

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
AND THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
FOR SERVICES TO THE VALLEY OAK YOUTH ACADEMY**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Sacramento County Probation Department (PROBATION) and the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office (PUBLIC DEFENDER) is for the provision of statutorily mandated legal counseling services for Valley Oak Youth Academy (VOYA) youth in the Youth Detention Facility (YDF).

I. BACKGROUND / PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES

- A. In September 2020, Senate Bill 823 (SB 823) was signed into law, initiating the closure of the California Department of Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and shifting responsibilities and resources to counties to supervise and deliver services to local youth at the furthest end of the juvenile justice continuum. In response to SB 823, PROBATION established the VOYA program within YDF. The VOYA program provides a safe and secure environment for realigned youth serving commitments at YDF. PROBATION works collaboratively with PUBLIC DEFENDER where PUBLIC DEFENDER provides legal counseling services to VOYA youth.
- B. Services are provided at the following location:
- Youth Detention Facility
9601 Kiefer Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95827
- C. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

II. TERM

The term of this MOU is from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, subject to the continuation of the program and the availability of funding.

III. PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. PROBATION shall do the following:
- a. Maintain the facility where the VOYA Program operates
 - b. Provide space appropriate for legal counseling services (with auditory privacy for face-to-face and telephone contacts)
- B. PUBLIC DEFENDER shall do the following:
1. Program Services - Provide one (1.0) Full Time Employee (FTE) Level (Lv) 5 Attorney to provide the following services:

- a) Legal counseling services for VOYA youth in the YDF
 - b) Represent youth in accordance with the law at court hearings and 6-month review hearings
 - c) Frequent visitation and interviews with the youth in the VOYA program
 - d) Attendance at the youth's Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings. Advocate for needed benefits, services, or programs while in custody and/or for re-entry, to include step-downs and reduction of baseline terms
2. Provide access to a computer and telephone. In the event PUBLIC DEFENDER employee requires specific software to perform their duties, PUBLIC DEFENDER will be responsible to provide hardware, software, and associated IT services.

C. Joint Responsibilities:

1. PROBATION and PUBLIC DEFENDER shall meet as required to ensure that services continue to be provided in the most effective and efficient manner possible for all locations. This includes discussing options for maintaining adequate staffing levels for delivery of counseling services as described above during an extended leave or extended absence of the Lv 5 Attorney position.
2. The Lv 5 Attorney position shall work under the day-to-day operational supervision of the supervising Attorney.