



# County of San Diego

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Dr. Kathleen Edwards  
Juvenile Justice Commission Chair  
2901 Meadow Lark Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123

## **Response to 2015 JJC Juvenile Facility Inspection – Juvenile Ranch Facility**

Dr. Edwards,

The Probation Department/Juvenile Ranch Facility is in receipt of the 2015 Inspection Report by the Juvenile Justice Commission. As part of the 2015 Juvenile Justice Commission Report, the Commission made the following recommendations. Effective August 7, 2015, the Juvenile Ranch Facility will be closed and the youth, staff, and programming will be consolidated to the Camp Barrett Facility. Below are the recommendations and responses from the Probation Department.

### **1. RECOMMENDATION:**

The Behavioral component so evident at JRF be moved in entirety to the Camp Barrett program. This includes Dr. Nelson, and the entire Drug/Alcohol treatment team as well as the programming associated with both.

### **RESPONSE:**

The Probation Department agrees with this recommendation. All programming will be relocated to the Camp Barrett facility. Dr. Nelson will be relocated to Camp Barrett and work closely with Dr. Richardson in maintaining consistent programming.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION:**

In the transition, it will be important to maintain some continuity for the wards assigned to the JRF program, therefore, it is important to maintain the same staffing for the period of

transition. This includes not only the Probation staff, but also the school staff, who have built a rapport with the youth.

RESPONSE:

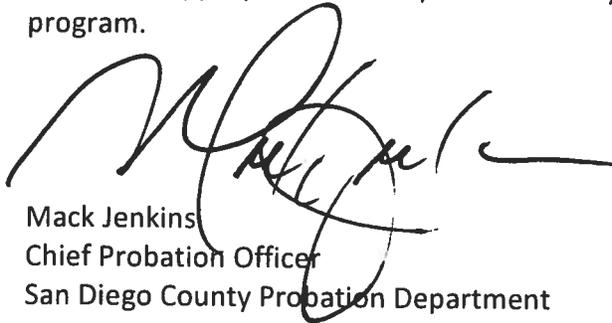
The Probation Department agrees with this recommendation. As part of the planning for consolidation, Division Chief Chrystal Sweet ensured that continuity of operations was addressed. This included working with all stakeholders, including SDCOE, to provide for a seamless transition.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

Revisit the Transition program to determine if all wards need to attend Youth Day Center upon release.

RESPONSE:

The Probation Department agrees with this recommendation in part. There is already a process in which all wards at JRF are reviewed to determine appropriateness for the Youth Day Center as well as other aftercare programs following their release. There is not a need to revisit the "transition program" as the current model works well. The Breaking Cycles Assessment Team review each youth once they are committed to Breaking Cycles. The review committee consists of mental health staff, substance abuse staff, probation, and the parent/guardian when available. To determine if a youth is appropriate for the Youth Day Center, the assessment team reviews factors such as the youth's prior school attendance and performance, mental health issues, and gang ties. If the team and parent/guardian agree that placement at the Youth Day Center is appropriate subsequent to the youth's release, then the youth will attend the program.



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