

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
SACRAMENTO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
AND THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL CARE SERVICES FOR PROBATION COMMUNITY OUTREACH UNIT**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Sacramento County Probation Department (PROBATION) and the Sacramento County Department of Animal Care Services (ACS) for the provision of the PROBATION Community Outreach Unit (COU) work crew's services.

I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- A. As a result of Senate Bill 823, PROBATION developed a local commitment program, the Valley Oak Youth Academy (VOYA) located within the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) to provide county-based care, custody, and supervision of youth who are realigned from Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) or who would otherwise be eligible for commitment to DJJ prior to its closure. PROBATION desires to collaborate with ACS to provide no-cost, supervised VOYA work crews to assist with animal care, cleanup, and other related services at ACS and its immediate surrounding areas.
- B. ACS will provide training opportunity and animal caring skills for VOYA residents to obtain employment experience upon reentry. The skills and experience will include valuable knowledge in animal care, cleaning, and grooming techniques to assist them with future employment opportunities. The program aims to mentor VOYA residents to adapt cultivating leadership skills, gain empathy for abandoned and/or neglected animals and enhance deeper empathy. In addition, VOYA residents will learn how to cultivate good habits, complete tasks, and take joy in their accomplishments.

II. PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. ACS shall provide the necessary resources and equipment for use by the COU crews to assist with the performance of services.
- B. PROBATION shall provide COU no-cost, supervised work crews.
- C. Joint Responsibilities:
 - 1. Day-to-day operational issues shall be coordinated between the appropriate ACS supervisor/manager and the Supervising Probation Officer of the COU Program.
 - 2. PROBATION and ACS shall make available the appropriate staff to meet as necessary to discuss any operational concerns regarding the program responsibilities.