

County of Santa Cruz

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX 1812, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-1812 (831) 454-2150 FAX: (831) 454-3035

JOHN P. RHOADS CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER May 25, 1999

Agenda: June 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, California 95060

Accept and File Report on Activities of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Task Force

Dear Members of the Board:

On March 2, 1999, your Board requested that the Probation Department report back on the activities of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Task Force.

As your Board will recall, the **Latino** Strategic Planning Collaborative and the Probation Department agreed to co-convene a group of Criminal Justice agency personnel and community members to address the issue of disproportionate minority confinement within the Juvenile Hall and throughout the Juvenile Justice system, and to monitor progress toward eliminating the problem.

At the time of writing of this report, the Task Force has met two times, with an additional meeting scheduled for June 23, 1999. A membership list is attached for your Board's information.

At the initial meeting, the Task Force heard a presentation by James Bell from the Youth Law Center in San Francisco. Mr. Bell described the Youth Law Center's Disproportionate Minority Confinement project which has been initiated in Seattle, Washington, and answered questions from the Task Force about how to get started.

The Task Force has also participated in discussions regarding process and problem-solving. It was agreed that the Task Force will begin by reviewing the detention decision-making process within Probation. Future meetings will include presentations from relevant Probation Intake staff. The Probation Department is also supplying the Task Force with data regarding the level of Latino youth throughout the Juvenile Justice system.

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The work of the Task Force is now in it's **preliminary** stage, and it is recommended that a more detailed update be provided to your Board in January, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board accept and file this report on the activities of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement Task Force and direct the Chief Probation Officer to submit a detailed update in January, 2000.

Very truly yours, John Polling

JOHN P. RHOADS Chief Probation Officer

JPR:FN

RECOMMENDED:

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO County Administrative Officer

cc: County Administrative Officer

courts Probation

Attachment

Disproportionate Minority Confinement Task Force

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Membership List

Name Representing / Agency Affiliation

Judge Kathleen Akao Courts

Mary Lou Alejo Latin O Affairs Commission

Chris Ballin Latin OStrategic Planning Collaborative

Steve Belcher Santa Cruz Police Department
Don Braunton Capitola Police Department
April Bullock Criminal Justice Council

John Casey Pajaro Valley Unified School District

Dane Cervine Health Services Agency - Children's Mental Health

Gerald Christensen Public Defender

Judy Cox Probation

Daniel Dodge Latin0 **Affairs** Commission
Cecilia Espinola Human Resources Agency

Mary Lou Goeke United Way

Maria Hurtado Latin O Strategic Planning Collaborative

Terry Medina Watsonville Police Department
Lynn Miller Human Resources Agency
Roy Nelson Santa Cruz City Schools District

Manuel Perez, Jr. Latino Strategic Planning Collaborative

Dinah Phillips County Administrative Office

Jii Rapoza Juvenile Hall John **Rhoads** Probation

Ron Ruiz District Attorney

Diane Siri County Office of Education

Mark Tracy Sheriff