

**ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
LAMOREAUX JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER  
COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM – 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR  
341 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868  
Wednesday March 19, 2025  
9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES OF ORANGE COUNTY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
Wednesday March 19, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Johnson. 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:** Marcy Garfias  
Judy Johnson, Chair  
Silvestre Lopez (Teams)  
Lynda Perring  
Ryan Rising (Teams)  
Mary Lou Vachet (Teams)  
Steve Winder, Vice Chair  
Dolores Yost

**COMMISSIONERS**

**ABSENT:** Denise Churchill  
Connie Marshall  
Joel Matson  
Wyatt McClean  
Madelyn Rodriguez  
Dorothy Stafford

**STAFF:** Lii Toelupe, Executive Administrative Assistant  
Alma Aviles, Legal Processing Specialist

**GUEST:** Kristal Valencia, Court Operations Manager, Juvenile Court

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**The March 5, 2025, minutes were approved by unanimous consent.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Nicholas Moreno tendered his resignation from the Juvenile Justice Commission via email on March 19, 2025. The Executive Administrative Assistant will notify the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court and the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

**A. Education**

Commissioner Johnson shared with the Commission that no class closures were reported. She also mentioned that a candidate for the assistant principal position has been selected and is currently waiting for their background check to clear. Their goal is to continue to work to improve ACCESS schools and their services. They continue to review ways to provide more Career Technical Education (CTE) to ACCESS school students. Dr. Katy Ramezani is now the Executive Director of Education Programs and Services within ACCESS. The JJC education subcommittee's next meeting with Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) administrators will be held on June 26, 2025.

**B. Non-Institutional Placements**

Commissioner Johnson suggested taking pictures during the Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) reviews to be included in future annual reports as well as taking pictures to be included with a corrective action notice when one is being issued.

**C. Law Enforcement Agency**

Commissioner Johnson recommended taking pictures during the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) inspections for inclusion in future annual reports.

**D. Legislation**

Commissioner Winder shared numerous bills that were introduced. A few of those included AB2108 which will require social service workers and probation officers to notify foster care agencies and parents when a youth is absent or away from care for 24 hours. AB2496 mandates Social Service Agency (SSA) to explore other insurance options for foster care services. AB866 will allow youth 16 years old and older to receive opioid medication without consent. AB2830 will develop an approval process for relatives to become foster parents.

**E. Essay and Art Contest**

The standing committee is working closely with the Probation Department and the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) to organize the next Essay and Art Contest which will be held in November.

**F. Annual Report**

Commissioner Johnson reported that the 2025 Annual Report is near completion.

**G. JJC/ Probation Book Club**

Commissioner Winder attended the book club at Juvenile Hall and reported that it was a positive and supportive environment where youth could share and engage in meaningful discussions.

**H. Substance Use Treatment Program/Services**

No updates to report.

**I. Away from Care Issues**

No updates to report.

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

The working group reviewed handouts provided by the Probation Department detailing programs that are offered at Juvenile Hall, Youth Guidance Center (YGC), and Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). Executive Administrative Assistant (EAA) to schedule the next meeting.

## REPORTS FROM INSPECTIONS/REVIEWS

### A. Rite of Passage (ROP) Paragon & Livingston

Commissioners Perring, Winder, and Yost visited ROP Paragon and Livingston for a review on March 17, 2025. Commissioner Yost reported that ROP Livingston is a facility for girls, currently serving 6 girls. They are fully staffed with both long term employees and new staff members who have recently joined the home. Commissioner Perring reported that ROP Paragon is a facility that houses boys. ROP Paragon implemented a trauma informed approach with the boys to enhance engagement, treatment, and outcomes. She also noted that the boy interviewed has a part time job and is completing school. Additionally, there are no corrective action notices for either facility.

## REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS

### A. CAST Lunch and Learn

Commissioner Yost attended and gave a report on the CAST Lunch and Learn meeting she attended on March 5, 2025.

### B. Child Welfare Council (CWC) Youth Justice Committee

Commissioners Vachet and Yost attended the CWC Youth Justice Committee meeting on March 5, 2025. Commissioner Vachet reported that their priorities are re-entry, diversion, and conditions of confinement.

### C. Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP)

Tabled for next JJC meeting on April 2, 2025.

### D. Ensure Justice 2025 Conference

Commissioners Vachet, Winder, and Yost attended the Ensure Justice 2025 Conference on March 7 - 8, 2025. Commissioner Yost shared with the Commission that a documentary called *Screenagers* was presented at the conference, highlighting the correlation between youth brain development and screen addiction. She also highlighted that Homeland Security offers measures/programs to help parents protect their children from online predators.

### E. Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) Commissioners Statewide

Commissioner Johnson attended the JJC Commissioners Statewide meeting on March 10, 2025. She reported that their goals include strengthening programs for youth and regular progress reviews.

**F. State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

Commissioner Vachet attended the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention on March 12, 2025. She reported that the main topics of discussion included legislation, health policy, and youth advising. She also mentioned how LEAs are training officers to work with youth and address negative perceptions that young people may have about law enforcement officers.

**G. Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Children and Youth Services**

Commissioner Garfias attended the BHAB Children and Youth Services meeting on March 13, 2025. She reported that youth suicide death notices were a topic of concern, primarily due to the risk of the youth's identity being revealed.

**H. SB823 Subcommittee**

Commissioners Vachet and Winder attended the SB823 Subcommittee meeting on March 18, 2025. Commissioner Winder reported that their goal is that every youth in custody can have the opportunity to attend college and receive higher education. He also mentioned that Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) and Juvenile Hall are working on expanding staff positions with mental health care clinicians being prioritized.

**I. Office of Youth and Community Restoration**

Commissioners Vachet and Winder attended the OYCR webinar on March 18, 2025. Commissioner Vachet reported that the webinar was facilitated by a University of California, Los Angeles professor. Topics of discussion included youth development, re-entry, resources for institutions, and youth serving time at their residences.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/WEBINARS/INSPECTIONS**

Commissioners Johnson and Perring are planning to attend the Court Improvement Committee Juvenile Justice meeting on March 20, 2025.

Commissioner Vachet is planning to attend the Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying workshop on March 21, 2025.

Commissioner Garfias is planning to attend the Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) meeting on March 24, 2025.

Commissioners Lopez and Yost are planning to attend the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Fullerton Police Department and Buena Park Police Department inspections on March 25, 2025.

Commissioners Garfias, Johnson, Winder, and Vachet are planning to attend the Orange County Substance Use Disorder: Best Practice for Working with Youth webinar on March 25, 2025.

Commissioner Churchill, Johnson, and Vachet are planning to attend the 2024 Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) Annual Report Planning meeting on March 25, 2025.

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Commissioners Vachet, Winder, and Yost are planning to attend the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee meeting on March 27, 2025.

Commissioners Vachet and Winder are planning to attend the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meeting on March 27, 2025.

Commissioners Lopez, McClean, Vachet, and Winder are planning to attend the Juvenile Hall Career Fair on March 28, 2025.

Commissioners Churchill and Perring are planning to attend the Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP) meeting on April 4, 2025.

Commissioners Churchill, Lopez, McClean and Yost are planning to attend the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Laguna Beach Police Department inspection on April 3, 2025.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Johnson shared articles regarding deportation.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The executive session was convened from 11:10 a.m. – 11:23 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

*Judy Johnson*

Judy Johnson, Chair