

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Chief Steve Jackson
San Joaquin County

President Elect

Chief Esa Ehmen-Krause
Contra Costa County

Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Izen Locatelli
Mendocino County

Legislative Chair

Chief Kirk Haynes
Fresno County

Past Presidents

Chief Mark J. Bonini
Amador County

Chief Brian Richart
El Dorado County

Chief John Keene
San Mateo County

Chief Jennifer Branning
Lassen County

Chief Kelly Vernon
Tulare County

Bay Region Chair

Chief Katherine Miller
San Francisco - J County

Central Region Chair

Chief Robert Reyes
San Luis Obispo County

North Region Chair

Chief Tracie Neal
Shasta County

Sacramento Region Chair

Chief Jeff Goldman
Nevada County

South Region Chair

Chief Daniel Hernandez
Orange County

Executive Director

Karen A. Pank

Deputy Director

Rosemary Lamb McCool



CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
OF CALIFORNIA

March 11, 2025

The Honorable Mike McGuire
President Pro Tempore
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8330
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Criminal indictments of 30 probation officers within the Los Angeles County Probation Department

Dear Pro Tem McGuire and Speaker Rivas,

As probation chiefs representing every county in California, we write regarding the criminal indictments involving 30 probation officers within the Los Angeles County Probation Department, specifically at Campus Kilpatrick and Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. These alleged actions are unacceptable and deeply troubling. If proven through judicial proceedings, they demand accountability from those who have betrayed the fundamental values and training of our profession, as well as the trust placed in all of us as caretakers of youth. Such misconduct undermines the integrity of our field and does not reflect the mission, standards, training, and dedication upheld by probation staff, officers and departments across the state.

The work of probation is built on a foundation of accountability, rehabilitation, and community safety and our workforce is dedicated to implementing evidence-based practices, trauma-informed care, and individualized interventions that keep youth at the center of our work.

As stated by the current Los Angeles County Probation Chief both before and after the indictments were filed, the incidents under review do not reflect the dedication of probation professionals who dedicate their careers to creating positive outcomes for justice-involved youth. Our

2150 River Plaza, Suite 310
Sacramento, CA 95833

T 916.447.2762

www.cpoc.org

organization has previously condemned such actions, and we reaffirm that any behavior that betrays our professional training and the trust placed in us must be addressed with swift and appropriate accountability.

The Probation profession has consistently adapted to new challenges, embraced reform, and implemented research-based policies to improve outcomes for youth in the justice system. Supervision of youth placed by the court in probation's care requires and deserves a highly skilled, trained, and supported workforce. Across California, probation departments take an individualized approach to rehabilitation, identifying the unique needs of each youth and prioritizing community-based placements whenever possible and safe to do so. This system functions effectively because of the careful checks and balances between the courts, county boards, and community stakeholders who work collaboratively to ensure probation departments fulfill their mission.

We stand with the thousands of dedicated probation professionals throughout the state who uphold the mission of probation every day—providing supervision, support, and rehabilitation services that prioritize the well-being of the youth in our care. As we see in juvenile facilities throughout the state, despite the challenges and complexities of working with our state's most high-need and high-risk youth, this work demands only the highest standards of training and ethics to successfully carry out the mission.

We remain committed to policies that support a well-trained, well-resourced probation system that can continue its critical role in the justice system. We appreciate your commitment to accountability and believe any officer who fails to uphold their duty to maintain a safe, rehabilitative environment for youth must face appropriate consequences.

Sincerely,



Chief Steve Jackson
President
Chief Probation Officer of California

cc: Governor Gavin Newsom
Attorney General Rob Bonta
All Members of California State Senate
All Members of California Assembly