



County of San Diego

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DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION
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SB 678 Community Corrections Partnership Meeting Minutes May 12, 2010

Attendees: Bonnie Dumanis (DA); Honorable David Danielsen; Honorable Charles Rogers; Dr. Randy Ward (Superintendent, SD County Office of Education); Raymond Fernandez (PSG Deputy Chief Administrative Officer); Debbie Patag (PSG Assistant Group Finance Director); Mack Jenkins (Chief Probation Officer); Kim Broderick (AFS Deputy Chief); Dr. Natalie Pearl (Research Probation Director); Margie DeLeon (AFS Probation Director); Lorraine Fernandez (SB678 Supervisor); Randy Mize (Chief Deputy PD); Dan Lamborn (Chief Deputy DA); Michelle Bush (DA Chief Administrative Services); Kim Thoa-Hoang (DA Division Chief); Rich Miller (Sheriff Commander); Frank McCoy (Chief of Police, Oceanside PD); Michelle Aguinaldo (Sheriff Admin. Analyst III); Susan Bower (HHSa Deputy Director); Jennifer Schaffer (HHSa Deputy Director); Mark Cafferty (President/CEO, San Diego Workforce Partnership); Dr. Cynthia Burke (Director, SANDAG)

Welcome and Introductions

SB678 Overview

Chief Jenkins gave an overview of SB 678. The bill was signed into law in October 2009 by Governor Schwarzenegger and is designed to enhance services to adult felons on probation. It is also intended to create a sustainable funding source for county probation departments with funds redirected from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Probation will receive a financial reimbursement for reducing revocation rates to state prison. The Bill also creates the "Community Corrections Partnership" and identifies required participants. It also requires that probation departments employ Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) in the effort to reduce revocation rates.

Review of San Diego's Preliminary 678 Plan

Probation's Deputy Chief over adult services, Kim Broderick, gave an overview of Probation's preliminary 678 plan. Deputy Chief Broderick reported that Probation's goal is to achieve a "systems change" in the way adult felons are supervised and receive services on probation, as opposed to developing a special "program". The plan is composed of three elements, 1) building an infrastructure, 2) enhancing the delivery of targeted services, and 3) creating a continuum of intermediate sanctions.

- Infrastructure-Probation completed a gap analysis which showed a need to enhance leadership skills, and provide training on EBPs for adult supervisors and managers. In July 2010, probation

Protect community safety, reduce crime and assist victims through offender accountability and rehabilitation.

will implement a year-long Leadership Academy which will focus on EBP, case management, sanctions and incentives and creating leaders for systems change.

- Direct Services-Probation hopes to increase the availability of services to address the criminogenic needs of probationers. The services include, substance abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral interventions and vocational training/work readiness.
- Continuum of Sanctions and Incentives-The plan will include creating a system of sanctions and incentives to hold probationers accountable and facilitate behavior change. Examples of the sanctions include, immediate and brief jails stays, more restrictive curfew, community service hours etc. The incentives would include reduced reporting requirements, early probation termination, etc.

Who Returns to Prison

Probation Research Director Dr. Natalie Pearl gave a report on the profile of felony probationers who were revoked to prison during calendar year 2008. Dr. Pearl indicated the majority were males, 18-25 years old. Over 50% were scored as “high risk” and had been on probation for 2.3 years. A total of 45% had at least one positive drug test and 44% had a warrant issued. Roughly 20% of the revocation was for a technical violation of probation, the remainder went to prison following a new crime. Of those who were revoked to prison, drug offenses reflected the highest charge on 40%.

In a discussion that followed, it was reported statistics from the District Attorney’s office showed that 35% of the cases prosecuted involved drugs/alcohol. Deputy Chief Broderick added that 23% of the cases revoked to prison were listed as “transient”.

Probation “Evidenced Based Practice Strategic Plan”

Chief Jenkins and Deputy Chief Broderick gave an overview of Probation’s “Evidence Based Practice” Strategic plan. Probation recently completed a nine month project to develop a strategic plan to fully implement Evidenced Based Practices into probation operations. Chief Jenkins indicated the goal is enhance the department’s mission of community safety by reducing probationer recidivism. He further reported the effort will involve utilizing the “Balanced Approach” philosophy of probation supervision which emphasizes probation officers employing a balance of case management practices and enforcement activities.

Among the steps taken was the integration of the COMPAS risk assessment tool into the department’s pre-sentence investigation process (to assist in making recommendations to the court as to who should be placed on probation and what their probation terms should be), and the reorganization of adult caseloads by risk. All probation caseloads are now supervised by their risk to commit a new crime (instead of by the offense they committed), which has allowed high risk caseloads to be reduced to an average of 50 per probation officer.

Dr. Pearl reported on the work of Probation’s EBP Strategic Planning Committee (a cross section of probation line staff, sworn, non-sworn, managers, etc.) The group is working on implementation steps in five areas that were identified as the highest priorities for EBP implementation. Those areas are:

- Assessment
- Case Planning
- Risk based supervision
- Sanctions and Incentives

- Information Technology

Goals and Objectives of the “Community Corrections Partnership”

Chief Jenkins explained the Community Corrections Partnership committee is to play an advisory role to the probation department in the plan to reduce probation revocations to prison. It is anticipated that when Probation’s 678 plan is further developed, the individual role of each agency in the partnership will be further defined.

Chief Jenkins reported probation had received \$3.4M in “start up” funds from Cal-EMA (ARRA funds) to begin the 678 plan. A portion of those funds is being used to implement the Leadership Academy. It is anticipated the rest of the funds will go towards direct service delivery.

A discussion ensued on topics that included, effective sanctioning, flash incarceration, and “up front” custody recommendations.

Next Steps

The next CCP quarterly meeting is scheduled 9-15-10 from 1:30-3:00. A meeting request will be sent out. Minutes will be produced from this meeting and distributed.

Judge Rogers discussed the importance of having further conversations about initial sentencing. Judge Danielsen, Superior Court, has committed to taking the show on the road, and will be meeting with management at different court sites about EBP.

Chief Jenkins reported he would like to share a quarterly statistics report with the group to show activity level within probation services.

Follow up items:

- Deputy Chief Broderick will develop a sub-committee and focus groups.
- Susan Bower will look at the PIR program and forward information to Probation.

Adjourned 2:46 p.m.

LF: MJ