

2004-05 Civil Grand Jury Report:

A New Chief of the Juvenile Probation Department: An Opportunity for Reform

California Penal Code Sections 933.05(a) and (b) requires the responding party to report for each recommendation of the Civil Grand Jury one of the following actions:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>1. Recommendation Implemented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date Implemented - Summary of Implemented Action | <p>2. Will Be Implemented in the Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anticipated Timeframe for Implementation | <p>3. Requires Further Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explanation - Timeframe <p>(Not to exceed six months from date of publication of grand jury report)</p> | <p>4. Will Not Be Implemented: Not Warranted or Not Reasonable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|

For each recommendation below, indicate which action you have taken or plan to take and provide the required information.

| Recommendation | Responses Required From: | Response: 1, 2, 3, or 4 |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
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(The Civil Grand Jury indicated that the named departments should reply to those recommendations that are within their jurisdictions.)

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| <p>1. The Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) must develop and enforce policies and procedures that support the goal of reducing the population of detained youth that are unnecessarily detained. For example, supervisors of probation officers (POs) must approve all overrides of the Risk Assessment Instrument, as required by policy.</p> | <p>Board of Supervisors Juvenile Probation Commission Juvenile Probation Department Mayor Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Office of the Controller Police Commission SFPD [and for all recommendations below]</p> | <p>The Board of Supervisors' Government Audit and Oversight Committee conducted a public hearing on July 25, 2005, to discuss the findings and recommendations of the Civil Grand Jury and the Juvenile Probation Department's response to the report. William Siffermann, Chief Probation Officer, presented at the hearing. Implementation of some recommendations has been initiated. Further analysis is being done on others. The Controller's Office is addressing Recommendation 7 concerning management performance audits of community based organizations. The Committee filed this item.</p> |
| <p>2. The new chief of the JPD should make the supervision and management of JPD staff, particularly the POs, a top priority for his administration. For example, all POs must be evaluated routinely with respect to their adherence to Department policies and procedures.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>3. The new chief of the JPD should engage all stakeholders within the context of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative in a reconsideration of the Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI), with the goal of strict adherence to the use of the RAI by POs.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |

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| <p>4. The Community Assessment Referral Center (CARC) should be open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and staffed by POs. This will accomplish the original intention for it to be the single screening point of entry into the juvenile justice system.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>5. CARC should be moved closer to the Youth Guidance Center (YGC) to facilitate activities with YGC and to make transportation of arrested youth more convenient for transporting police officers. The School of the Arts directly across the street from YGC should be surveyed as a possible site for CARC.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>6. Procedures requiring arresting officers to make initial contact with CARC rather than YGC should be incorporated into the SFPD's General Orders in order to reinforce compliance with this requirement.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>7. Standards for evaluating the effectiveness of community-based organizations (CBOs) should be improved to provide the necessary balance between competing interests. Management performance audits of CBOs should be conducted periodically by the Controller's Office.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>8. CBOs that are most likely to reduce rates of detention should be given top priority for funding in the future. Towards this end, CBOs serving youth now in the juvenile justice should have a higher funding priority than those that do not.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |
| <p>9. Appointees to the Juvenile Probation Commission should be knowledgeable about the issues that confront youth at-risk of detention and the organizations that serve them. They should devote the time and be willing to inform themselves of juvenile justice issues. Commissioners should not have any direct relationship with a CBO that may receive funding from the juvenile justice system. Commissioners should be evaluated according to these criteria and replaced when their terms expire if necessary.</p> | | <p>See above response.</p> |

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