

# **COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2012 MEETING**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street, Room 739

Los Angeles, California 90012

### **MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Steve Cooley, District Attorney and Chair Pro Tem

Richard Barrantes for Paul Tanaka, Undersheriff

Dan Bower for Steve Beeuwsaert, Chief, Southern Division, California Highway Patrol

Ronald Brown, County Public Defender

Elvira Castillo for Cynthia Banks, Director, County Department of Community & Senior Services

Joseph Charney for Zev Yaroslavsky, County Supervisor for the Third District and Chair of the County Board of Supervisors, CCJCC Chair

Xiomara Flores-Holguin for Philip Browning, Director, County Department of Children and Family Services

Janice Fukai, Alternate Public Defender

\*Jon Goldberg for Tim Landrum, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Christa Hohmann, Directing Attorney, Post Conviction Assistance Center

David Kettle, President, San Gabriel Valley Police Chiefs Association

\*Cecille Manalo-Lopez for John Clarke, Superior Court Executive Officer

Mary Marx for Marvin Southard, Director, County Department of Mental Health

Georgia Mattera for William Fujioka, County Chief Executive Officer

William Montgomery for Tom Tindall, Director, County Internal Services Department

Earl Perkins for John Deasy, Superintendent, Los Angeles Unified School District

Ezekiel Perlo, Directing Attorney, Indigent Criminal Defense Appointments Program

Robert Philibosian for Isaac Barcelona, Chair, County Economy and Efficiency Commission

Jerry Powers, County Chief Probation Officer

Ray Regalado for Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Human Relations Commission

Cecil Rhambo for Lee Baca, Sheriff and Vice Chair of CCJCC

Bruce Riordan for Andre Birotte, U.S. Attorney

Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, County Coroner – Medical Examiner

Patricia Schnegg, Supervising Judge, Criminal, Superior Court

Peter Shutan for Don Meredith, President, County Probation Commission

David Singer, United States Marshal

\*Susan Sullivan Pithey for Kamala Harris, California Attorney General

William Sullivan, Chair, County Quality & Productivity Commission

\*James Symington for Matthew Cate, Secretary, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Mitch Tavera, President, South Bay Police Chiefs Association

John Viernes for Jonathan Fielding, Director, County Department of Public Health

Mike Webb, County Prosecutors Association

**\*Not a designated alternate**

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT OR REPRESENTED**

Bruce Barrows, California League of Cities

Charles Beck, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

Steven Bogdalek, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms  
and Explosives

Michelle Carey, Chief U.S. Probation Officer

Betty Chu, Director, Independent Cities Association

Jorge Cisneros, President, Southeast Police Chiefs Association

Arturo Delgado, Superintendent, County Office of Education

Lee Smalley Edmon, Presiding Judge, Superior Court

Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles City Council, 12<sup>th</sup> District

Sean Kennedy, Federal Public Defender

John Krattli, Acting County Counsel

George Lomeli, Assistant Supervising Judge, Criminal, Superior Court

Steve Martinez, Assistant Director in Charge, Los Angeles Division, Federal Bureau of  
Investigation

Edward Medrano, President, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association

Michael Nash, Supervising Judge, Juvenile, Superior Court

Charlaine Olmedo, Supervising Judge, North Valley - San Fernando, Superior Court

Richard Propster, Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County

Timothy Robbins, Field Office Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Richard Sanchez, County Chief Information Officer

Miguel Santana, Los Angeles City Chief Administrative Officer

Nancy Tragarz, California Contract Cities Association

Carmen Trutanich, Los Angeles City Attorney

Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

David Wesley, Assistant Presiding Judge, Superior Court

**CCJCC STAFF**

Mark Delgado, Executive Director

Cynthia Machen

Craig Marin

Michelle Pangborn

Ana Silva

**GUESTS/OTHERS**

David Abernathy, Cuffed and Wanted, Inc.

Don Abernathy, Cuffed and Wanted, Inc.

Kenna Ackley, County Chief Executive Office

Ray Bercini, Sheriff's Department

Rone Ellis, Private Citizen  
Treva Ellison, CURB  
John Hall, District Attorney's Office  
Yeghz Keshibhran, Central City Association  
Fred Klunder, Superior Court  
Cookie Lommel, AFSCME Local 685  
Kim McGill, Youth Justice Coalition  
Jorge Morales, First District, County Board of Supervisors  
Julia Paskin, SEIU  
Sheila Pinkel, Pomona College  
John Ruegg, Information Systems Advisory Body  
Devallis Rutledge, District Attorney's Office  
Ernest Shepard, Youth Justice Coalition  
Scott Stickney, Probation Department  
Mary Sutton, CURB  
Danae Tapia, Youth Justice Coalition  
Michael Tynan, Judge, Superior Court  
Zsuzsanna Vincze, Los Angeles Unified School District

**I. CONVENE/INTRODUCTIONS**

Steve Cooley, District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley, Chair Pro Tem.

Self-introductions followed.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Steve Cooley, District Attorney

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the March 7, 2012 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2012 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.**

**III. IMPACT OF FUNDING REDUCTION ON SUPERIOR COURT OPERATIONS**

Judge Patricia Schnegg, Supervising Judge of Criminal Division, Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Patricia Schnegg, Supervising Judge of the Central Criminal Division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, appeared before CCJCC to provide a report on the impact of budget reductions on Superior Court operations.

Due to state budget cuts, the funding for the state's trial courts has been cut by \$350 million. As the Los Angeles County Superior Court accounts for about a third of the

judges and cases in the state, the Los Angeles Superior Court is absorbing about \$118 million of the budget cuts.

Over the course of the past 18 months, the Superior Court has made substantial cuts to its budget, including reduction in staff. Nevertheless, these new budget cuts will force an additional contraction in operations.

The Superior Court's Budget Committee, of which Judge Schnegg is a member, made recommendations that were subsequently adopted by the Court's Executive Committee. They are currently awaiting approval by the Presiding Judge.

If approved, the new changes in operations would go into effect as of July 1, 2012. In addition, about 320 individuals will be notified that they will no longer be employed by the Court as of that date.

The Superior Court is using \$29 million of its reserves, which will reduce its reserve level to an historic low. Even with this expenditure, it will still be necessary to make an additional \$30.1 million of additional budget cuts prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

About \$8.2 million in savings will come from reductions in non-courtroom staff. Close to another \$10.3 million will come from the reduced use of court reporters.

One of the operational changes that will result is that there will no longer be court reporters for civil trials unless one or both of the parties agree to pay for the services of the court reporter. Judges in civil matters will only have court reporters for two half-day periods a week for their law and motion work. The Court will keep court reporters in family law and juvenile. For criminal cases, court reporters are mandatory if either side requests one.

By July 1<sup>st</sup>, approximately 60 to 68 court reporters will no longer be employed by the Superior Court, and an equal number will be placed on three-fifths (3/5) time, which will allow them to maintain their benefits and their status as certified court reporters.

Approximately \$4.8 million in savings will result from reductions in courtrooms in the juvenile courts. This will result in changes to informal juvenile traffic operations.

There will be an additional \$6.8 million in savings in courtroom staffing associated with the restructuring of certain courtrooms. A total of 58 courtrooms will be closed throughout the county by July 1, 2012, and 19 (33%) of these will be criminal courtrooms. Judge Schnegg noted that nine (9) of the closed criminal courtrooms will be in central criminal.

Judicial officers in the affected courtrooms will be reassigned. Many will do non-traditional judicial work, like settlement courts, as well as other work that does not require the assistance of a judicial assistant or courtroom assistant.

Each District has been asked to make cuts of 10%. It has not yet been determined which specific courtrooms will be closed.

If the Governor's tax plan does not pass in November of this year, an additional \$125 million will be cut from the state's trial courts. Should this happen, there will likely be further substantial cuts to services provided by the Los Angeles Superior Court.

The Superior Court continues to seek to improve efficiency and cost savings through innovation, such as with the methods and manner in which traffic payments are made to the Court.

In response to a query from Dr. Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, County Coroner – Medical Examiner, Judge Schnegg confirmed that no civil trials will be recorded in any fashion unless one or both parties in the case agree to pay for a court reporter.

Mr. Cooley inquired as to how much of a funding reduction the State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is absorbing as a result of the state budget cuts to the judicial system. Judge Schnegg stated that she was not certain as to the specific numbers.

**ACTION: For information only.**

**IV. REPORT ON RECENT JUDICIAL COUNCIL ACTION ON THE CALIFORNIA COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CCMS)**

Judge Patricia Schnegg, Supervising Judge of Criminal Division, Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Schnegg next provided a report on recent Judicial Council action concerning the California Court Case Management System (CCMS).

On March 27, 2012, the Judicial Council voted to terminate funding for CCMS, which was intended to link the state's 58 county trial courts by providing a unified system that they would all use.

This decision was a result of the budget cuts to the state judicial system referred to in the prior presentation. Despite having invested several hundred million dollars over 12 years, a determination was reached that continuing the implementation of CCMS had become prohibitively expensive at a time when cuts are being made to trial court operations throughout the state.

Judge Schnegg noted that this does not mean that no money will be spent on CCMS. Some smaller county courts in the state now rely on portions of the system that will need to be maintained. Furthermore, there is a cost associated with scaling down CCMS to the point where it no longer exists. Therefore, she surmised that the likely intent is to halt development of the system with the hope that someday, when the financial outlook for the judiciary improves, it can be continued.

In the meantime, many in the judiciary are hopeful that the funding that had been used for CCMS can now be used as a backfill to prevent further budget cuts to trial court operations.

Judge Scnegg observed that CCMS was never deployed for criminal cases in the Superior Court and that testing had not been done. The Court will continue to utilize the Trial Court Information System (TCIS) for criminal cases, but this is an aging system.

**ACTION: For information only.**

**V. 5150 TRANSPORT ISSUE**

Assistant Sheriff Cecil Rhambo, Sheriff's Department

Assistant Sheriff Cecil Rhamo of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department appeared before CCJCC to provide an update on the 5150 transport issue.

As a reminder, individuals in the community who are placed on a Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5150 hold (involuntary psychiatric hold) in the field are currently transported to hospital care by law enforcement.

Due to concerns about this process, the County Board of Supervisors passed a motion in 2010 that instructed the County CEO to explore alternative options for this transportation. In response, a 5150 Study Group was convened as an ad hoc subcommittee of CCJCC.

The 5150 Study Group oversaw a comprehensive review of the 5150 transport issue and a report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors with a number of recommendations.

One of the recommendations involves a pilot program using ambulance transport of 5150 detainees. This will likely be implemented in the 4<sup>th</sup> District of the Board of Supervisors and its duration will be for one year. This will allow the Study Group to determine what resources are required, identify challenges, and evaluate how well the pilot program can be expanded to other areas of the county.

In the pilot program, deputies will be provided the option for ambulance transportation when needs arise. Self-restraints and medical attention will be provided if needed, and a deputy will accompany the person to the hospital.

Assistant Sheriff Rhambo stated that there have been 512 calls for 5150 transportation in the first three months of this year, which leads to an estimate of about 2,000 for the entire year. He emphasized, however, that not all mental health-related calls require ambulance transportation. One goal of the pilot program is to determine how many of these calls actually require this response.

The County of Los Angeles currently has contracts for ambulance services. The 5150 Study Group is hoping to utilize these existing contracts for the pilot program.

Also as part of the pilot program, efforts will be made to determine whether the individuals have medical insurance and if this is a means by which the county can recover some of the costs of transportation.

At a future date, the Sheriff's Department would like to discuss the possibility of creating a Mental Health Advisory Board to address matters where law enforcement and criminal justice issues intersect with mental health issues.

**ACTION: For information only.**

**VI. OTHER MATTERS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments were made by the following individuals:

Mary Sutton, Californians United for a Responsible Budget  
Ernest Shepard, Youth Justice Coalition  
Danae Tapia, Youth Justice Coalition  
Kim McGill, Youth Justice Coalition  
Sheila Pinkel, Pomona College  
Treva Ellison, Californians United for a Responsible Budget

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.