

**ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAMOREAUX JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM – 2nd FLOOR
341 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868
Wednesday February 18, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

AGENDA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER**
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 3) CORRESPONDENCE**
- 4) REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**
- 5) REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS**
- 6) MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 7) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
- 8) ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF ORANGE COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Wednesday February 18, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Winder. The meeting was held at the Betty Lou Lamoreaux Juvenile Justice Center, 341 The City Drive, Orange, California, in the second floor Commission Conference Room.

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT: Denise Churchill, Vice Chair (Teams)
Amy Crowley
Marcy Garfias (Teams)
Judy Johnson
Silvestre Lopez (Teams)
Connie Marshall
Lynda Perring
Ryan Rising (Teams)
Madelyn Rodriguez (Teams)
Dorothy Stafford
Mary Lou Vachet (Teams)
Steve Winder, Chair
Dolores Yost

COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT:

STAFF: Lii Toelupe, Executive Administrative Assistant
Josue Rogel, Legal Processing Specialist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 4, 2026, minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

A. Education

Commissioner Johnson reported that a meeting with ACCESS School administrators will be scheduled in March.

B. Non-Institutional Placements

No updates to report.

C. Law Enforcement Agency

The Executive Administrative Assistant (EAA) reported that 10 of the 20 Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) have responded to the inspection request. She also stated that a tentative schedule for the LEA inspections should be ready by the next JJC meeting. Finally, the 2026 LEA inspection form was reviewed and approved. It was decided that the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) inspection two-page form will be attached to the JJC's LEA inspection form.

D. Legislation

No updates to report.

E. Essay and Art Contest

Commissioner Lopez reported that he and Commissioner Vachet toured the Santiago Canyon College (SCC) exhibition space for future display of art submissions from the art contest. Invitations will be sent to Rancho Santiago administrators to attend the Essay and Art Contest planning meetings for 2026. The art exhibition is expected to be held in Fall. Commissioner Vachet reported that the Essay and Art Contest Winner Dinner will be held at the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) this evening. The youth will be served Mexican cuisine by a few of the JJC Commissioners. Along with their catered meals they will receive gift bags.

F. Annual Report

Commissioner Johnson reported that a draft of the annual report is currently in progress and stated that another virtual meeting will be scheduled.

G. JJC/ Probation Book Club

Commissioner Crowley presented the youths' vision boards to the Commission and provided a brief overview of their work.

H. Substance Use Treatment Programs/Services

No updates to report.

I. Away from Care

The working group suggested renaming the group, the High Needs Youth. The group will continue to focus on away from care while expanding their scope to include substance use, mental health and risk of crime/or trafficking as areas of interest. The Executive Administrative Assistant (EAA) will prepare and send an email requesting information/data to SSA, Probation and the Court.

J. Educational/Vocational Programs and Services for Post-Graduate System-Involved Youth

No updates to report.

K. Reentry of Probation Youth

Commissioner Crowley reported that the group is scheduled to meet immediately following today's JJC meeting.

REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS

HIRE Reentry

Commissioners Vachet and Yost attended the HIRE Reentry meeting on February 4, 2026. Commissioner Yost reported that the meeting was an open forum discussion offering resources to youth on resume writing, appropriate interview attire, professional attitude, and job search opportunities.

Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP)

Commissioners Churchill and Perring attended the CWSIP meeting on February 5, 2026. Commissioner Churchill reported that they are moving forward with distributing surveys to all participants, including resource families to increase engagement and improve information sharing. Another topic of discussion was case planning to support a child's transition into a care setting. Commissioner Perring reported that the primary challenge they are facing is navigating a bureaucratic system. She concluded by informing the Commission that the Orangewood Foundation will be hosting a tax seminar to educate the youth.

Project Kinship Photo Project

Commissioners Crowley and Winder attended the Project Kinship Photo Project on February 7, 2026. Commissioner Crowley shared that the event featured a display of photographs taken by the youth from Juvenile Hall. After speaking with the participants, she noted that they appreciated the experience, as it gave them the opportunity to learn something new and connect them with other young people inside Juvenile Hall.

California Juvenile Justice Commissioner's Collaborative (CJJCC)

Commissioners Churchill, Crowley and Winder attended the CJJCC monthly meeting on February 9, 2026. They reported that the topics of discussion included recruitment efforts, commissioner term limits, grievance review procedure, and legislative advocacy.

Eliminating Racial Disparity Disproportionally (ERDD)

Commissioner Vachet attended the ERDD meeting on February 11, 2026. She reported that the focus continues to be on Indigenous youth, as well as addressing the disproportionate challenges faced by various youth groups.

California Story Movie

Commissioners Churchill, Crowley, Marshall, Rising, Vachet, Winder and Yost attended the California Story movie event on February 12, 2026. Commissioner Churchill reported that the 90-minute film featured individuals that shared their experience before, during, and after incarceration. Commissioner Vachet briefly discussed how the film provided insights into how the law established gang enhancements.

Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Youth Justice Action Webinar

Commissioners Crowley, Vachet and Winder attended the OYCR Youth Justice Action Webinar on February 17, 2026. Commissioner Crowley reported that the session was led by the statewide youth council, which consists of 23 members, one-third of whom are currently incarcerated. She also shared that the Youth Action Summit will take place in October and emphasized the importance of allowing professionals in the field to lead the work.

Orange County Foster Family Agency (FFA) Forum

Commissioners Churchill, Marshall and Winder attended the FFA Forum meeting on February 17, 2026. They reported that a topic of discussion was an outreach program called 'Help Me Grow.' Help Me Grow is based at the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) that connects children and families to existing resources and support to enhance the behavior and development of all children from birth to the age of 5.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/WEBINARS/INSPECTIONS

Commissioners Crowley, Perring, Rising, Stafford, Vachet, Winder and Yost are planning to attend Reentry of Probation Youth meeting on February 18, 2026.

Commissioner Johnson is planning to attend the CAST Policy meeting on February 18, 2026.

Commissioners Crowley, Lopez, Rodriguez, Vachet, Winder and Yost are planning to attend the 2025 Essay and Art Contest Winners Dinner on February 18, 2026.

Commissioners Johnson and Winder are planning to attend the Court Improvement Committee meeting on February 19, 2026.

Commissioners Crowley, Johnson, Vachet and Winder are planning to attend a meeting with the Probation Department on February 23, 2026.

Commissioners Churchill, Crowley and Winder are planning to attend the Continuum of Care Reform Coordination (CCR SOC) Steering Committee meeting on February 26, 2026.

Commissioner Winder is planning to attend the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Placement Subcommittee meeting on February 26, 2026.

Commissioners Crowley, Vachet and Winder are planning to attend the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meeting on February 26, 2026.

Commissioners Churchill, Crowley and Winder are planning to attend the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Quarterly Forum meeting on March 3, 2026.

Commissioner Winder is planning to attend the SB823 meeting on March 3, 2026.

Commissioners Garfias and Rodriguez are planning to attend the Child Fatality Review meeting on March 4, 2026.

Commissioners Churchill and Perring are planning to attend the Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP) on March 5, 2026

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

No commissioner comments to report.

CLOSED SESSION

The executive session was convened from 10:45 a.m. – 11:03 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Steve Winder

Steve Winder, Chair