

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2008 MAY 29 PM 4:43

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Police Department
DATE: June 10, 2008

RE: Action On A Report On The Police Department's Juvenile Desk Including But Not Limited To Updates On 1) Staffing Levels And Cooperation With Social Service Agencies On Referring Juvenile Offenders To Measure Y And Other Intervention Services, And Following Through The Juvenile Justice System; And 2) Opportunities For Youth Ventures To Coordinate Follow-Up Services And Tracing Outcomes For Individual Juveniles With Agencies Including The Alameda County Probation Department, District Attorneys Office, Measure Y Programs, And Oakland Unified School District

SUMMARY

As directed by the Public Safety Committee on September 25, 2007, staff has prepared this follow-up report on the Department's Juvenile Desk. This report contains information on staffing levels, and cooperation with social service agencies on referring juvenile offenders to Measure Y and other intervention services as well as how juveniles are processed through the justice system, opportunities for Youth Ventures to coordinate follow-up services, and tracing outcomes for individual juveniles with other agencies including Alameda County Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Measure Y service providers, and Oakland Unified School District.

FISCAL IMPACTS

This is an informational report with no fiscal impacts included.

BACKGROUND

In April of 2007, the Oakland Police Department re-established the Juvenile Intake Desk of the Youth & Family Services Division (Y&FSD). The mission for the Juvenile Intake Desk is to properly and effectively connect youth offenders with services that will prevent recidivism and ideally, stop the cycle of violence. By connecting these youth with proven community based service providers, we hope to achieve the goal of guiding them in the right direction to become productive members of society.

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KEY ISSUES

The Intake Desk is staffed on a 24-hour basis to provide essential services to all components of the Oakland Police Department. The current staffing levels of the Intake Desk are as follows:

Table 1: Intake Desk Staffing

Classification	Authorized Number	Actual Number	Vacancies (+/-)
Sergeant of Police	1	.5*	.5
Police Officer	5	5	0
Police Services Technician	4	0	4

* A full-time sergeant was authorized for this position; however, at present, one of the two CLASS sergeants is supervising this unit on a part-time basis.

In January of 2008, the Youth & Family Services Division of the Oakland Police Department implemented a stand alone Access database to track juvenile information. The previous database system was cumbersome and did not allow supervisor/commanders the ability to query report information in a timely manner. Juvenile information has been historically obtained from in-custody arrests, missing persons/runaways, dependants (300 Welfare and Institution Code) and status offenders (601 Welfare and Institution Code). The new database allows Intake personnel to garner the same information but also enter truancy and juvenile referral information.

The introduction of the Juvenile Intake Desk in April of 2007 has increased the number of juveniles referred to community based service providers. The tracking of information specific to community based service providers began in January of 2008 with the implementation of the new intake database (Table 2).

Table 2: Juvenile Referrals

Community Based Service Providers	Juvenile Referrals
Malibar House	27
McCullum Youth Court	54
Project First	48
MISSEY*	75

*Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting, Serving, Sexually, Exploited, Youth

In 2008, Intake personnel were tasked with entering truancy information from Truancy Contact Cards generated by officers in the field. In the past truant information was not tracked using a computer database therefore no analysis could be conducted. Intake personnel are now entering data from 2006, 2007, and 2008 Truancy Contact Cards in an effort to provide a greater historical perspective. To date over 1100 truancy related entries have been entered into the system. The tracking of truancy information will enable staff to select specific individuals for community based referrals, enable area commanders to deploy resources more effectively, and

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enable criminal investigators to determine if increased truancy in a specific area relates to crime trends.

The Youth & Family Services Division is using the Intake Desk as a mechanism to partner with various community based service providers to assist with youth related matters. Y&FSD personnel are actively engaged with many community partners on coordinated activities and programs such as:

- Y&FSD personnel meet regularly with McCullum Youth Court representatives to maintain a solid working relationship and ensure the lines of communication are kept open.
- The Commander of the Field Services Section (which includes the CLASS Unit and Intake Desk) presented a report on February 13, 2008 to the Alameda County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission on the status and workings of Oakland's Juvenile Intake Desk.
- Supervisory and command personnel of Y&FSD attend the Juvenile Officer's Coordinating Counsel (JOCC) on a quarterly basis in an effort to provide collaborative problem solving and policy review for agencies involved in the juvenile justice system.
- Supervisory and command personnel of Y&FSD meet regularly with Safe Passages in a collaborative effort to ensure the City's mandate for juvenile intervention.
- The Commander of the Field Services Section meets regularly with Oakland Unified School District personnel to discuss juvenile related matters, including but not limited to: Truancy Coordination, Referral Resources, School Safety and Juvenile Crime.
- Y&FSD personnel attend Oakland Truancy Attendance Program meetings to assist stakeholders in their goal of helping children who are not regularly attending school. Truancy is a powerful predictor of juvenile delinquency.

Juvenile Follow-up

The ability to coordinate follow-up and tracing opportunities for individual juveniles has been hampered by the Oakland Police Department's current records management system. The system, in its current configuration, does not efficiently provide the ability for supervisors to share data with other agencies and / or stakeholders. For this reason, the Intake Desk created its own internal "stand alone" Access database to capture, track and report juvenile activity. This new system is user friendly and easily accessible in order to create reports on the status and effectiveness of the Department's collaborative efforts with Service Providers, namely Measure Y funded providers. At present, Measure Y providers report back to the Department on referrals under two dispositions: Success or Failure. If a child successfully participates in the service provider program, the Provider notifies the Department via email of the child's success. This info is updated in the Department's database and no further action is warranted by the Department. If

the child fails to participate, i.e., fails, then the Intake staff will complete a formal referral to the Probation Department on the case.

It should also be noted that status reports (from community based service providers) on individual juvenile referrals are protected under the “client/provider” clause; thus the Department can only be notified on the status of the case.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Juvenile Intake Desk serves a range of functions for the Oakland Police Department, which include:

- Juvenile Assessment and Screening of all three disposition classes, e.g., dependants (300 Welfare & Institution Code), status offenders (601 Welfare & Institution Code) and criminal offenders (602 Welfare & Institution Code). This function includes direct referrals to City and County youth programs and or mental health services for 601 and some 602 youths;
- A Centralized Intelligence Center for all juvenile-related matters, including but not limited to: Juvenile Records, Missing Persons Cases, Registered Sex Offender Information, Domestic Violence Referrals, Temporary Restraining Order information, Truancy Coordination, Juvenile Offender Referrals, Sexually Exploited Minors Assessment, and Elder Abuse Referrals;
- Historical and report processing for all juvenile matters including, but not limited to, monthly reports to the State on juvenile custody issues, periodic reports (upon request) to the County-Juvenile Courts, audits of the Departmental compliance on juvenile detentions, NCPC reports on the “state” of juvenile issues in the City of Oakland and the Oakland Police Department Year End Report.

Y&FSD personnel are responsible for engaging/maintaining partnerships with community based resource providers, and will continue to collaborate with Department staff to ensure referral resources are routinely made available to juveniles.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Sustained efforts to reduce the number of violent crimes associated with juveniles in Oakland will have significant impact on the quality of life for residents, thereby stimulating economic growth for the City.

Environmental: There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

Social Equity: The Department’s efforts to achieve the goal of “getting these kids back on the right track and make them productive members of society” will improve public safety and the welfare of our children, making the City safer.

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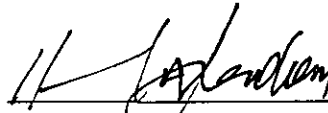
DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues contained in this report.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL

This is an informational report; therefore no action is requested of the Council.

Respectfully submitted,


FOR Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

Prepared by:
Lieutenant Kirt M. Mullnix
CLASS Section
Bureau of Investigation

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Administrator

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