

# PROBATION NEWS



Monthly District Newsletter brought to you by the Sacramento County Probation Department

All Districts 1 - 5

2020 Issue 9

## Supporting Positive Change

The mission of the district newsletter is to provide information, news, upcoming events, and program accomplishments to our County Supervisors and their constituents. Our department remains dedicated to building strong partnerships with the goal of providing the best possible services to our community.

In this issue, we cover September 2020:

- ◆ Keeping our Community Safe
- ◆ Officers & Programs Making a Positive Impact
- ◆ Legislative Changes Impacting Probation
- ◆ Probation's COVID-19 Response Update

## KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

### District 1

September 18, 2020: 3700 Block of Northgate Boulevard

**(Possession of Controlled Substance and Possession of Controlled Substance for Sale)**

Officers from the Gang Suppression Unit recovered methamphetamine and a phone containing text messages indicative of narcotics transactions while conducting a search of a subject on Parole. The subject was arrested and booked into Sacramento Main Jail on charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale.



# District 2

**September 23, 2020: 7800 Block of Center Parkway**

**(Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale and Child Endangerment)**

Officers with Probation's Investigations and Supervision unit conducted a home visit of a subject on probation. Officers located cocaine, scales, packaging, and over \$39,000 cash. The subject was arrested and booked at the Sacramento Main Jail and is pending a Violation of Probation and charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale and Child Endangerment.



# District 3

**August 4, 2020: 500 Block of Howe Avenue**

**(Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale)**

Officers with Probation's Investigations and Supervision unit contacted a subject with an active warrant on Formal Probation. The subject was staying at a local hotel. A search of the hotel room recovered over 40 grams of methamphetamine, packaging, scales and a stun gun. The subject was arrested and booked into Sacramento Main Jail and is pending a Violation of Probation and a charge of Possession of Controlled Substance for Sale.



# District 5

## September 14, 2020: 10800 Block of Coloma Road (Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Felon in Possession of Ammunition)

Officers from the Investigations and Supervision Unit recovered a loaded handgun while conducting a probation search at the residence of a subject on Formal Probation. The subject was arrested and booked into the Sacramento Main Jail on a Violation of Probation and charges of Felon in Possession of a Firearm and Felon in Possession of Ammunition.



## OFFICERS AND PROGRAMS MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT

### *Welcome* to Orientation



On September 21, 2020, eighteen candidates participated in Orientation Day at the Youth Detention Facility (YDF). The prospective hires were given a chance to meet probation officers, ask questions, complete a writing assignment, and participate in an oral interview process and a physical agility test.

## Adult Day Reporting Centers

Leaders in Community Alternatives (LCA) has been conducting classes and intake interviews and providing treatment plans and mental health counseling via conference call. Case Managers provide case notes to officers daily. ADRC North had a soft opening on September 21, 2020. Officers and LCA staff at ADRC North welcomed clients back to in person classes while also providing remote classes to ensure client safety for at risk clients.



From June 1 through September 30, 2020, the LCA employment specialist helped 13 clients obtain employment with the following employers:



EZ Brokers in Rocklin  
C Trust Staffing  
1 Alliance Roofing  
UPS  
Home Depot  
Tony Fine Foods  
Waste Management



ADRC officers are working with Probation's GED specialist to re-launch the GED program at all three ADRC sites. Officers and staff are working to re-configure furniture to allow for social distancing.



# Graduates!



ADRC South conducted interviews with September graduates.  
Click to view a moving client interview: [https://youtu.be/CHdCiZ8Qf\\_s](https://youtu.be/CHdCiZ8Qf_s)



## Body Worn Cameras



Probation supports the use of body worn cameras to improve community relations and reduce liability by providing better transparency and accountability in officer interactions. Probation officers' interactions with clients are significantly different than Sheriff or Police personnel. Of note, body worn camera use in community supervision agencies, such as probation departments, are extremely limited in the nation. As Probation supervises clients over a long term basis, clients are seen in a variety of settings, such as homes, treatment locations, and the work-place. Probation has formed a working committee to research, develop policy, and training to successfully implement body worn cameras while ensuring client privacy.

## Building Community Partnerships

A probation officer is compiling a list of residential living facilities for the Homeless Initiative. This officer has made connections with St. Johns for females and children, Salvation Army, and Next Move (formerly VOA).



Chief Deputy Vela-Payne and Supervising Probation Officer Finnegan met with Daniel Savala, the acting Director for the Del Paso Partnership. Savala is seeking assistance with a nuisance abatement strategy for Del Paso Blvd.



## Collaborative Courts

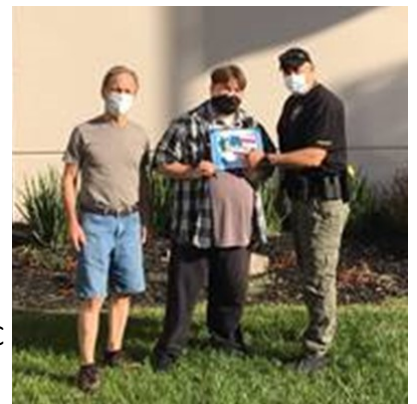
### Recovery Court

After the soft opening on September 8, 2020, Case Managers (CMs) assigned to Recovery Court continue to hold in person groups Tuesdays-Thursdays and Zoom groups on Fridays. CMs continue communicating with Collaborative Court officers daily regarding client contact and participation. CMs meet with clients at the jail and the Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center to complete LS/CMI assessments for potential entry into the program. CMs remain in contact with Recovery Court officers daily regarding client progress and participation.

### Collaborative Court Hearings Held via Zoom:

- DUI Treatment Court held hearings for 18 clients, to include one graduate.
- Prop 36 Court held hearings for 28 clients.
- Mental Health Court held hearings for 98 clients, to include two graduates.
- Recovery Court held hearings for 27 clients, to include one graduate.
- Veterans Treatment Court held hearings for 16 clients.

A Veterans Treatment Court graduate was presented with a graduation certificate, the VTC challenge coin and the highly coveted Judge Brown Gavel Pencil.



## Juvenile Court



In September, Frank Kros, MSW, JD from the Transformation Education Institute conducted two parts of a three-part training series, *Leadership in the Pandemic: Practical Strategies for Supervisors*. The series provides Juvenile Court Services Division supervisors and managers with practical skills in building personal and employee resilience, improving communication skills using multiple media, enhancing teamwork without physical presence, and supporting the social and emotional needs of staff. Additional training will occur on October 7, 2020.

## Juvenile Diversion Pilot Program



On September 29, 2020, Probation met with Judges to discuss treatment gaps that exist for youth entering the juvenile justice system. Probation shared information regarding its Juvenile Diversion Pilot Program that provides mental health and substance use screening for youth out-of-custody at the earliest contact point with the system. Probation will continue to discuss with the Court and county partners how best to address existing service gaps.

## Jail Diversion Treatment and Resource Center

Architectural Design Services (ADS) started the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and submitted the Building Construction Plans to Sacramento County for a Building Permit.



## Pretrial Pilot Program

Since the beginning of the Pretrial Pilot in October 2019, Probation has monitored 1076 cases on pretrial release. Currently, Probation is monitoring 499 active cases.

Judicial Council extended the Pre-trial program into Year 3 (FY 2021-22), but there is no funding associated with the extension. The Court and Probation are in discussions to determine how much funding, if any, is available for an extension of the Pretrial program.



## Sacramento County Main Jail Annex Survey



On September 14, 2020, Probation managers spoke with Nacht and Lewis to discuss adult operations such as Collaborative Courts, the Pre-trial Pilot Program, Adult Day Reporting Centers, programming, and future considerations.

The County engaged Nacht & Lewis to assist with the programming and planning for the new annex and improvement to the existing jails. As part of the planning services, Nacht & Lewis's first task is to conduct a study that aims to identify and quantify variety of changes in policy, programs, and practices that may influence the jail population and determine how the jail facilities would need to respond to those changes.

Some changes resulting from COVID-19 have reduced arrest and incarceration rates. The County would like to understand if maintaining any of these practices is viable and determine if the recognized reductions are permanent, temporary, or will result in a future spike in arrests/incarceration.

# September Series - Success Happens



Click on the photos to hear Probation clients tell their personal success stories in their own words.



YOUTUBE.COM

**Success Happens Series- Be The Best Version of Yourself**



YOUTUBE.COM

**Success Happens Series- Positive Decisions**



YOUTUBE.COM

**Success Happens Series- New Beginning**



YOUTUBE.COM

**Success Happens Series-Believing In Yourself**



YOUTUBE.COM

**Success Happens Series- Being Honest With Yourself**

*Supporting Positive Change*

# Legislative Changes

## Impacting Probation

### **Assembly Bill 1950 – Probation Term Caps**

The Governor signed Assembly Bill 1950, which caps Probation terms to two years for felonies and one year misdemeanors, with some exceptions. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2021.

### **Bail Reform**

September 1, 2020: Chief Lee Seale served as a panelist for a webinar discussion sponsored by the Daily Journal to provide context to the current bail reform debate, discuss alternative strategies, and hypothesize about the future of bail reform.

The discussion was moderated by Hon. Lisa R. Rodriguez, Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego and Co-chair of The California Pretrial Detention Reform Workgroup. Other panelists included:

Chesa Boudin, District Attorney, San Francisco

Jeffrey J. Clayton, Executive Director, American Bail Coalition

Judge Mary-Louise Hribal, Chief Magistrate of the Magistrates Court of South Australia

Robin Steinberg, Founder, The Bail Project

### **Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Realignment**

The Legislature passed, and the Governor signed Senate Bill 823 on September 30, 2020 to begin realigning youthful offenders, up to age 25, to county probation departments effective July 1, 2021.

Probation is planning how best to meet the needs of this most serious population given that any periods of incarceration will be served at the Youth Detention Facility. Meanwhile, commitments to DJJ continue to be ordered through Juvenile Court and accepted.

### **State Prison Early Releases**

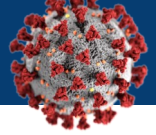
With the early releases from prison that started in July, Sacramento County is projected to receive 437 Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) clients. Approximately 376 PRCS clients have been released to date, and Probation's Screening, Intake and Assessment (SIA) unit has had direct contact with approximately 324 PRCS clients. Approximately 31 of these clients participated in Project Hope due to COVID related issues.

Probation managers reached out to Department of Human Assistance managers to seek help and understanding in finding housing options for the PRCS population. Shelters are limited and prioritized based on this vulnerable population. Approximately 150 PRCS clients are without any support or shelter and designated as truly homeless, living on the streets. This number does not include the probation or mandatory supervision population.





# PROBATION'S COVID-19 RESPONSE



## Making Health and Safety Our Top Priority



Sacramento County Probation continues to make adjustments in response to evolving County and State Public Health Guidelines to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Throughout the course of the pandemic, Probation has been on the front lines maintaining frequent contact with our clients and ensuring continuity of our operations. Probation remains fully committed to providing necessary services and support, with public safety as our top priority.

YDF is now posting COVID-19 data on Probation's public Internet site. This information is updated on a weekly basis:

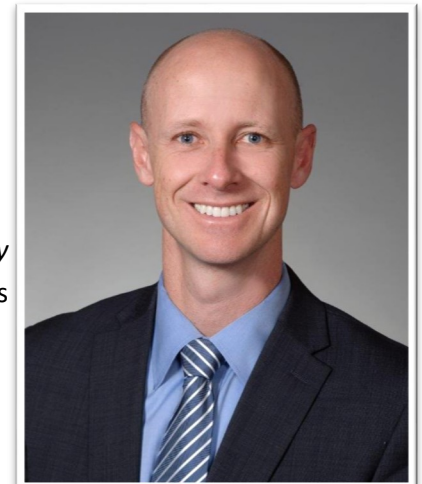
<https://saccoprobatation.saccounty.net/Pages/YDF-COVID-19-Data.aspx>

YDF has increased safety measures, and all youth are currently being tested and quarantined at booking. Probation continues to adhere to practices that have resulted in a reduced population, allowing for heightened care for youth.



To reduce the spread COVID-19 and assist in contingency efforts in the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) and at the Main Jail, alternatives to incarceration are being utilized and exhausted prior to incarceration, keeping public safety at the forefront of booking decisions. A citation policy was instituted to provide probation officers with the ability to cite and release clients with low-level offenses to mitigate jail and YDF bookings and reduce the potential exposure of clients in custody to COVID-19.

Chief Lee Seale participated in the *COVID-19 Issues in the African American Community* meeting with Bruce Wagstaff, Peter Beilenson, Olivia Kasirye, and numerous community leaders.



This newsletter is now also available online: <https://saccoprobatation.saccounty.net/Pages/DistrictNewsletters.aspx>

We welcome your feedback. Please send questions and comments to [ProbationNews@saccounty.net](mailto:ProbationNews@saccounty.net).