

**ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAMOREAUX JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM – 2nd FLOOR
341 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868
Wednesday May 21, 2025
9:03 a.m.**

AGENDA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER**
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 3) CORRESPONDENCE**
- 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 May 21, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission was called to order at 9:03 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: Denise Churchill
Marcy Garfias
Judy Johnson, Chair
Silvestre Lopez (Teams)
Joel Matson (Teams)
Ryan Rising (Teams)
Mary Lou Vachet (Teams)
Steve Winder, Vice Chair
Dolores Yost

COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT: Connie Marshall
Wyatt McClean
Lynda Perring
Madelyn Rodriguez
Dorothy Stafford

STAFF: Josue Rogel, Legal Processing Specialist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The May 7, 2025, minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence was reviewed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

A. Education

Commissioner Vachet reported that an assistant principal has been appointed and will assume duties effective June 2, 2025.

B. Non-Institutional Placements

No updates to report.

C. Law Enforcement Agency

No updates to report.

D. Legislation

No updates to report.

E. Essay and Art Contest

No updates to report.

F. Annual Report

Commissioner Johnson reported that the Annual Report is done and is ready for county printing.

G. JJC/ Probation Book Club

No updates to report.

H. Substance Use Treatment Programs/Services

Commissioner Garfias reported that a total of 20 residential beds were utilized between calendar year 2024 - 2025.

I. Away from Care

Commissioner Churchill suggested that the subcommittee meet with partners to discuss ongoing efforts to prevent away from care incidences.

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

No updates to report.

REPORTS FROM INSPECTIONS/REVIEWS

A. Central Youth Reporting Center (YRC)

Commissioners Johnson, Vachet, and Winder visited Central YRC for an inspection on May 15, 2025. Commissioner Winder reported that the current population is 17, consisting of 15 males and 2 females. The facility has 7 probation officers and 2 health care clinicians. Additional topics discussed included bi-weekly group sessions, new virtual reality headsets, school hours, a driving simulation program in partnership with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and a culinary program.

REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS

CA Foster Youth Education

Commissioner Churchill attended the CA Foster Youth Education Summit on April 8, 2025. She reported that the summit was a great conference, with over 700 foster youth and educators in attendance. She mentioned that the youth had the opportunity to speak about how educators had made a difference in their lives. A powerful moment of the event was when a CSEC survivor shared her personal story with the audience. Additionally, the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court, Judge Arthur, and his team facilitated a workshop during the summit.

CAST Policy

Commissioner Johnson attended the CAST Policy meeting on April 16, 2025. She reported that the topics discussed included budget concerns and funding for domestic violence shelters.

Court Improvement Committee Dependency

Tabled to the next JJC meeting on June 4, 2025.

Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Children and Youth Services Committee

Commissioner Garfias attended the BHAB Children and Youth Services Committee meeting on April 17, 2025. She reported that a topic of discussion was a proposed bill that would introduce mental health curriculum for grades K – 12.

Family Maintenance CFT ACL Webinar

Commissioner Lopez attended the Family Maintenance CFT ACL Webinar on April 22, 2025. He reported that the focus of the webinar was the importance of Child and Family Teams (CFTs) for youth in family maintenance status. He also highlighted the use of the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool and its role in informing case plans. The webinar aimed to provide guidance on how CFTs can support the safety and well-being of youth and their families.

West Coast Credible Messenger Conference

Commissioners Marshall and Rising attended the West Coast Credible Messenger Conference on April 22, 2025. Commissioner Rising reported that it was a successful event where the youth had the opportunity to share their needs and the types of support they require to be successful in life.

Continuum of Care Reform Coordination (CCR SOC) Coordination Steering Committee

Commissioner Churchill attended the CCR SOC Coordination Steering Committee meeting on April 24, 2025. She reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the System Improvement Plan. She also mentioned that Orange County currently has 22 family homes that provide intensive foster care.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Placement Subcommittee

Commissioners Matson and Vachet attended the CSEC Placement Subcommittee meeting on April 24, 2024. Commissioner Matson reported that their goal is to bring a diverse group of participants to the CSEC meetings. He also mentioned that they will be implementing a new scoring system to collect data that will help determine the number of minors involved in CSEC.

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)

Commissioner Vachet attended the JJCC meeting on April 24, 2024. She reported that the main topic of discussion was concerns regarding the budget.

Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP)

Commissioner Churchill attended the CWSIP meeting on May 1, 2025. The subgroups continue to meet regularly to strategize and plan.

Conditions of Children in Orange County Community Forum

Commissioner Churchill attended the Conditions of Children in Orange County Community Forum on May 2, 2025. She reported that the forum covered topics including indicators of good health, economic well-being, educational achievement, and safe homes and communities. She also noted that they celebrated their 30 year anniversary. The next forum is scheduled to take place in the city of La Habra on May 30, 2025.

Presentation to the Juvenile Panel of Judges

Commissioners Johnson and Winder attended the Juvenile Panel meeting on May 7, 2025. Commissioner Winder reported on topics shared with the Judges included inspections, meetings with agencies, the essay and art contest, the book club, and the availability of Narcan in facilities housing youth.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Prevention and Awareness

Commissioners Vachet and Yost attended the CSEC Prevention and Awareness meeting on May 8, 2025. Commissioner Vachet reported that it was a productive meeting, offering valuable information to schools to help them better identify and recognize signs that a youth might be involved in CSEC.

Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Children and Youth Services Committee

Commissioners Garfias and Matson attended the BHAB Children and Youth Services Committee meeting on May 8, 2025. Commissioner Garfias reported that there is a high suicide rate among youth in the LGBTQ+ community, although there is no dedicated support program for them, resources are available. She also noted that 98% of youth are seen within two days and 85% see a psychiatrist within 15 days.

California Juvenile Justice Commissioner's Collaborative

Commissioner Churchill attended the California Juvenile Justice Commissioner's Collaborative meeting on May 12, 2025. She reported that the meeting was led by San Mateo County and covered topics such as access to court hearings, strip searches during intake, the use of metal detectors, and food preparation.

Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Quarterly

Commissioners Churchill, Matson, and Winder attended the STRTP Quarterly meeting on May 13, 2025. Commissioner Churchill reported that Tina Chang was the guest speaker and gave a presentation on how to provide services and care to youth. Other topics discussed during the meeting included the crisis stabilization unit and the BeWell campus. She also noted that the judges requested written explanations for why minors do not end up being placed in an STRTP.

Eliminating Racial Disparity Disproportionally (ERDD)

Commissioner Vachet attended the ERDD meeting on May 14, 2025. She reported that they presented the toolkit and discussed the procedures for styling various types of African American hair.

Foster Family Agency (FFA) Forum

Commissioner Churchill, Vachet, and Winder attended the FFA Forum meeting on May 20, 2025. Commissioner Winder reported that their primary goal is to place foster youth with a family member whenever possible. He also mentioned that the topics of discussion included the tier rate structure, insurance concerns, and the authority of foster parents have to open minors' mail and packages.

Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Webinar – Fueling Invitation and Centering Youth: Lessons from King County's Juvenile Court Schools

Commissioner Johnson attended the OYCR Webinar – Fueling Invitation and Centering Youth: Lessons from King County's Juvenile Court Schools on May 20, 2025. She reported that Elizabeth Norris, the Education Director of Kings County, gave a presentation highlighting the county's initiatives including the use of a recording studio for the youth and a hip-hop education program. It was noted that there are currently 15 to 20 minors in custody, and that upon their release each juvenile receives a hygiene kit.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/WEBINARS/INSPECTIONS

Commissioner Winder is planning to attend the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee meeting on May 22, 2025.

Commissioner Perring is planning to attend the Juvenile Recovery Court (JRC) Graduation on May 22, 2025.

Commissioner Winder is planning to attend the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meeting on May 22, 2025.

Commissioners Marshall and Vachet are planning to attend the Foster and Kinship Care Education (FKCE) on May 27, 2025.

Commissioners Johnson, Perring, and Winder are planning to attend the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) Executive Committee meeting on May 28, 2025

Commissioners Garfias and Johnson are planning to attend the Child Fatality Review meeting on June 4, 2025.

Commissioner Churchill is planning to attend the Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP) on June 6, 2025.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Johnson shared an article regarding the

CLOSED SESSION

The executive session was convened from 11:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Judy Johnson

Judy Johnson, Chair