

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS'
PUBLIC PROTECTON COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, March 28, 2024
11:00 a.m.**

**Supervisor Elisa Márquez, Chair
Supervisor Nate Miley, excused**

**Location: Board of Supervisors Chambers
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Suite 512
Oakland, CA 94612**

Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/99247500951>

SUMMARY/ACTION MINUTES

I. Alameda County Public Defenders' Post Conviction Unit Update - *continued from February 22, 2024*
[Attachment](#)

Brendon D. Woods, Alameda County Public Defender, Loren Williams, Alameda County Assistant Public Defender and Taylor Kohles, Holistic Defense Mitigation Specialist (LCSW), presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Public Defender's Post Conviction Unit.

The Alameda County Public Defender's Post-Conviction Unit is a pilot program funded by legislation SB 129, which provided indigent defense providers \$50 million a year for three years. The funding was designed to cover four resentencing areas of the penal code: 1) resentencing relief, 2) discretionary resentencing; 3) immigration-related conviction changes, and 4) youth offender parole. The Public Defenders' Office received approximately \$2.1 million per year and created the Post Conviction Unit.

Since the beginning of the unit in 2021, the Post Conviction Unit has submitted 92 resentencing and reentry reports; 68 of those clients have been granted resentencing relief. An additional 42 clients will go before the parole board and 18 clients have been granted parole and released.

Jesse Palmer, a formerly incarcerated individual, shared his personal story and spoke to the importance of the post-conviction units' work. Mr. Palmer expressed gratitude for the post-conviction unit support. He stated that the post-conviction unit saves both taxpayer money and lives. He urged the Board of Supervisors to continue funding the program.

Purpose:

Report progress

Advocacy or Education

Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position

Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. Reimagine Adult Justice Implementation Status and Pre-Trial Expansion
[Attachment](#)

Wendy Still, Reimagine Adult Justice Project Manager, Honorable Thomas Nixon, Presiding Judge, Alameda County Superior Court, Cory Jacobs, Program Manager Pre-Trial Program, Alameda County Superior Court and Adrienne Chambers, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Alameda County Probation Department, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Reimagine Adult Justice Implementation Status and Pre-Trial Expansion.

The Honorable Thomas Nixon, Presiding Judge, Alameda County Superior Court, commented on the significance of the expansion of the pretrial release program. The program aims to address mental health, addiction, and housing issues upfront, and location-driven to tailor to individual needs. The goal is to connect individuals with appropriate resources and support systems to prevent recidivism. Judge Nixon requested support from the Committee and the Board of Supervisors for support for the program.

Wendy Still, Reimagine Adult Justice (RAJ) Project Manager, reported that the RAJ initiative proposes to implement progressive justice reform practices in Alameda County for the justice-involved population. The initiative involves enhancing jail operations, inmate programs, re-entry services, and investing in diversion and preventative services. It proposes to refine existing county systems to reduce racial and ethnic disparities and establish oversight for the sheriff's department. The RAJ report includes fifty-three (53) recommendations to improve pre-release medical processes, behavioral health linkages, and capacity building. The initiative also recommends establishing a sheriff's oversight system and improving court operations, probation services, and reentry programs.

Cory Jacobs, Program Manager Pre-Trial Program, Alameda County Superior Court, reported that the pre-trial pilot program funded by the Judicial Council saw a 73% budget reduction after its conclusion. The new program model is rooted in data-driven decision-making and community-based services to reduce new arrests, incarceration, and improve public safety. The program will tailor release conditions and service plans to individual needs

Chief Adrenne Chambers, Deputy Chief\ Probation Officer, Alameda County Probation Department reported on a plan to expand pretrial services in Alameda County. The Probation Department plans to increase capacity by negotiating with labor unions to extend services from 100 to 140 individuals, representing a 40% increase without impacting county costs. The expansion plan includes establishing teams for pretrial treatment management and counseling in Oakland and Dublin. Implementation will occur in phases, starting between September and December 2024, for Oakland and January to March 2025, for Dublin. Funding of \$150,000 for operations and technology, in addition to \$1.8 million annually for personnel, will be needed for implementation.

Speakers

Richard Speigman, John Lindsay-Poland, Cathy Rodriguez, Jean Moses, and Joy George commented on the Reimagine Adult Justice Implementation Status and Pre-Trial Expansion.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education**
- Request Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Abreu commented on Falk ambulance service delays in Alameda County, referencing a recent article from the San Jose Mercury News. The article noted Livermore and Pleasanton's complaint to the Board about frequent delays in ambulance response times. He urged the Board of Supervisors to address the issues with the ambulance service delays.

John Lindsay-Poland commented about the high percentage of non-sentenced inmates in Alameda County jails, at around 93% for the past four years. The pilot program for pretrial services has had no significant impact on reducing the unsentenced population. He asked for clarification on why the pretrial services program did not effectively decrease the percentage of non-sentenced inmates.

Jean Moses commented and inquired about the status of the amended ordinance for the Sheriff's Oversight Committee, and asked when it will be provided.

Cathy Rodriguez commented on the discontinuation of meetings with the Public Protection and Social Services Committees regarding conservatorship programs for the elderly and disabled. She stated a resolution is needed for seniors isolated from family members. Ms. Rodriguez advocated for reconvening the meetings due to her personal experience she had with her deceased aunts' conservatorship in Alameda County.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned in memory of the Honorable James Cramer, Alameda County Superior Court Judge.

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