



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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TERRI L. McDONALD
Chief Probation Officer

December 7, 2017

To: Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Terri L. McDonald
Chief Probation Officer

Subject: **REQUEST TO UPDATE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Background

JJCC Membership

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) was established pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 749.22, which requires counties to establish a multi-agency juvenile justice coordinating council for juvenile justice grant eligibility purposes. Additionally, WIC Section 749.22 provides that "the coordinating council shall also include representatives from nonprofit community-based organizations providing services to minors." This section designates the Chief Probation Office as Chair of the Council and establishes a minimum level of membership.

On November 26, 2002, the Board of Supervisors approved a formal governance and membership structure for the JJCC for the purpose of conducting meetings to discuss programs funded under the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) and other similar programs and make recommendations to the Board, effective upon Board approval. At that time, the Board expanded the required JJCC membership under the WIC to include additional city and county departments, as well as representation from community organizations, to reflect the following:

- Probation Department
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Sheriff
- Juvenile Court
- First District, Board of Supervisors
- Second District, Board of Supervisors
- Third District, Board of Supervisors

- Fourth District, Board of Supervisors
- Fifth District, Board of Supervisors
- Department of Public Social Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Health Services
- Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Los Angeles County Office of Education
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- City of Los Angeles Police Department
- City of Los Angeles, City Council Public Safety Committee
- City of Los Angeles, Mayor's Office
- Community-Based Drug and Alcohol Treatment Provider
- Community-Based Organization Representative, First District
- Community-Based Organization Representative, Second District
- Community-Based Organization Representative, Third District
- Community-Based Organization Representative, Fourth District
- Community-Based Organization Representative, Fifth District
- At-Large Community Representative, designated by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors

The JJCC meets regularly to discuss issues related to the JJCPA program and coordination of services for Probation and at-risk youth.

Role of JJCC and Community Engagement

WIC Section 749.22 seeks to ensure that counties, through their coordinating councils, establish a Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan (CMJJP) or local action plan that targets the needs of the specific communities, utilizing effective strategies for identified target populations. Based upon the size, complexity and diversity of our County, a diverse and inclusive stakeholder representation will help to strengthen and ensure successful implementation and integration of the CMJJP strategies. Experience and expertise are also essential for developing qualitative and quantitative evaluation metrics utilized to steer resources towards strategies and systems improvements that correlate to a reduction in juvenile crime and delinquency.

The Department and JJCC recognize the need to enhance communication and collaboration with community stakeholders. While contracted JJCPA providers regularly attend the quarterly JJCC meetings, input from those who have been impacted or have specific subject matter expertise would also add value to JJCC and its oversight of CMJJP strategies and program/services implementation oversight.

To this end, on March 22, 2017, the JJCC took a major step to ensure community voices were added to the Council by establishing their Community Advisory Committee (CAC), a JJCC Subcommittee. The CAC is co-chaired by JJCC At-Large Community Representative Carol Biondi and Josh Green from the Urban Peace Institute and is comprised of over 400 community stakeholders. The scope of the CAC is to make recommendations to the JJCC as to the composition of the Council, to further make recommendations as to community representation on the Council, to examine and make recommendations as to the structure and scope of the JJCC in fulfilling its mission and to make recommendations to the JJCC (through the Chair) and subsequently to the Council as to the nature of the programs, strategies and systems enhancements for at-risk youth and youth involved in the juvenile justice system in Los Angeles

County. CAC held three meetings between April and September 2017, which were widely attended by an average of 50 stakeholders.

Recommendation for Additional JJCC Members

On September 22, 2017, the JJCC approved a recommendation from their Community Advisory Committee regarding the addition of ten community members to serve as JJCC voting members as follows:

- The addition of ten voting community members to the JJCC
 - a. Appointment of five of the community members by the County Board of Supervisors (one per *Supervisory* District) as previously approved by your Board in 2002
 - b. Authorization of the JJCC-CAC to develop and implement a process for recommending five community members to the JJCC for approval (to be subsequently approved by the County Board of Supervisors)
 - c. At least one voting community member will be an individual with direct personal experience/involvement in the juvenile justice system.
- A voting community member of the JJCC, or their designee, would be expected to attend both the JJCC meetings and CAC meetings, and serve as a liaison between the JJCC and CAC

The Probation Department concurs with JJCC's recommendation to formalize the number and process of selecting Community-Based Organizations/stakeholders to be JJCC voting members which, we believe, will increase JJCC's representation to better reflect the needs of our communities. The process developed by the CAC to vet and recommend community members considers, at minimum, the following:

- Geographic representation across the County
- Racial, ethnic, national origin, gender, sexuality, religious, and disability diversity
- Subject area expertise, including: experience working with youth and populations impacted by Probation and juvenile justice system, policy expertise in the relevant disciplines of youth development and juvenile justice, and first-hand experience with the juvenile justice system including, but not limited to, personal/family experience with the juvenile justice system and related programming
- Commitment to the responsibilities of JJCC membership
- Panels/commission/board experience/governance experience
- Willingness and capacity to attend and actively participate at JJCC and Community Advisory Committee meetings

The JJCC requests that your Board approve the above recommendation, which includes ten community members in the JJCC (five through appointment by the Board and five through recommendation by the JJCC-CAC).

Probation also requests that your Board consider adding the Department of Children and Family Services and the Office of Diversion and Reentry's Office of Youth Diversion and Development to the JJCC membership.

The summary of additional members being recommended includes:

- Five Community Members, recommended by JJCC to the BOS
- Department of Children and Family Services Representative
- Office of Diversion and Reentry, Division of Youth Diversion and Development Representative

The JJCC and Probation look forward to a diverse and inclusive stakeholder representation. We believe that this updated recommended membership will allow us to better serve the needs of the community. For these reasons, we seek the Board's approval to accept the JJCC and Probation's recommendations, fill the current membership vacancies, and update the JJCC's organizational rules to comport with the new membership.

If your Board has any questions or concerns, please contact me, or your staff may contact Sheila E. Mitchell, Chief Deputy, Juvenile Services, at (562) 940-2511.

TLM:SEM:FC

c: Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Lori Glasgow, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Mary C. Wickham, County Counsel
Sheila Williams, Senior Manager, Chief Executive Officer
Justice Deputies