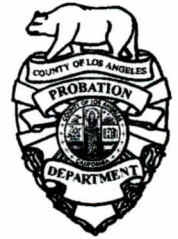




**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION COMMISSION  
9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY  
DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242  
(562) 940-2754**



June 26, 2017

Chief Terri McDonald  
Los Angeles County Probation Department  
9150 East Imperial Highway  
Downey, CA 92253

Dear Chief McDonald:

We, the members of the Los Angeles County Probation Commission, are aware that the Probation Department, in coordination with the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), is evaluating the utilization of unspent Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funds. The unspent funds were appropriated to support community-based organizations providing services to at-risk youth. As of December 2016, approximately \$36.7 million of these funds, which had accumulated over 5 years, remained unspent. (Auditor-Controller's Report dated March 2017)

We understand that neither you, nor Assistant Chief Sheila Mitchell, had any responsibility in creating this unfortunate situation. We commend you for your efforts now to exercise appropriate control over the allocation and appropriation process so that the funds are spent as intended -- in our underserved communities, helping kids avoid (further) incarceration.

As of this time, we understand all of the previously languishing Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds have finally been allocated, the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Accountability Committee has been re-established, and a new Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act Community Advisory Committee has been created. In addition, Resource Development Associates has been retained to provide a comprehensive evaluation of all Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act-funded programs and make recommendations about enhancing or modifying the programs based on the needs of the current juvenile population.

As such, we ask that:

- 1) The Probation Commission be updated every two months on the status and timeline of the Resource Development Associates study;
- 2) Consideration be given to creating a seat for at least one Probation Commissioner on the Community Advisory Committee; and
- 3) The Probation Department, the JJCC or an independent contractor undertake a specific and thorough investigation of how an \$8 million allocation of JJCPA funds was made to the Probation-led New Directions diversion program designed to serve 240 youth over three years, but, to date, has yet to serve a single youth.

**Commissioners**

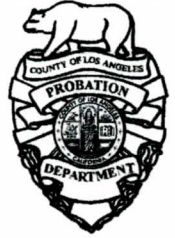
Joe Gardner-President,

Hon. Jan Levine (Ret)-1st Vice President, Daniel Seaver-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Donald Meredith-Sergeant at Arms, Azael Martinez-Sonoqui, Cyn Yamashiro, Esq., Jacqueline Caster, Esq. Jo Kaplan, Esq. Olivia E. Mitchell, Peter Shutan, Zachary Hoover, Hon. Betsy Butler (Ret.), Hon. Bonnie Lowenthal (Ret.), Hon. Rex Richardson, Hon. Alex Saab, Esq.

***Rebuild Lives and Provide for Healthier and Safer Communities***



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Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Gardner".

Joe Gardner  
President, Los Angeles County Probation Commission

cc: Mark Delgado, Executive Director, L.A. Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination  
Committee

Sheila Mitchell, Assistant Chief, Los Angeles County Probation Department

**Commissioners**

Joe Gardner-President,

Hon. Jan Levine (Ret)-1st Vice President, Daniel Seaver-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Donald Meredith-Sergeant at Arms,  
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