

# **A Joint Meeting of The Community Corrections Partnership & The Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee**

## **MINUTES**

Thursday, January 26, 2012  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
Delancey Street Foundation  
600 Embarcadero  
San Francisco, CA 94107

Members in Attendance: Chief Wendy Still (chair), Undersheriff Jan Dempsey (alternate for Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi), Lenore Anderson (alternate for District Attorney George Gascón), Simin Shamji (alternate for Public Defender Jeff Adachi), Craig Murdock (alternate for Jo Robinson) Captain Denise Flaherty (alternate for Chief Gregory Suhr), Louis Sarmiento (alternate for Paul Henderson, Steve Arcelona, Steve Good, Carol Kizziah (alternate for Mimi Silbert), Deborah Alvarez-Rodriguez, Beverly Upton.

Members Absent: Steve Currie.

Others Present: Billy Bowman, Michael Davila, Wayne Garcia, Denise Williams, Jasmine Dawson, Jessica Flintoft, Linda Connelly, Leah Rothstein, Chief Bill Siffermann, Karen Roye, Ellen Brin, Katherine Miller, Veronica Martinez, Diana Oliva-Aroche.

### **1. Call to Order and Welcome.**

Chief Still called the meeting to order at 2:10pm. She introduced herself, and welcomed members, and the public to the meeting. Special thanks to Delancey Street for the hospitality in hosting the partnership and its executive committee for this meeting. Those present introduced themselves.

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**2. Overview of Community Correction Partnership and its Executive Committee created by Senate Bill 678 (Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act) and Assembly Bill 109/117 (Public Safety Realignment Act) (discussion only).**

*Materials: Community Correction Partnership's Fact Sheet, Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee's Fact Sheets, CCP Roster of Members, and CCPEC Roster of Members.*

Chief Still presented a brief overview of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) created by SB 678 and the Executive Committee of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCPEC) created by AB 109/117. Chief Still reviewed the membership of both bodies and expressed gratitude to all participating departments.

The CCPEC was created by AB 109/117 to develop and present a Criminal Justice Realignment Implementation Plan to the Board of Supervisors.

San Francisco was the first county to submit and approved a Plan. San Francisco's plan received recognition from other counties because it is not based on incapacitation and punishment.

**3. Progress report on implementation of SB 678 and discussion on priority service needs (discussion only).** *Material: SB 678 Status Report (Data Report on probationers avoiding prison).*

Chief Still presented a SB 678 Status Report on the number of probationers avoiding prison. Referring to the report Chief Still mentioned that in 2010 there was a 22% reduction of probationers being revoked and sent to prison, and then approximately another 20% reduction in 2011. In the last two years, there was over all 40.6% reductions in the number of probationers sent to prison on a revocation.

Chief Still explained that this reduction in revocations means that the City will continue receiving incentives to support Evidence-Practices in Probation Supervision.

An attendee raised the question about the Probation Accountability Court and its future. Chief Still responded that city partners do not want to permanently close the doors to this program because it is one that offers positive outcomes.

Referring to the report, Chief Still pointed out that the change in total probation population overall was broken down by quarters; the report shows a reduction there as well. Chief Still mentioned that in the past it was known that probation violators were taking up to 700 jail beds, and now that number is much lower than that –it's about 300. Chief Still shared that

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APD would produce more accurate and up-to-date information for each quarter now that APD has hired a Research Director in the Reentry Division.

Lenore Anderson asked why the total probation population was down. Chief Still responded that the reason is a combination of those three possibilities; all partners are working on those things making a concerted effort to bring the population down.

In closing, Chief Still thanked all the partners for their invaluable support in getting this far with SB 678.

**4. Progress report on implementation of AB 109 in San Francisco (discussion only).**

*Materials: Public Safety Realignment & Post Release Community Supervision 2011 Implementation Plan, City and County of San Francisco Public Safety Realignment & Post Community Supervision, 2011 Implementation Plan, Progress Update (Progress Update from agencies implementing this plan), SPRC Status Report, and 1170(h) Mandatory Sentencing Status Report*

Chief Still went over City and County of San Francisco Public Safety Realignment & Post Community Supervision, 2011 Implementation Plan, Progress Update. She reported that the Adult Probation Department is recruiting deputy probation officers. Right now, probation officers have 4 times the recommended size for intensive supervision case loads.

Probation Officers are conducting pre-release visits in the jails and prisons and conducting needs assessments. This practice has proven to be very effective because people are reporting once they are released, and even those who are considered absconding because they do not report right away, the time frame before they report is shorter now.

Chief Still reported the department is facing challenges because the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is not sending referrals with enough notice for Adult Probation Department (APD) to conduct the prerelease visits and all the work needed to get the systems set up for people on reentry.

Probation Officers are participating in weekly training and informational workshops and this has improved the quality of services provided and the quality of the supervision.

In other updates, Adult Probation Department is now coordinating the Reentry Council and the Justice Reinvestment Initiative; a Request For Proposal for the Community Assessment and Services Center was issued earlier this week and there will be a bidders conference on Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm at City Hall, Room 305. The Center is expected to be operational by the end of June.

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Craig Murdock reported on behalf of the Department of Public Health, Community Behavioral Health Services. Craig thanked Chief Still for leading the partnership. Craig reports that since October 1<sup>st</sup>, since realignment was implemented, his team has received 90 referrals from probation. His team was ready to address primary services and mental health needs, as well as substance abuse services.

All the clients referred to DPH from probation go through a single portal of entry, this is the Behavioral Health Access Center (BHAC) located at 1380 Howard Street, where very qualified social workers with experience in forensic services and treatment screen clients and determined what level of service they require. They use standard assessments tools used in clinical screening.

Surprisingly, these workers have noticed is that a very high number of people coming out of prison, the Post Release Community Supervision population, are in very bad health. CBHS has mostly dealt with primary care needs: untreated diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, untreated wounds, hepatitis, especially hepatitis C, obesity, problems with mobility. Craig explained that his team did not expect to see as many number of cases with these primary care types of needs.

A challenge identified by Craig is that CDCR is not sharing the health information with his team. However, thanks to the funds through AB 109, DPH has been able to provide treatment and serve those who need medical and mental health assistance.

Craig added that his department is recruiting 4 full time Care Coordinators, 2 of them will work at the BHAC and 2 will be stationed at the CASC once is opened.

Chief Still reiterates to Craig how appreciative APD is of the Public Health Department for being a great partner. She stated that they accomplished in three month what usually takes up to a year.

Lenore Anderson asked Craig if other counties were seeing the same types of services needed by clients. Craig responded that he has heard similar situations from Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, but not so much from other counties.

Chief Still mentioned that there is a series of webinars from Stanford University with good information about Public Health.

Craig added that while communication with CDCR has improved, it still varies from client to client, and could be better but.

Jessica Flintoft added that San Francisco is fortunate to have the Transitions Clinic, which serves specifically to people with chronic diseases who have recently been released from

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prison. San Francisco is the only jurisdiction to have this approach to health care for people transitioning from prison.

Lenore Anderson reported that the District Attorney's Office created and hired a new position: the Alternative Sentencing Planner. Luis Aroche was hired to fill this position, he starts on February 6<sup>th</sup>. He will be working to recommend alternative sentencing options to prosecutors, while ensuring accountability and without compromising public safety. If this model works effectively, the District Attorney's office will recruit two or three more planners in the future.

Further the DA's office has been working on trainings and workshop on best practices to hold offenders accountable while reducing recidivism.

Lenore also reported that the DA's office is working closely with the Public Defender Office, the Courts, and the BAR Association to expand the use of the Early Resolution Calendar (ERC) and expedite narcotic cases.

Lenore shared that with the Rosenberg Foundation support, the DA's Office hosted a regional realignment summit, with probation departments, sheriff's departments and district attorney's office from other counties to discuss issues related to realignment.

In terms of 1170(h) sentences, Lenore explained that a good number of the sentences have been split sentences with about one year of jail time.

Finally, Lenore brought to the members' attention, legislation on a Sentencing Commission, introduced by supervisors Weiner, Cohen and Farrel. This legislation passed and it will work at looking closely at sentencing practices to ensure recidivism reduction as well as accountability. The commission calls for all the departments members of the CCPEC.

Steve Arcelona reported that the Human Services Agency administers a program to serve up to 20 individuals at any given time with rental subsidies for up to 6 months. HSA personnel conducts an assessment (which includes income analysis and services needed to improve income) and determine eligibility for the different housing options. The goal of this program is to ensure stable housing after the subsidy. Steve explained that historically, 60% of those receiving subsidy for 6-12 months usually achieves permanent housing. The current 20 slots are reserved to serve the AB 109 population.

Simin Shamji reported that the the Public Defender Office created a realignment team, an attorney and a social worker –who create an alternative sentencing plans. This team offers legal services for folks who had been previously on parole but now are on Post Release Community Supervision.

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Simin informed that for the last four months the focus of the department has been in learning and understanding what the law says about what to do with all these new cases. The Public Defender's Office has been working closely with the judges to recommend the appropriate course of actions, according to the circumstances. Simin complemented Chief Still for the good process the partnership went through to get everything streamlined and to make sure that people impacted by realignment had legal representations.

Additionally, Simin mentioned conversations the Public Defender has had about expanding the criteria of the Collaborative Courts to allow more individuals to participate.

Finally, Simin talked about the strength of collaboration. Since all partners are working closely together they are starting to see great outcomes not only for AB 109 population but also for others individual that are not part of this population. Chief Still added that part of this success had to do with all the partners' motivation to follow due process.

Undersheriff Jan Dempsey reported that the Sheriff's Department has at the moment more individuals in County Jail, AB109 realignment of parole violators. This has brought a great deal of stress to the county jail, especially Jail Psychiatric Services.

Undersheriff Dempsey explained that about 75% of all the inmates in jail on felony charges are under 1170(h), and if convicted they will remain in county jail. Prior to October 1<sup>st</sup>, all those convicted inmates would have been sent to prison giving a break to the jail.

Undersheriff Dempsey mentioned that the jails are receiving a good number of split sentences, some of which are somewhat high (some release dates go into 2013). Overall though, the jails had projected this number to be higher but that has not been the case.

Overall, Undersheriff Dempsey concluded that the jail population has increased 8% since October 1, 2011, and this increase has been mainly on parole violators. In the past, parole violators brought revenue to the jails and that's not longer the case.

Jessica Flintoft reported that the Office of Economic and Workforce Development has modified a contract with Asian Neighborhood Design, to provide workforce development services to the PRCS and 1170(h) populations. The grant modification was of \$30,000 and there will be providing 30 workshops and a 14 weeks program that will start February 26, 2012.

**5. Discussion of the San Francisco 2012 Public Safety Realignment Plan (discussion only)** *Material: San Francisco 2012 Public Safety Realignment Plan Process Timeline*

Chief Still reviewed the timeline of the San Francisco Public Safety Realignment, 2012 Implementation Plan. The CCPEC will oversee the development of the plan. Important dates to

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consider are March 29 when the plan will be released for public comments and then May 24 when the CCPEC will approve a final version of the plan to be presented to the Board of Supervisor, which will be between the months of June and July.

Chief Still explained that the plan will be considered approved by the Board of Supervisors, unless is rejected by a vote of 4/5<sup>th</sup>, in which case the plan would go back to the CCPEC. Last year's process went very smoothly and satisfactorily, and the expectation is the same for this time around

Steve Arcelona asked for clarification on what the 4/5<sup>th</sup> means, since San Francisco's Board of Supervisors has 11 members and not 5 as most other counties do.

Chief Still presented a status report on the PRCS population. The male and female breakdown remains consistent across the time and across the different areas of the criminal justice system: 93% vs. 7% respectively. The Adult Probation Department is exploring/planning the implementation of a gender responsive program with a grant from the Zellerbach Foundation. This will enhance the services that are already being provided through the Women's Reentry Center. The Gender Responsive Guidelines developed by Stephanie Covington for the CDCR will be considered for this program.

Chief still urged Chief Siffermann not to forget the girls in the Juvenile Probation Department (JPD). Chief Siffermann explained that JPD does have the girls in mind and they are using a specialized assessment tool from Cook County in Illinois.

Chief Still reviewed more statistics from the PRCS status report noting that the actual number of people released each month under PRCS is much higher than the number projected by CDCR. This trend is not declining; Chief Still was expecting the actual numbers to be closer to CDCR's projections by now. The initial discrepancy (between actual vs. projections) was expected because of all the difficulties in the initial implementation stages of any project of this magnitude. Since that is not the case, the situation is worrisome and it will be ground for debate during funding discussions.

Chief Still presented the 1170(h) Status Report and explained that more information will be added to the reports that will be generated on a weekly basis.

Ultimately, Chief Still explained that the department is glad to be working with this population because APD's intent is not to violate clients, but to let them go through the process and let them get back on track with their lives. Chief Still indicated her interest in inviting parole to come to the table and show the statistics, CDCR reports a lot of parolee at large, and probation is not seeing that; so she wants to talk about this and other issues.

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Chief Still gave the floor to Chief Sifferman to talk about different issues concerning the juvenile population.

Chief Sifferman explained that the Juvenile Justice Division (DJJ) of CDCR provides supervision to the most serious juvenile offenders from each county. For a moment the governor was seriously proposing to stop providing custody for these youths. The Chiefs Probation Officers of California (CPOC) explained the great impact this action would have on the counties. In San Francisco, for example, there are only 6 kids in this category, that would have cost something like \$500,000 and San Francisco would have probably been able to come up with that money from the General Fund. But for other counties such as LA, this would have sent the county to bankruptcy.

CPOC was able to stop this mandate and the word out is that CDCR will not receive any new serious juvenile offenders starting January of 2013. Some are advocating to get that benchmark to 2015.

Chief Still shared her desire to sure that as the city moves forward with a realignment plan for 2012, that it is gender responsive and trauma informed. Second, she wanted to announce that APD received another grant for workforce development. Chief Still thanked Karen Roye for her support, and also Goodwill and Walden House for the workforce readiness components of the programs.

Chief Still invited everyone present to provide any announcements.

Debbie Alvarez-Rodriguez of Goodwill mentioned that as of December of last year Goodwill had exceeded their annual target for services. However, the gain of employment programs is not translated into actual job retention. Goodwill will be creating 200 jobs in the next couple of months.

Diana Oliva-Aroche of DCYF mentioned that several agencies were awarded 70 grants to do violence prevention work. The grant awards were a partnership of DPH, JPD and DCYF. In addition, DCYF is in the process of developing its Children's Service Allocation Plan, and they welcome comments on it.

Steve Arcelona of HSA talked about AB 12 which will provide ongoing foster care for young people until they are 21 years old. This benefit started this year.

Karen Roye of Child Support Services reported that the federal program for child support will remain with administrative oversight from the State. However, the service delivery system is changing to a heavily enforcement model, a very punitive model. The fear is that their programs will not be able to bring resources to the family who need the services and as a result they will



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disengage. Karen will be working with the Sheriff and with the Family Violence Council to address this issue.

Karen continued mentioning the work they are doing with the Family Violence Council and Goodwill to ensure that parents are living up to their obligation safely. She recognized the Police Department and Chief Siffermann for their support.

Linda Connelly wanted to congratulate San Francisco for the Alternative Sentencing Planner position. It is exciting to have San Francisco always being the model and pioneer in this area.

Chief Still appreciated Captain Flaherty of the Police Department, San Francisco is fortunate to have a police department that understands that safety is not all about locking people up. Captain Flaherty expressed that communication and collaboration with city departments, and community at large are fundamental for Chief Suhr and the Police Department.

Wayne Garcia of Walden House expressed he has seen a decrease in the prison population in different facilities across the State, which leads him to believe that AB109 is working. Walden House is concerned about the DJJ issues brought up by Chief Siffermann, and they are following the situation closely.

Steve Good of Five Keys Charter School expressed he was thrilled to be part of the partnership and looks forward to continue working on these issues.

Beverly Upton of the San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium was very happy to be part of the meeting and she looks forward to bringing more information to the table about elder abuse, child abuse and domestic violence for future meetings.

Finally, Chief Still shared that the CASC RPF has been released.

Chief Siffermann asked what the ideal or optimal location for the Center would be. Chief Still shared that the optimal is not set but it should be in a neutral territory, and because the center will serve the population coming out of courts.

**6. Members' comments, questions, and requests for future agenda items (discussion only).**

Seeing none, Chief Still invited public comment.

**7. Public comment on any item listed above, as well as items not listed on the Agenda.**

Seeing none, Chief Still adjourned the meeting.

**8. Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.