee were:

Objective I: Increase community awareness of the Commission's efforts.

- A table of Community Resources was created to identify organizations that serve the youth community throughout Placer County. Committee members were tasked with researching specific cities, & the commission as a whole has been asked to assist in this effort. Phase two of this initiative will be to contact each organization, learn what services they provide, & establish ongoing communication efforts. The goal of this initiative is to provide a current directory of services, and refer youth & their families to them when appropriate. This objective will continue into the next year.

- Learn best practices of JJDPCs throughout California. A directory of Commissions was completed, and contact information obtained. Commissions surrounding Placer County were the initial focus. Action going forward will be visiting neighboring Commission meetings and possibly creating a regional forum.

Objective II: Increase Commission and community involvement in Juvenile Justice Administration and Delinquency Prevention efforts.

- Commissioners attended two Community Events. Both provided an opportunity to network through community organizations that serve a common goal in delinquency prevention.
 - One was hosted by Woodcreek High School, an informational forum with diverse organizations serving youth & families.
 - The second was a community “Day in the Park” festival hosted by a faith based organization that drew families out for a day of fun and entertainment. Several Commissioners attended and hosted an informational booth.

Objective III: With greater community involvement:

- Identify alternatives to decrease recidivism.
 - This has been addressed through Objectives I & II. A new objective needs to be created that provides even greater focus on decreasing recidivism.
- Increase community capacity to improve outcomes for youth and to deter juvenile crime.
 - This was also addressed in Objectives I & II.

Objective IV: Coordinate local youth forums for perspective on delinquency causes, interventions and prevention efforts.

This objective was not addressed this year due to significant Commission turnover & limited committee participation. It will remain an active objective.

The following communication efforts & activity continue to build:

- Facebook and Twitter accounts:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/JJDPC>
 - @placercojjdpc
- Committee members are uploading relative articles in an effort to grow the social media following.
- When appropriate, at least one member of Committee will attend the Board of Supervisors meetings.
- Continued tracking state legislation pertinent to juvenile justice administration and form an official position on such.
- A brochure has been created and is ready for publication.
- An active email account is established (placerjuvenilejustice@gmail.com).
- A Google voicemail is active.

Juvenile Justice Evaluation Committee

In 2012-2013, the Evaluation Committee began conducting interviews and surveys of families and youth who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system. Commissioners are present at juvenile court and ask youth and families to share feedback (via a preapproved questionnaire) on both the court process and the system as a whole. Youth and families are informed that the information they give is confidential and

only used to identify trends and gauge their understanding of the juvenile justice system. Commissioners also visit and interview youth incarcerated at the Juvenile Detention Facility.

The committee continues to conduct interviews with youth and families currently involved in the juvenile justice system. The committee has been working on methods of aggregating all of the data received thus far. Commissioner Shinstock is in the process of creating a database that can be accessed by all commissioners and Commissioner Buller will manage the database. The committee hopes to publish a preliminary report in the fall of 2014.

Hearing Committee

The Hearing Committee is an ad hoc committee established to review concerns brought forward by members of the community or other Commissioners. The members of the committee meet only when a concern is brought to the Commission. When appropriate, members will meet with citizens bringing issues to their attention. Members will then present their findings to the full Commission for final recommendations. The Commission itself is restricted to address system issues and not advocate on behalf of any individual.

During the 2012-2013 year, a concerned citizen reported to the Commission her concerns that she believed there was an increase of minors in Placer County being tried as adults. The Hearing Committee assembled to hear directly from the citizen. Subsequently, two members of the Committee, Committee Chair, Diane Shinstock and Commission Chair Sam Stodolski met with Placer County District Attorney Scott Owens. Mr. Owens shared the county's 10-year data on the subject.

Upon review of the data, it appears there is no trend of minors being tried as adults. An overview of specific details of each and every case was provided, and it was obvious that due diligence was practiced in determining the need for such handling. Each case represented significant and reasonable justification for adult handling including a review of the offender's previous record including probation involvement, the severity of the crime, age of the minor, addiction issues, weapons involved, and gang involvement.

The District Attorney's office has the option of charging a minor as an adult per Welfare and Institution Code Section 707, wherein the presiding Judge makes the determination of handling in juvenile or adult court. Those filings are as follows:

2006 – 3	2010 - 1
2007 – 0	2011 - 1
2008 – 7	2012 - 4
2009 – 6	2013 - 2

With the passage of Proposition 21 in 2000, the District Attorney was granted the discretion to file directly moving a youth proceeding to adult court without the court hearing. Following are the number of those filings:

2008 – 2	2011 - 0
2009 – 2	2012 - 4
2010 – 0	2013 - 4

The Placer County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee recommended no further action be taken on this subject, although will continue monitoring each year as a precaution.

Commission’s Communication with the Public

The Commission maintains several methods in which to engage with the community.

The Commission can be found on social media via Facebook and Twitter:

Facebook: Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission

Twitter: PlacerCoJJDP

Email: placerjuvenilejustice@gmail.com

The Commission maintains a confidential voice line that can be reached by calling (530) 637-8338

The official webpage for the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission can be found at <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/JJDPC/JJDPC.html>

Commission Publications

The Following Commission publications can be found on the Commission's webpage at

<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/JJDPC/JJDPC.html>

- Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- Inspection Reports
- Commissioner Applications
- Commission Bylaws
- Annual Reports

Commission Special Projects

Coalition for Placer Youth

Commissioner Stodolski continues to serve as an ambassador to the Steering Committee of the Coalition for Placer Youth, a non-profit community organization striving to help prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth in Placer County.

Placer County Youth Commission

In April, Reva Peer presented to the commission on behalf of the Placer County Youth Commission. The Placer County Youth Commission is involved in several projects throughout the county aiming to reduce substance abuse and the stigma surrounding mental health. The Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission hopes to partner with or assist the Placer County Youth Commission on future projects.

Outreach to Juvenile Justice Commissions Across California

The Placer County Juvenile Justice Commission began conducting outreach across the State of California to connect with other commissions in the hopes of facilitating a regional meeting with other commissions.

Holidays in the Juvenile Detention Facility

The commission continues its tradition of decorating cookies with the minors at the Juvenile Detention Facility on various holidays. Commissioners spent Thanksgiving and Christmas decorating cookies with

the minors. The commission wishes to thank the Placer County Probation Department for providing the cookies.

Trainings

On April 24, 2014, Commissioners Bader and Atwal attended the “Juvenile Justice Roundtable—School to Prison Pipeline: Stop the Cycle” in Sacramento. The event was facilitated by the California Institute for Mental Health.

The Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission provided over 490 volunteer service hours during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Goals for 2014-2015

- Continue outreach to other California Juvenile Justice Commissions
- Reach out to the state for advanced Title 15 training
- Increase communication with the Board of State and Community Corrections
- Continuation of the Juvenile Justice Evaluations and report of initial findings
- Increase individual commissioner involvement
- Compile a list of delinquency prevention services throughout Placer County
- Coordinate regional meeting with neighboring commissions
- Advocate restorative justice practices
- Increase community awareness and education regarding the juvenile justice system

**Approved by the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission
on June 19, 2014**



Sam Stodolski, Chairman