

**ORANGE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
LAMOREAUX JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM – 2nd FLOOR
341 The City Drive, Orange, CA 92868
Wednesday October 1, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

AGENDA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER**
- 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 3) OLD 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 October 1, 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: Denise Churchill (Teams)
Marcy Garfias
Judy Johnson, Chair
Silvestre Lopez (Teams)
Connie Marshall
Wyatt McClean (Teams)
Lynda Perring
Dorothy Stafford
Steve Winder, Vice Chair
Dolores Yost

COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT: Joel Matson
Ryan Rising
Madelyn Rodriguez
Mary Lou Vachet

STAFF: Lii Toelupe, Executive Administrative Assistant
Emily Sanchez, Legal Processing Specialist

The September 17, 2025 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS

A. RFP / Residential Substance Use Treatment Program for Adolescents at Be well Irvine

Commissioner Johnson shared that at the last meeting there was a discussion regarding the Be Well Irvine project, including the number of residential substance use treatment beds for youth and the designated service provider. Dawn Smith, with input from Mark Lawrence, Assistant Deputy Director, reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) has closed, and bids have been submitted. She noted that updates will be provided as new information becomes available. The project may include up to 32 residential beds in the future.

B. Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) Meeting Guest Speakers

Commissioner Johnson shared an update on attempting to have Dr. Schlatter speak at a future JJC meeting, however it was decided that she will not speak due to the length of time she would need to cover her material. Commissioner Johnson also opened the floor to other commissioners to share their ideas for potential future speakers.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

A. Education

Commissioner Johnson stated that a meeting with Dr. Poulin and OCDE administrators is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

B. Non-Institutional Placements

Commissioners Winder and Johnson are working to schedule a meeting with the regional representatives from Rite of Passage (ROP).

C. Law Enforcement Agency

No updates to report.

D. Legislation

No updates to report.

E. Essay and Art Contest

Commissioner Lopez reported meeting with Probation where they discussed the theme for the project, which will be *Dream, Believe, and Achieve*. Mary Lou will develop guiding questions to help youth focus their writing on positivity. She is also creating the flyer and will distribute a “save-the-date” announcement and invitation. The group is considering an in-unit competition, where each unit will submit a piece of artwork for grading. It was noted that gift cards may not be the best prize option moving forward. An alternative proposal was to provide a formal dinner for the winners, with commissioners in attendance, along with gift certificates for the winners’ families since the event will take place near the holidays. Commissioner Churchill suggested asking the youth directly what types of prizes they would prefer. Commissioner Johnson stated the use of artificial intelligence (AI) will not be an acceptable tool to use for creation of the essays.

F. Annual Report

Commissioner Johnson encouraged everyone to continue taking photos throughout the year in preparation for next year’s annual report.

G. JJC/ Probation Book Club

Updates will be provided later as Commissioner Lopez was unable to attend recent meetings.

H. Substance Use Treatment Programs/Services

No updates to report.

I. Away from Care

No updates to report.

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

An online meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 3, 2025.

REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS

A. Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP) Meeting 9/4

Commissioner Perring shared that this was one of the best meetings the group has had. The focus was on gathering feedback related to voice and choice, family connections, and behavioral health and substance use support for youth. The group appears to be on the right track and the information collected so far has been very detailed.

B. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) 40th Year Anniversary 9/14

Commissioner Perring reported that the event was very successful with approximately 80 attendees. Judge Arthur attended and there were many long-term volunteers recognized. Regan Phillips, Chief Executive Officer at CASA, delivered an excellent presentation and food and beverages were served.

C. Office of Youth Community and Restoration (OYCR) Webinar 9/17

Tabled to next JJC meeting on October 15, 2025. Commissioner Johnson encouraged other commissioners to participate in and attend these webinars.

D. Court Improvement Committee – Juvenile Justice 9/18

Commissioner Johnson shared that Judge Arthur moderated the session and discussed recent developments in Juvenile Justice Court, noting that most changes relate to internal court rules. One significant update is the change in handling civil restraining orders as of January. A change is that previously heard cases in family court involving youth are now being heard in juvenile court. Judge Arthur and another judge recently toured the Central Youth Reporting Center (YRC) in Santa Ana and encouraged others to visit. He had positive feedback and congratulated Probation on the Central YRC. The Project Kinship conference is scheduled for October 22, 2025. Lii Toelupe will contact the organizers to request a flyer.

E. Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Placement Subcommittee 9/25

Commissioner Winder reported Grace Court has 38 participants with 5 being from Juvenile Hall. Referrals for CSEC are increasing with most coming from law enforcement. He stated that about 25% of youth trafficked to Orange County on average are 14 years old. HCA has identified 10 youth in Juvenile Hall and 14 at Orangewood for SSA referral. The Vanguard Protection & Awareness Committee is developing educator protocols to identify risk factors. Commissioner Johnson discussed the San Diego program, which educates teachers on identifying potential red flags and how to respond appropriately.

F. Juvenile Hall Car Show 9/28

Commissioner Marshall reported that 50–70 cars were shown at the event. Attendees were able to speak with a few student council members. The units were brought out in groups. Probation staff were present, and the weather was comfortable for the car show. Commissioner Marshall stated that the event was successful.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/WEBINARS/INSPECTIONS

Commissioners Johnson and Perring are planning on attending the CWSIP meeting on October 2, 2025.

Commissioners Johnson, Marshall, Stafford, and Winder are planning to attend the JJC Education Committee & Orange County Department of Education Administrators meeting on October 2, 2025.

Commissioners Lopez, Marshall, Stafford, and Winder are planning to attend a meeting with Dr. Horton at Santiago Canyon College on October 6, 2025.

Commissioners Perring and Vachet are planning on attending the Eliminating Racial Disparity Disproportionally (ERDD) meeting on October 8, 2025.

Commissioners Churchill, Lopez, Perring and Winder are planning on attending the OCFC 40th Anniversary Celebration on October 8, 2025.

Commissioner Yost is planning to attend the CSEC Prevention & Awareness Subcommittee meeting on October 9, 2025.

Commissioner Johnson is planning on attending the California Juvenile Justice Commissioner's Collaborative (CJJCC) monthly meeting on October 13, 2025.

Commissioner Johnson is planning on attending the CAST Policy Meeting on October 15, 2025.

Commissioners Garfias and Winder are planning to attend the Court Improvement Committee meeting on October 16, 2025.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

No Commissioner comments.

CLOSED SESSION

The executive session was convened from 9:45 am. – 10:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Judy Johnson

Judy Johnson, Chair