

**SPECIFIC FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS****JUSTICE SYSTEM****PROBATION DEPARTMENT****RECOMMENDATION:**

***Establish a time-phased plan to employ a sufficient number of officers for the Adult Probation Department to effectively contact and supervise released felons to ensure community safety and enforce court orders. Provide more supervision to reinforce positive behavior, reform probationers' lives, and help them become law abiding citizens.***

**RESPONSE:**

The Probation Department provides services to adults and juveniles assigned probation by the Court. In response to State budget reductions, the focus of the department for several years has been on the continuation and enhancement of services to juveniles. Although the Board realizes the need for services to both adult and juvenile populations, the investment in the County's juvenile population is expected to produce cost savings in out-years by reducing the number of juveniles who continue criminal activity and therefore, do not become part of the adult criminal justice system.

To ensure resources are maximized, the Chief Probation Officer is currently reviewing adult probation services to assess the need for additional services which can be accomplished through means which are innovative and cost effective.