

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

Please respond to the sections that apply to the facility you are inspecting

Facility Name: Sonoma County Probation Camp

Inspection Date: 12/19/2014

Facility Capacity: 25

Last Inspection: 1/6/2014

Address: 7400 Steve Olson Lane  
Forestville, CA 95436

Telephone Number: 707-565-8900

FAX Number: 707-565-8903

Superintendent: Vanessa Fuchs

Staff Interviewed: Giovanni Barbieri  
Vanessa Fuchs

Type of Facility:  Juvenile Hall  Camp  Co-Ed?

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Virginia Marcoida and Allen Hardcastle

Commission Chair: Mary Cone

Telephone No. 707-565-8164

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Commission Inspection Team: Manuel G. Lopez

Richard Miller

James Weathers

Major Concerns and Recommendations:

No major concerns. There is a project in progress that shouldn't disrupt the daily camp operations but that may prove to be costly.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPLS INSPECTION REPORT

### AREA REVIEWED: Please Check

QUALITY OF LIFE	PROGRAMS	PERSONS INTERVIEWED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Plant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meals/Nutrition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical/Dental Health <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Services <input type="checkbox"/> Volunter Involvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visiting <input type="checkbox"/> Volunter Involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vocation/Employability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victim/Gang Awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Superintendent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical/Psyche. Staff <input type="checkbox"/> School Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Supervision Staff <div style="text-align: right;">(Counselors)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Services Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Other

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Has the facility exceeded capacity since the last inspection?**

No. Currently the number of youth is 14+6. Capacity is 24.

**Does the facility house minors under Section 601 of the Welfare & Institutions Code?**

Yes  No

**If "yes", are 601's separated from 602's?**

Not applicable. Only 602's at camp

**Date of Last Fire Drill:** 12/24/2014

**SINCE THE LAST INSPECTION INDICATE:**

**Number of Suicides:** 0

**Number of Attempted Suicides:** 0

**Number of Deaths From Other Causes:** 0

**Number of Escapes:** 13

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## SLEEPING ROOMS (Cells)

### Comments:

Two dormitories. Beds were neatly made. Dorm area was clean, organized, and uncluttered. Bedding is changed weekly. Beds in the dorms are visible to staff without any obstructions.

## LOCAL INSPECTIONS

**Fire:**  No  Yes **Date:** 11/18/2014  
(Health & Safety Code Section 13146.1)

**\*Medical/Mental Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 11/26/2014

**\*Environmental Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 3/4/2014

**\*Nutritional Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 9/19/2014  
(Health & Safety Code Section 101045)

### Facility Safety and Security:

## STAFFING

### Staff To Child Ratio - Awake and Sleeping:

1:12 When awake and 1:12 When sleeping

### Communication In Language Minor Can Understand?

Bilingual staff is available.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### STAFFING (Continued)

#### Diversity of Staff:

Very diverse.

#### Staff/Minor Interactions:

Interactions are caring and supportive. Always looking to improve and add services that can be beneficial to the youth. Staff is also trying to get parenting classes up and running. Staff has introduced more programs for the youth such as art classes which started on April 2013. Youth also go on wilderness trips and depending on what time of year and duration of youth at camp some youth may go on up to three trips. As has been tradition, youth also participate in vocational competitions at the Sonoma/Marin Fair as well as the Sonoma County Fair. Staff give the youth the tools to succeed and are very much willing to work with the youth as needed.

#### Staff Interviews - Comments:

Good rapport between minors and staff according to staff reports as well as youth interviewed. Those youth that have broken the rules and received negative consequences will obviously not be too thrilled with staff as was vocalized to me by one of three youth that were interviewed. Youth speak very highly of staff and most youth rave about the food and would like to learn how to cook so they can do it for a living. Again there were some youth that said they didn't think the food was "all that great" but couldn't tell me what needed to improve. I advised them to speak with Jose and try to get him to make them assistants to him and that way they could make suggestions as well as learn to make delicious meals. The youth like learning the art of cooking and baking.

### CONDITIONS OF GROUNDS

#### Lawns, Playing Fields, Blacktop, Asphalt, Other:

Buildings were well maintained. Grounds were well-kept. The outside of the buildings is paved with asphalt, which includes the basketball play area that has two basketball hoops. There is a baseball field which is located in the lower area of the campgrounds. Youth are on occasion taken to a local area that has a regular baseball diamond. There is also a garden area with raised beds where vegetables are grown to supplement what the kitchen has to offer.

### EXTERIOR OF BUILDING

#### General Condition, Paint, Roof, Drains/Gutters, Other:

The condition of the outside of the buildings is very clean and orderly. It appears the buildings are regularly painted and well maintained. The roof seems to be in very good shape with adequate drainage and gutters in good working order. It is evident that Probation Camp staff take pride in assuring that their facilities are kept up to the highest standards.

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### INTERIOR OF BUILDING

#### Walls, Paint, Floors, Drains, Plumbing Fixtures Working, Air Vents, Windows:

Everything in good shape. Camp obtained a large industrial washing machine and dryer last year and it is in good working order. The shower area has been modified since the last inspection from being completely open to now having stalls for more privacy. (Residents shower in groups). The walls, paint and floors all look in very good shape and clean. No plumbing problems and air vents and windows in good shape.

#### Are cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

Locked and in the storage closet.

#### Weapons Locker Location:

No weapons; staff has pepper spray and handcuffs. No change from last inspection.

#### Recreation/Sports Equipment:

All sports equipment stored in controlled area. This is not usually a problem. Youth are sometimes taken to play baseball to a local baseball field. There is plenty of recreation time.

#### Are the hallways clear and doors propped open?

Yes. There are no obstructions that could possibly pose a hazard. There is no change since the last inspection.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

### Court Holding Area - (If present) Access to drinking water and toilet?

Not applicable

### Sleeping Rooms/Dormitories:

Two dormitories/12 beds per dorm  
Clean and tidy conditions and well organized and uncluttered. The dorms are very clean and tidy.

### BEDS - Type? 12" off the floor:

Beds are metal cots with 5-inch mattresses. At least 12 inches off the floor and floor seems to be pretty clean and uncluttered.

### Art, books, personal possessions allowed in sleeping rooms?

Minors have one foot locker which holds approved personal possessions. Too many personal possessions if left uncontrolled could pose a fire hazard or lead to rodents.

### Graffiti Present?

Graffiti is well controlled. None visible.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

### Ample Blankets?

One blanket on bed and one extra one. There is no real need for more blankets than those provided due to well controlled temperature by staff.

### Study Area:

Minors are able to study on their cots, on benches outside, in the library and in the study area. Residents also have access to three computers that have Word software for their homework assignments as well as other creative writing purposes but have no internet access.

### Adequate Lighting:

Yes. There is ample lighting.

### Temperature:

Never below 68 degrees. Very comfortable temperature and not stuffy.

## ORIENTATION OF MINORS

### Are minors oriented to rules and procedures?

Minors are oriented by caseworkers. They are given a rule book (available also in Spanish). They are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content through a written test as their first program step. No change since last inspection.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## ORIENTATION OF MINORS (Continued)

### Are rules and grievance procedures posted?

Yes. Posted and understood. Residents feel that most staff is approachable if issues need to be discussed to "clear the air" if there was rude behavior or conflict between staff and residents. These types of incidents are few and far between. There was currently one resident that felt he had been treated unfairly by staff. When asked what the circumstances were, I found there to be no unfairness in this case but rather the youth would not accept responsibility for breaking the rules and he was having trouble accepting the negative consequences that came with that type of violation even though they were the same for everyone. Before I left camp I felt confident that the youth in question had accepted responsibility.

### Are rules and grievance procedures understood by minors?

The grievance procedures are understood by residents and the grievance procedures are posted. Additionally, the number to the Juvenile Justice Commission's hotline is also posted for further assistance if needed.

### Minors Interviewed - Comments:

Three youth were interviewed. #1 was not thrilled with the food but couldn't say what was wrong with it nor were there any suggestions on how to improve the food. The youth also doesn't think camp is appropriate for him but couldn't provide an alternative better suited for him. #2 has been at camp for a long time and has learned a lot of trades, enough to hold down a job. #3 was angry due to the negative consequences that he received as a result of his rule violation. He also thought that camp was not a good fit for him even though he's learned a lot. All three youth need to mature a lot more, some more than others. What has always been nice about camp inspections is that the youth are always so polite and willing to show us their accomplishments.

## MEALS/NUTRITION

### Kitchen - Clean; Are Knives and Chemicals Locked?

Staff lock knives when not in use and they are never left unattended. Minors are part of meal preparation and closely monitored by staff. Chemicals are locked in a secure room.

### Have the youths working in the kitchen been trained?

Yes. They are trained the chef. They receive orientation and rules before starting. Working in the kitchen is part of a 15-day house assignment duties rotational schedule. Sanitation practices are by all kitchen workers are a must. Kitchen workers, including residents must attend a safety meeting before starting to work every day.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## MEALS/NUTRITION (Continued)

### Are meals served or cafeteria style?

Nutritious meals are served and include a salad bar. Fruit at every meal is also available. Youth are also trained to prepare meals under the direction of the cook.

### Are minors permitted to converse during meals?

Yes, but only to others at their table. There is to be no loud talking from one table to the next, etc.

### Are staff present and supervising?

Yes always. There has to be constant visual supervision.

### Is a weekly menu prepared? Is it posted?

Yes. Menus are posted and all meals are prepared in the camp's commercial kitchen. Accommodations are made for those residents on special diets. A well stocked salad bar for the evening meal is also available. Ample amounts of fruit is available on the kitchen counter for residents to eat during transition time between vocational training and school sessions. An ample supply of food was available in the pantry and refrigerators.

### Are servings ample, nutritious and appetizing?

The chef provides nutritious and diverse meals. Snacks are served mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Fruit is available at all times.

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## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### MEALS/NUTRITION (Continued)

#### Are weaker youths protected from having food taken from them?

Staff supervise mealtimes and ensure that weaker youth are not taken advantage of or have their food taken by other bigger, stronger minors or bullies.

#### Length of time allowed to eat:

Minors are afforded at least 30 minutes per meal with 45 minutes for dinner. The allotted meal times are appropriate and sufficient.

### PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF MINORS

#### Appearance?

Clean, appropriately dressed. Clothing is based on "step level." Camp attire consists of jeans and a short-sleeved tan shirt. Clothing worn by residents is clean and absent of stains and grime. All the residents that we saw were well groomed and clean shaven as is protocol.

#### SHOWERS - Frequency, Privacy Maintained, Supervised by Staff? Any assault by other youths?

No more than four minors are allowed in the shower at a time which is supervised by staff. There is a half-wall for privacy. No assaults. Still some youth would rather be at home with a completely private shower. Since last inspection there have been shower stalls installed for more privacy among the residents.

#### CONDITION OF CLOTHING - Does clothing fit? Clothing appropriate to the weather?

Clothing fits and is appropriate for weather conditions. Clothing is clean and absent of stains or grime. Shirts are tucked in and the residents look sharp.

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## PROGRAMS

### RECREATION - Types and amount each day:

There are at least two hours of recreation per day, including after school and at lunch time. Basketball, baseball, soccer, running, ping pong and calisthenics. The youth look forward to recreation times.

### EXERCISE - Daily schedule and amount of time each day:

There is structured physical education from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. each day. There is extended recreational time on Fridays.

### Access to religious services:

Religious services are provided by volunteer spiritual advisors on Sundays. Those youth that are entitled to go on furlough can also go on their own with their families if they choose to do so.

### Medical/Mental Health Services:

There is a nurse one day a week. This is augmented by a nurse practitioner. Minors are transported to doctor appointments by parents or, in an emergency, by staff. Mental health services are regularly provided by a therapist. Dental services are, if needed, done by the JJC dentist. If dental surgeries are needed then an outside dental surgeon will perform the surgery.

### Volunteer Program:

David Ramsey continued to be the volunteer gardener after his retirement up until June. Hopefully the camp will have a gardener soon. There are two-to-three spiritual advisors available weekly. Tutors assist students during instructional time. There is a "Friendly Visitors" component established for visiting days.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### PROGRAMS (Continued)

#### Counseling and Casework:

Each minor is assigned a caseworker who works closely with him. The caseload is approximately five minors. Minors receive regular counseling from their caseworker in addition to the availability of two therapists (one is bilingual).

#### Family Reunification Planning:

The goal of the entire Camp Program is family reunification and is the purpose of the furloughs. For those minors who are lucky enough to be in camp, being away from home has made them appreciate their homes and family life in addition to learning vocational skills.

#### Substance Abuse Counseling:

Provided through alcohol and other drug services (AOPS). There are weekly meetings which alternate between AA & NA meetings. Staff take up to three youth to community-based NA meetings once a week.

#### Victim Awareness Classes:

Victim awareness is a big focus of the everyday program at Camp. Each year a four-hour gun violence program is presented with two hours from the District Attorney's Office and two hours from a nurse from the ER at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Each resident must write a victim impact essay. Victim restitution is completed while at Camp.

#### Gang Awareness Classes:

Yes.

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### PROGRAMS (Continued)

#### Sexual Harassment Classes:

There are no formal classes, but harassment is dealt with both in the educational and Camp Program setting. There is a Sexual Harassment Prevention policy in place and strictly enforced.

#### Parenting Classes:

Weekly classes are offered. The wives or girlfriends of the residents are very supportive of this program.

#### Vocational Classes:

Woodworking, welding, electrical, forklift operation and gardening are offered and each minor participates. They learn to make picnic tables, benches, planters, display cases, fire rings, bear-proof food storage containers and other products sold to State and County Parks. Minors also learn the basics of cooking and kitchen operations as well as vegetable and ornamental plant gardening. For those minors who want to learn a trade, this is the perfect setting if they take advantage of it.

#### Community Service:

Minors participate in catering jobs in the community with the chef as well as with the new development of a catering program where minors have day training with the opportunity to learn restaurant etiquette, hospitality, protocol, etc., and are offered jobs at restaurants owned by the facilitator of the restaurant's program. Camp now has weekend work crews same as were provided by the Probation Dept.

#### Work Program:

As part of after care, minors are assisted in seeking jobs or volunteering. They are guided in job obtainment skills and job placement that includes collaboration with the Sonoma County Job Link and California Youth Outreach. No changes since last inspection other than the weekend work crews that are now provided through the Probation Camp. Good work experience.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## PROGRAMS (Continued)

### Other:

There are a number of adjunct programs that support minors in becoming self-reflective individuals and responsible citizens. There are regular interactive journaling classes which are offered by Camp staff and also earn them high school elective credits. Other programs offered include Aggression Replacement Training (ART), parenting classes, "My Strength" (sexual harassment) -- two times a year/ten weeks each -- and one-day sex education class once a year by the Southwest Health Clinic.

## DISCIPLINE OF MINORS

### Frequency and Type:

Most discipline involves taking points away or talking to a minor. Rules and consequences are well known. As a last resort, a minor may be returned to Juvenile Hall. There are also group consequences such as time outs and freezes (lockdowns) as well as time out on bed or structured activities or Institutional days.

## GRIEVANCES

### Number and Type:

Grievances average about five to six per week. They usually involve petty disputes and are resolved before they escalate. No change since last inspection. Very few grievances, especially with low resident numbers.

## TELEPHONE

### Access:

The phone is restricted and supervised by staff. Minors may receive calls with the permission of the caseworker. The Juvenile Justice Commission phone number is posted.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## CORRESPONDENCE

### Postage Free:

Two letters per week are allowed postage free which is helpful for indigent minors who have no money.

### INCOMING/OUTGOING - Is mail read?

Mail is scanned for any inappropriate written content or other contraband per camp protocol.

### Confidential Correspondence:

Minors are allowed confidential correspondence with their lawyers.

## VISITING

### Adequate space, convenient times or accommodations to parent work schedule, etc. special visits:

Visiting is one hour on Wednesday evenings and one and one-half hours on Saturdays and Sundays. No one aged 13-21 is allowed to visit except for family counseling. Minors who were interviewed welcome family visitors even though they used to not get along before coming to Camp. They learn to appreciate family.

### Do staff supervise visits?

Yes. That is protocol.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## VISITING

### Adequate privacy during visits?

Yes. Adequate privacy without jeopardizing the safety and security of the camp and its residents.

### Have all minors had visits? If no, give reasons:

No. Transportation problems exist for some families. As a result, the development of the "Friendly Visitor Program" for those whose families cannot visit was created.

## SCHOOL

### TEACHERS - Number of full-time; frequency of substitutes:

One teacher, rarely substitutes.

### Number of minors attending school:

All minors attend school until they have passed their GED or received their diploma.

### Number of minors in each classroom:

No more than 14 students. Minors are divided into morning and afternoon sessions. The other half of their day is in a vocational skills setting.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### SCHOOL (Continued)

#### Number of minors on independent study:

No one is on independent study. When minors complete the high school diploma/GED program, they work full-time in the vocational skills program.

#### Atmosphere of Classroom:

Although students were not observed in this setting during this visit, prior visits indicate there is an atmosphere of real learning and mutual respect thanks to the dedicated staff at camp. The classroom has been rearranged and there seems to be more room in the classroom now.

#### Adequate Supplies? Books, paper, computers, etc.

Yes. Camp residents are fortunate to have an ample supply of school supplies including three computers.

#### Activities and Coursework:

Standard high school required courses with many special activities. With one teacher, students are often working on specific courses toward graduation or the GED individually but he provides direct, whole instruction that includes algebra, hands-on lab science and current events on a weekly basis as well. There is currently a tougher version of the GED Testing. The first group of camp residents took the test. If a student fails any portion of the test they don't have to retake the whole test. Instead they just retake the portion that they failed.

#### Are minors required to do homework?

Minors are not required to do homework unless directed to do so by their caseworker. It is however in their best interest to ask for homework so the minors can form study groups if they want to catch up.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## SCHOOL (Continued)

### Number of minors not attending. Reason?

All minors attend unless they have their GED or diploma. Post GED or graduation academic endeavors include full-time vocational education activities at the Camp, attending Santa Rosa Junior College and/or continuing in the classroom as a tutor or teaching assistant.

### Relationship between school and juvenile hall staff:

Good to excellent according to the residents that were interviewed.

### Describe access to school, recreation, exercise and recreation for minors confined to their rooms:

Not applicable

## ACCESS TO MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Nurse visits once a week. If medical attention is needed, they are transported to a doctor by a parent. In emergencies, staff will transport the minor. There are two mental health professionals available (one is bilingual). They can also be transported by parents to therapy sessions off campus.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## Distribution of Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Reports

### Corrections Standards Authority Recommendation

The Corrections Standards Authority recommends commissions prepare and submit an inspection report for each juvenile hall and camp inspected by the commission. We suggest that copies of inspection reports be distributed to the Chief Probation Officer and other pertinent county agencies as directed by the court.

Please submit your annual report to the court and mail a copy to:

**ROBERT TAKESHTA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (A)  
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