

# Reentry Council

## City & County of San Francisco

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### MINUTES

Thursday, October 26, 2017  
10am-12pm

Milton Marks Conference Center, San Diego Rooms  
455 Golden Gate  
San Francisco, CA

**Members Present:** Simin Shamji for Public Defender Jeff Adachi (co-chair); Sheriff Vicki Hennessy (co-chair); Katy Miller for District Attorney George Gascón (co-chair); Diana Oliva-Aroche for Mayor Ed Lee (co-chair); Jana Taylor for Chief Adult Probation Office Karen Fletcher (co-chair); Angelica Almeida, Department of Public Health; Jose Bernal, Board Appointee; Emily Cohen, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing; Angela Coleman, Board Appointee; San Francisco Police Deputy Chief Michael Connolly; Kimberli Courtney, Board Appointee; Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer; Aspen Marshall, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Jeffrey Mori, Office of Economic and Workforce Development; Laura Moyé, Department of Children, Youth & Their Families; Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Allen A. Nance; Karen Roye, Department of Child Support Services; Susie Smith, Human Services Agency; Jared Walker, Mayoral Appointee

**Members Absent:** Mark Culkins, Superior Court of California; Yador Harrell, US Probation Office; Lucero Herrera, Mayoral Appointee; James Lowden, Board Appointee

**1. Call to Order and Introductions.**

Simin Shamji called the meeting to order at 10:00. She introduced herself as meeting facilitator for Public Defender Jeff Adachi. She welcomed everyone, recognizing the co-chairs then asked members to introduce themselves.

**2. Public Comment on Any Item Listed Below as for “Discussion Only.”**

Simin Shamji asked for public comment and there was none.

**3. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2017 (discussion & possible action).**

After members reviewed the minutes, there was a motion by Allen Nance and a second by Karen Roye to approve the minutes of July 27, 2017. There being no public comment, the minutes were approved.

**4. Staff Report on Activities of the Reentry Council and its Subcommittees (discussion & possible action).**

a. Staff updates (discussion and possible action)

Simin Shamji asked Karen Shain to give a Reentry Division staff update. Karen Shain introduced Geoffrea Morris, Adult Probation’s Women’s Gender Responsive Services Coordinator. Next, the council was asked to submit any necessary updates to the roster. Karen Shain also made note of the projected 2018 Reentry Council schedule. The Department of the Status of Women has requested that council members complete a demographic survey, Karen Shain provided detailed instruction. Karen Shain asked the council to review the proposed draft to amend the City and County’s Reentry Council ordinance. The proposal amends Reentry Council ordinance language, which has limited the ability to fill the TAY council seat. The new language allows appointment of a formerly incarcerated person between the ages of 18 and 35 who was incarcerated as an adult when they were between the ages of 18 and 25. Simin Shamji asked for a motion to adopt the Reentry Council ordinance amendment regarding the parameters of the TAY seat. There was a motion and second and the motion passed. Supervisor Fewer stated she will present the amended ordinance to the Supervisors.

Tara Agnese gave an update on the Probation Research Network meeting where there was a focus on data and racial disparities.

# **Reentry Council**

## **City & County of San Francisco**

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Karen Shain shared that the Reentry Council's subcommittees retreat will be held in November, and that the council should expect from that meeting a set of outlined goals. Karen Shain expressed her intent to replicate the same process with the larger Council.

### **5. Regular Update on Legislation and Funding Related to Reentry (discussion only).**

#### **a. Update on 2017 Legislation**

Karen Shain directed the Council's attention to page 28 of the meeting documents, detailing the numerous criminal justice related bills that have passed and noted which pieces of legislation the Reentry Council/City and County of San Francisco were involved in.

#### **b. Update on Funding**

Karen Shain directed the Council to page 30 of the meeting documents describing the new Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant that was approved by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

#### **c. Update on MIOCR Grant from Sheriff's Department**

Ali Riker provided a grant update. The new Mental Health Law Enforcement Collaboration Grant, a partnership between UCSF Citywide and Pre-Trial Diversion to fund a clinical social worker and embed a clinician into pre-trial with some funds to support emergency stabilization housing. The Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Act expires June 2018, 76 clients have been enrolled and 18 have been completed. Access to treatment has been a continued challenge, but a partnership with Salvation Army Harbor Lights and Westside for clinical support is taking place to target that area of need. Ali Riker announced the next graduation will be on November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10AM, Department 15 and everyone is invited to attend.

### **6. Regular Update on Activities of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Sentencing Commission, Collaborative Courts, and Community Corrections Partnership, LEAD, Prop 47 (discussion only).**

Katy Miller stated that the Sentencing Commission's next meeting will be held December 6<sup>th</sup> at the District Attorney's office.

Angelica Almeida, Project Director of Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD), updated the Council and the LEAD implementation and Prop 47 funding. LEAD will focus on 16<sup>th</sup> St./Mission and Civic Center BART areas. Funding from Prop 47 has been used to obtain 32 residential substance abuse beds at Salvation Army Harbor House and 5 detox beds. She said that Prop 47 has not yet launched due to a minor delay in licensing and the contract but more updates on LEAD and Prop 47 funding are anticipated by the next Reentry Council meeting.

### **7. Proposal to ask for incentives for nonprofit reentry services.**

Karen provided members with an update of the proposal to support reentry services provided by nonprofits. The City Attorney had no comment. Sheriff Vicki Hennessy asked to have a list of the number of for-profit reentry service providers. Karen Roye echoed the sentiment behind the resolution and stated that by prioritizing nonprofits, the city is advancing the challenge against racial disparities. Chief Allen Nance has questions about how the proposal, if adopted, is intended to be operationalized, given the current use of evaluation within the procurement process, and suggested that additional guiding language may inform how that process might look like. Sandra Fewer asked the Council if a hearing or report is necessary to have a more comprehensive study of what Reentry Services should look like.

There was a motion and second to approve the resolution. Simin Shamji called for public comment, and Linda Connolly introduced herself, stating that she has worked in the for-profit reentry services for many years. She encouraged the council to think carefully about reentry services and the providers and that everyone should be held accountable to the same standards and outcomes, nonprofit or private.

Following public comment, the motion passed. Sandra Fewer stated she will bring it before the Board of Supervisors.

# Reentry Council

## City & County of San Francisco

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### **8. Department of Homelessness Presentation (discussion only)**

Emily Cohen of the Department of Homelessness presented on the Department's Strategic Framework Development.

Jose Bernal asked questions around the client's privacy under the new HSH's data system and how homeless individuals are assessed and prioritized for shelter placement. Emily Cohen described what coordinated entry is projected to look like. She stated that prioritization will be done by staff at Access Points and the Homeless Outreach Teams by assessment. She said that prioritization for housing is really based on vulnerability and length of homelessness.

Diana Oliva-Aroche asked how HSH intends to engage the criminal justice population and how the department breaks down and coordinates data among criminal justice and related agencies. Emily Cohen stated that this is not happening but is being developed to connect disparate data systems. She described a pilot flexible housing subsidy pool to assist with transitional housing, and spoke about increasing accessibility of Access Points so that people leaving jail have stronger connections to them.

Karen Roye asked about cultural competency of Access Points, the nonprofits operating them, and how family is defined by HSH. Emily responded that the definition of family is flexible but usually means that there is custody of a minor child. She said cultural competency is really important to the department, ensuring that providers have access to training, and that providers and the Department hold one another accountable so that housing placements are happening at an equitable rate.

Susie Smith of the Human Services Agency thanked Emily and HSH for their hard work and let the Council know that HSA is working closely with HSH around benefits connection. Susie also asked about the Point in Time Count and how that has stayed relatively the same where it feels on a visual level that it has dramatically increased. Emily Cohen responded that expanded development and tents have contributed to the perceived increase.

### **9. Stop the Violence Event in the Tenderloin (discussion only)**

Terrell McClinton and Majeid Crawford gave a report on the Stop the Violence in the Tenderloin event. The event went well, despite the sound permit being pulled, but everything came out great. They hope to make this an annual event. The coalition is now focusing on creating a citywide basketball league, engaging youth in the city. A new basketball team, the SF Downtown Starz is an example of the Stop the Violence Coalition's efforts to expand opportunities for youth throughout the city.

### **10. Presentation on Cannabis Equity (discussion only)**

Zoe Polk of the San Francisco Human Rights presented to the Council about cannabis equity. She said that racial disparities related to drug arrests still exist, particularly for African Americans. Council members explored the questions: What does it mean for the city to have a Green Rush? What is the city's responsibility to the population that has been adversely affected by the war on drugs in this new era: how does it affect their potential entrepreneurship? HRC is interested in understanding the stigma surrounding drug use and its lifelong consequences. Nina Parks talked about the responsibility that San Francisco as a city can create pathways for businesses that have experienced a unique history of criminalization and gentrification in an equitable manner.

Sandra Fewer explained that her office is exploring this issue, particularly concerning revenues and how they can be dedicated to reinvest in communities through evidence based strategies, developing communities not displacing them. Diversity of business owners is a concern but there remains a need to address the backlash that is resulting from the new cannabis businesses opening in neighborhoods.

# **Reentry Council**

## **City & County of San Francisco**

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Chief Allen Nance stated that he is concerned about consumption by minors and what the legalization of adult recreational use means to them. He urged that the Reentry Council maintain its obligation to young people so that they are not adversely impacted by this new policy change.

**11. Council Members' Comments, Questions, and Requests for Future Agenda Items (discussion only).**

There was none.

**12. Public Comment on Any Item Listed Above, as well as Items not Listed on the Agenda.**

No Public Comment.

**13. Adjournment.**

Sheriff Hennessy offered a motion to adjourn, followed by a second by Jeff Mori. The meeting was adjourned at 11:59.