

Merced County  
Public Safety Realignment  
&  
Post Release Community Supervision

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**2014 / 2015**

**PROPOSED STRATEGIES – YEAR 4**

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**Executive Committee of the Community Corrections Partnership**

Brian McCabe, Presiding Judge, Superior Court

Thomas Cavallero, Sheriff

Ana Pagan, Director, Human Services Agency

Norman Andrade, Chief, Merced Police Department

Larry Morse, District Attorney

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## I. Update on AB109 Programs and Activities

**The Trident Center:** The Center occupies employees of the Sheriff's Department, Human Services Agency, Mental Health, and Probation. Through evidence-based practices, the multi-disciplinary effort employs a three-pronged approach: public safety; reduced recidivism through rehabilitation; and alternatives to incarceration. Client services include the following, through either referrals or on-sight:

- Dynamic Risk & Need Assessments
- Release from Custody Assessments
- Flash Incarceration for Violating Program Rules and Court Orders
- Alternative Sanctions through GPS Monitoring
- Community Supervision
- Warrant Apprehension
- Drug Testing
- Alcohol and Other Drug Counseling (Mental Health Department)
- Leadership for Life (Human Services / See Description Below)
- Child Support Collection Efforts (Department of Child Support Services)
- Literacy Referrals (Library – to be held at the County Library)
- Employment Testing (Workforce Investment Agency)
- Behavioral Health Client Services (MH)
- PACT Re-entry Meeting Representation (HSA, MH, Probation, DCSS, WIA)

**Leadership for Life:** "L4L" was developed by Ana Pagan and is facilitated by employees of the Human Services Agency and Probation Department. Facilitators provide the an array of one-stop-shop services: life skills; cognitive therapy; education and career assessments; referrals to homeless assistance; section 8 housing assistance; general relief / food stamps; parenting skills; and assistance with obtaining driver's licenses.

**Day Reporting Center (City of Merced):** Behavioral Interventions, Inc. (BI) continues to serve clients with intensive rehabilitative treatment and educational services. The program is located in the City of Merced and is staffed by employees of BI. The contract was renewed during 13/14 and serves a maximum of 50 clients at any one time.

**Behavioral Health Court:** The specialty Court commenced in April 2012. The Probation Department's behavioral health caseload currently has 50 mental health clients. The Court is staffed by Probation, Mental Health, District Attorney, and Public Defender employees.

**Residential Treatment:** Contract with Community Social Model Advocates (CSMA) for long-term, residential treatment for male and female clients with acute drug and alcohol diagnoses. The contract, which currently reserves 3,200 bed-days / year for adult clients, was expanded from 1,095 bed-days during 13/14 to meet the needs of the increased population.

**In Custody Risk and Need Assessments:** The Static Risk and Offender Needs Guide (STRONG) was fully implemented in 12/13. Probation officers conduct the assessment on all incoming clients. A probation officer was assigned to the jail facilities to conduct the assessments, which enables probation officers to assign clients to services that fit their individual needs and to the most-appropriate levels of supervision.

**Flash Incarceration & Alternative Sanction:** Clients in violation of conditions of supervision continue to be subject to up to 10 days in custody as an alternative to long-term sentences when violations are less-serious. In addition to flash incarceration, officers are utilizing options such as GPS monitoring and community service when violations are of less-serious nature.

**Supervision Caseload Reduction:** Caseloads consisting of prison-returnees and the highest risk clients have been reduced to a 50/1 client to probation officer ratio to ensure appropriate levels of services, supervision, and accountability.

**Los Banos Collaboration:** During 13/14, the Probation Department assigned a deputy to the Los Banos offices of the Mental Health Department. Mental Health provided work space for this effort, which includes enhanced services to adult clients.

## II. 2014 / 2015 Program Expansion

**Westside Day Reporting Center:** Identified by the CCP in 13/14 as an additional need, the probation department is entering into contract with Behavioral Interventions, Inc. to open a day reporting center in Los Banos, CA. The center is modeled after the program located in the City of Merced and will accommodate 30 west-county clients starting on or about July 1, 2014. This \$190k program was made possible as a result of the Probation Department being awarded a high performance grant for reducing the frequency of probationers being committed to state prison for violations of probation (SB678).

**Warrant Reduction Advocates Program:** As identified in the CCP's 13/14 "Strategies" as a need, an RFP was issued during Fall 2013 and awarded to BI, Inc. for \$75,000. The program facilitator will serve as a nexus between the Probation Department and clients at-risk of being returned to Court and/or jail for violations of probation. Modeled after the highly successful Santa Cruz County Program, it is anticipated that this effort will reduce the number of inmates being held in custody under pre-trial status.

**Jail Re-Entry Program:** Also identified by the CCP in 13/14 as an additional need, and following the RFP process, a contract was awarded to BI, Inc. to operate a jail re-entry program. The program is expected to commence on or about July 1, 2014, and will provide a wide-array of rehabilitative, cognitive, and educational services not unlike those provided in the current Day Reporting Center. Funding for this program (\$190k) was achieved through a reduction to the Merced Day Reporting Center contract.

**Jail Pre-Trial Supervision Program:** The Probation and Sheriff's Departments will collaborate on a program intended to reduce the number (70%) of incarcerated individuals pending adjudication. Personnel will utilize a nationally-recognized release assessment to determine which individuals are most likely to await adjudication without reoffending. Individuals in the program will be supervised by the Sheriff's Department and be open to services offered within the Trident Center.

### III. Realignment Data & Outcomes to Date

Total Adult Probation Population	9/30/2011	3/31/2014
PRCS	3507	4483 (+22%)

AB109 Cases (Thru 3/31/14)	Estimated	Actual
PRCS	354	434 (+18%)
1170	(No Count)	438

Local Sentence Data	Merced	Statewide
Jail Only (No Sup or Re-entry)	144	43,488
Split (Jail Followed by Services)	392 (63%)	16,262(37%)

Our rate of "jail only" sentences (no supervision & no services) is lower than State-wide averages.

#### PRCS Data: October 2011 – March 2014

PRCS Offenders released	434
PRCS Warrant- FTA Upon Release	37
PRCS Closure (6-12 months)	92
PRCS Closures (1 year)	28
PRCS closures (18 months +)	26
Current PRCS clients	233
Current PRCS warrants	37

#### PRCS Recidivism (Felony Conviction during Period of Supervision)

Total Closures	146
Total Felony Convictions	25
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>17%</b>

#### IV. Est. AB109 Allocation for 2014/2015

- Community Corrections Sub-account: \$934m will be allocated to counties during 14/15, a decrease of \$65m from 13/14 (-\$65m).
- Community Corrections "Growth" Account: It is estimated that \$160m will be allocated to counties in the fall of 2014, an increase of \$96m from 13/14 (+\$96m).
- Funding Unknowns:
  - District Attorney / Public Defender 13/14: \$118,076
  - Allocation Formula: Still TBD by CSAC and approved by Dept of Finance.

#### V. County In-Kind Expenses 2014/2015

• Deputy Probation Officer (Mental Health Dept) –	\$134,918
• District Attorney & Public Defender (Mental Health Dept) –	\$43,708
• Dual Diagnosis Specialist & Clinician (Mental Health Dept) –	\$216,776
• Personnel & Equipment (Human Services Agency) –	<u>\$36,720</u>
<b>Total –</b>	<b>\$432,122</b>

#### VI. Recommended 2014/2015 Strategies for AB109

1. **Maintain Existing Programs**
2. **Support New Programs (Effective July 1, 2014)**
  - West County Day-Reporting / Re-entry Center
  - Custodial Re-entry & Multi-disciplinary Program
  - Warrant Reduction Advocacy Program
  - Addition of Workforce Investment Agency to Adult Services
  - Commence Jail Pre-trial Supervision Program
3. **Other Requests for Consideration?**

## **Local Community Corrections Partnership**

Scott Ball (Chair), Chief Probation Officer  
Brian McCabe, Presiding Judge, Superior Court  
Thomas Cavallero, Merced County Sheriff  
Vincent Andrade, Interim Public Defender  
Norm Andrade, Chief, Merced Police Department  
Ana Pagan, Director, Human Services Agency  
Larry Morse, Merced County District Attorney  
James Brown, County Executive Officer  
Jerry O'Banion, Chair, Board of Supervisors  
Scott De Moss, Acting Director, MH and Substance Abuse Services  
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Lamar Henderson, Community Based Programs Representative