

Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Safety Ad Hoc Subcommittee Recommendation

Custody Liaison Program

Issue

A high number of Post-Release Supervised Persons (PSPs) face multiple returns to custody due to violations, and there are often challenges in engaging them in the treatment and rehabilitative services needed. One strategy to help engage individuals with their case plan is to enhance jail in-reach opportunities and connect with individuals while they are in custody through the development of a Custody Liaison Program.

Subcommittee Discussion/Analysis

Currently, the Probation Department participates in in-reach efforts at several CDCR facilities and in monthly Prison to Community reentry planning meetings with state, local, community and health agencies.

A similar approach to serve AB 109 supervised persons in county jail during their returns to custody could increase an individual's engagement with his/her case plan and connection to services. Such a jail in-reach approach could be achieved with Probation staff and other justice partners serving as custody liaisons.

Custody liaisons would be co-located in jail facilities and would provide orientation, assessments, linkages to in-jail services, and linkages to services upon release in cooperation with the assigned field DPO. Custody liaisons could perform this function in conjunction with other partners, offering additional support to supervised persons.

Probation already aims to connect with supervised persons on a limited scale at the Twin Towers jail Community Reentry Resource Center when individuals are being released from jail. This proposed effort would augment that and engage individuals prior to their release.

The subcommittee recognizes that resources would be needed to implement this strategy. To complement this effort, video conferencing capability for supervision officers to work with supervised populations while they are in custody can also be explored.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Safety:

1. Recommend that the County explore opportunities to implement a Custody Liaison Program – with teams comprised of Probation staff, social workers, systems navigators, and/or other partners – to conduct jail in-reach with supervised persons in jail in order to increase their engagement with their case plans and improve connections to services.
2. Recommend that the County develop a data collection plan and evaluation process to measure the efficacy of the Custody Liaison Program

3. Recommend that the County identify resources needed and potential resource options to implement the Custody Liaison Program.

Subcommittee Vote

Yes (6)	No (2)
Erika Anzoategui	Jenny Brown
Kellyjean Chun	John Raphling
Bob Guthrie	
Stephen Johnson	
Reaver Bingham	
Jose Osuna	