

**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION**



FULL COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 8, 2026,

5:30 pm

**Meeting held hybrid with public
comment at:**

**City Hall, #1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
Hearing Room 408 San Francisco, CA 94102**

Recording link:

[Juvenile Probation Commission Meeting - April 8, 2026-
20260409 0032-1 - Webex](#)

Full Commission:

Margaret Brodtkin, President
LaVonda Baldwin
Cedric Jackson
Johanna Lacoe
Allison Magee
Elijah Mercer
Manuel Rodriguez

Meeting Minutes

Hybrid meeting. Comments would have to be from the public sitting in the audience or by using the meeting link listed above.

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

1. Margaret Brodtkin, President – Present
2. LaVonda Baldwin – Present
3. Cedric Jackson – Present
4. Johanna Lacoe – Absent
5. Allison Magee – Present
6. Elijah Mercer – Present
7. Manuel Rodriguez – Present

2. Land Acknowledgement Reading

3. Welcome New Commissioners

a. Public Comment

- a. **Queen Vanessa (Community Member):** Welcomed the new commissioners and announced a mental health kickoff event scheduled for May 19th. She extended a specific invitation to Commissioner Jackson to participate, citing his leadership and expertise in the field. She also emphasized the importance of mental health pathways from early childhood education through reentry.

4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

a. No public comment.

5. 2024 & 2025 San Francisco Probation Department Annual Reports(See [presentation](#)):

a. Key Highlights from Presentation

- a. **Comprehensive Overview:** Chief Miller and Senior Research Analyst Ji-Won Choi presented the first comprehensive annual report in several years, coinciding with the **75th anniversary** of the Woodside facility. The report provided a data-driven look at the department's transition toward a health-focused, community-based model.
- b. **Low Referrals vs. High Custody Rates:** The presentation highlighted a significant paradox: while total referrals reached a historic low (a **15% decrease** from 2023 to 2024), the Average Daily Population (ADP) in Juvenile Hall actually rose by **14%**. This was attributed to the increased complexity and seriousness of cases being handled locally following the closure of state-level Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities.
- c. **Length of Stay:** The median length of stay has increased as Juvenile Hall increasingly serves as a local **Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF)** for youth with serious commitments, rather than just a short-term detention center.
- d. **Success and Diversion:** Despite the higher concentration of serious cases, **73% of youth** on community supervision remained arrest-free during the reporting period. The report credited the **Justice Services Care Model** for standardizing the way youth are assessed and connected to community-based organizations (CBOs) within days of their first contact with the system.

b. Commissioner Discussion:

- a. **Racial Equity Analysis:** Extensive discussion occurred regarding the "front end" of the system. Commissioners expressed concern that while the department has reduced its overall footprint, the **disparity gap for Black youth** (who make up 53% of referrals but only 5% of the city's population) remains stagnant.

- b. **Gender-Specific Data:** The Commission requested that future reports provide deeper "intersectional" data, specifically focusing on the unique pathways of **girls in the system**, who often have different trauma profiles and service needs than their male counterparts.
- c. **Systemic Pressure Points:** Discussion addressed how the local court process and attorney schedules impact the length of stay, noting that the Commission must look beyond just "probation actions" to understand why youth are staying in custody longer.

c. **Public Comment:**

- a. **Molly Brown:** Commended the depth of the data provided but urged the department to remain aggressive in addressing racial equity and focusing on diversion.
- b. **Demari:** Provided testimony regarding the human impact of the data, emphasizing the need for the department to ensure that the "success stories" translate to sustainable opportunities for youth after their probation ends.

6. **Letter to the Regarding the Budget for JPD.**

a. **Key Highlights:**

- a. Commissioner Magee presented a draft letter intended for the Mayor's Office as the budget process reaches finalization. The letter advocates for maintaining the department's budget and specific personnel positions.
- b. The Commission discussed revisions to the draft, including moving the formal "ask" to the first paragraph for clarity and including a section emphasizing the essential partnership between the department and Community Based Organizations (CBOs).
- c. It was noted that this represents a new use of the Commission's advocacy role to ensure the department and its nonprofit partners have the resources necessary for a balanced approach to juvenile justice.

b. **Public Comment:**

- a. **Demari:** Noted that current budget deficit projections have improved and suggested that alternative revenue sources and reserves should be utilized to ensure pathways for youth are maintained.
- b. **Hillary Buren:** Supported the inclusion of CBOs and other city departments like the Department of Public Health in the letter, noting that funding cuts to these partners directly impact public safety.

c. **Action:**

- a. Commissioner Magee moved to approve the letter with suggested

edits; Commissioner Rodriguez seconded.

b. Votes: Yes: All present Commissioners.

7. Chief's Report - PowerPoint is [attached](#).

a. Key Highlights:

- a. **Transformation & Grant Updates:** Chief Miller detailed the \$750,000 OJJDP grant proposal for the **Reentry Services Support Initiative (RSSI)**. The initiative is designed to combat violent crime and improve youth outcomes by reducing recidivism among youth transitioning from Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) placements. In collaboration with community providers, the program will offer intensive case management, pre- and post-release reentry plans, and positive youth development strategies.
- b. **Workforce & Operations:** The department swore in several new Deputy Probation Officers. Everett Burns (Juvenile Justice Center) was recognized as the February Employee of the Month, and Carlos Michel (Building & Grounds) was recognized for March.
- c. **Professional Development:** Information was shared regarding a recent Departmental Professional Development Day which focused on an Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Initiative, utilizing SFGov TV to document and share these advancements.
- d. **Budget Status:** Leadership is in ongoing talks with the Mayor's Budget Office (MBO). While the city is navigating deficits, current personnel costs are the primary focus, and no JPD layoffs have been announced at this time.

b. Commissioner Discussion:

- a. The Commission focused on the "inflection point" of staffing, noting that filling counselor and officer vacancies is the most effective way to reduce the fiscal strain caused by mandatory overtime.
- b. Discussion occurred regarding the long-term sustainability of the RSSI program, with commissioners emphasizing that successful grant-funded models should eventually be integrated into the core departmental budget.

c. No Public Comment.

8. President's Report

a. Retreat Summary:

- a. President Brodtkin reported on the March 27 retreat, noting it was a productive session for strategic goal-setting.
- b. The report highlighted a commitment to maximizing community engagement and increasing the transparency of the Commission's work.

b. Vice President Nomination Process:

- a. President Brodtkin initiated the process for selecting a new Vice President. She requested that any commissioners interested in serving in the role notify the Commission Secretary.

c. No public comment.

9. Consent Calendar:

- a. Submit a request to amend the agreement with Sharp Circle for Reentry Support Services (Amendment 2) to update its Appendix B (Grant Plan) and adds a new Appendix K (Nonprofit Contract Monitoring Requirements) by revising its performance measures, reporting requirements, program monitoring practices, and ongoing engagement expectations.
- b. Submit a request to amend the agreement with Sunset Youth Services for Reentry Support Services (Amendment 1) to update its Appendix B (Grant Plan) and adds a new Appendix K (Nonprofit Contract Monitoring Requirements) by revising its performance measures, reporting requirements, program monitoring practices, and ongoing engagement expectations.
 - a. No public comment.
 - b. Commissioner Magee moved. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion.
 - c. Votes: Yes – all present Commissioners.

10. Community Meeting Planning

- a. Youth Empowerment Model: The Commission engaged in an extensive discussion regarding the structure of upcoming community meetings. President Brodtkin and Commissioner Rodriguez introduced the concept of a "Youth Takeover" model. This approach would allow young people to drive the agenda, propose priorities, and lead the discussion, shifting the Commission into a listening and support role.
 - a. Chief Miller and other commissioners emphasized that for the model to be effective, the agenda items must be "actionable." The Commission committed to ensuring that youth are not just heard, but are speaking to specific policies or departmental actions that the Commission has the authority to influence.
- b. Ad Hoc Committee Establishment: To manage the logistics, curriculum development, and youth training required for such an event, the Commission moved to establish a dedicated planning body.
- c. **Action:** Commissioner Rodriguez moved to establish an Ad Hoc Committee for Community Meeting Planning; Commissioner Jackson seconded.
 - a. Vote: Yes – all present Commissioners.
- d. Appointment: Commissioner Rodriguez was appointed Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee. Commissioner Jackson also joined the committee.
- e. **Public Comment:**
 - a. Dinky Enty (Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice / JJPA): Expressed strong support for the collaboration, noting that the JJPA would welcome the opportunity to support the event. She emphasized the need for thoughtful scheduling to ensure the timing makes sense for both the youth and the community.
 - b. Rachel Jones (Coleman Advocates): Enthusiastically supported the "youth takeover" idea. She highlighted her organization's

decades of experience in youth training and offered their support in preparing young people to lead the session effectively.

11. Future Agenda Item:

- a. **Use of Restraints:** President Brodtkin recommended a future discussion regarding safety protocols and the use of restraints for young people leaving the facility.
- b. **Retreat Implementation & Timeline:** Commissioner Rodriguez requested a formal discussion on a timeline and implementation plan for the items discussed at the March retreat, emphasizing the move from talk to action. President Brodtkin referred this topic to the Governance Committee to develop a game plan based on the Controller's recommendations.
- c. **Youth Engagement Follow-Up:** Commissioner Jackson raised a point of information regarding a long-term follow-up strategy for youth participating in empowerment events. He suggested partnering with CBOs for internships or vocational skill-building so that these experiences are treated as a continuous process rather than a one-time event.
- d. Public Comment:
 - a. **Hilary Buren:** Requested a follow-up on the New Zealand trip regarding restorative justice and cross-county collaboration.

12. Review and Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2026:

- a. Agenda item moved to next meeting.
- b. No public comments.

13. Adjournment:

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.