



Banning Police Department
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September 4, 2014

**Subject: 2013-2014 Grand Jury Report:
Impact of AB 109 upon Riverside County Municipal Police Agencies**

Mark A. Cope, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Riverside
4050 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

**Via Regular Mail &
Fax to: (951) 955-8990**
Riverside County Grand Jury
Post Office Box 829
County Mail Stop: 1630
Riverside, CA 92502

Riverside County Clerk-Recorder
2720 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507

On behalf of the Banning Police Department, below please find our response to the above subject:

• **Finding 1: Post-Release Accountability and Compliance Team (PACT) Program**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department: **AGREE**

Since the implementation of AB 109, members of the PACT team have been a vital source of information sharing and compliance/accountability of PRCS program participants. My interactions with members of the Riverside County Probation Department lead me to believe that PACT team implementations throughout our county have provided probation officers more time to focus on case management and compliance checks.

- **Recommendation 1: The Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee (CCPEC) should invite the City of Perris and Lake Elsinore to join the Post-Release Accountability and Compliance Team (PACT) program.**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department: **AGREE**

Supplementary team members will greatly enhance the PACT team and provide additional supervision to an increasing PRCS population, however, the invitation should also be extended to cities smaller cities (Banning). We are transitioning to a new justice center and will have new probation offices in our city in early 2015. I expect an increase in PRCS individuals within our city limits, necessitating a team member from our own ranks on the PACT team.

• **Finding 2: Data Sharing and Supervised Offender Tracking**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department: **AGREE**

Although the information sharing has improved since the initial implementation of AB 109, an absolute centralized data base has not been implemented. Our department has implemented an internal stand-alone system to track PRCS individuals through the RIMS Computer Aided Dispatch System.

Recommendation 2: Both the Sheriff's Department and the Probation Department shall communicate information on released prisoners placed on Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS) or Mandatory Supervision (MS) from county jails to all law enforcement agencies at the time of the prisoners' release including local police agencies and adjoining counties. An updated summary of prisoner release information shall continue to be communicated to law enforcement agencies weekly and monthly. Probation shall finalize its interface system with the state-wide program for tracking released prisoners on PRCS and MS.

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department: **AGREE**

The rapid exchange of information between the sheriff's department, probation department and municipalities is vital to the continued success of the PRCS/AB 109 program.

• **Finding 3: Probation Officers at Jails**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department: **AGREE**

Finding 3 does not directly affect our police department but in my opinion, having a probation officer implementing the case plan while the individual is still confined to the jail, would be beneficial to the exchange of information as well as cutting down on recidivism due to individuals being found out of compliance two days after their initial release from custody because of change of address or non-reporting after release.

Recommendation 3: An officer of the Probation Department shall meet with prisoners prior to release and confirm the case plan, residential address and

review terms of release at the time of sentencing, and confirm first appointment with Probation officers.

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department, Riverside County:
AGREE

I support an effort to assign probation officers to a transitional Reentry Unit.

- **Finding 4: Public Safety Enterprise Communication (PSEC)**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department, Riverside County:
AGREE

Exchange of information is vital to law enforcement. Radio communication is an integral part of communicating vital, up to the minute information. Because of costs associated with purchasing modern equipment and updating infrastructure, it is difficult for smaller municipal agencies to rapidly implement new radio operation systems. Our department recently updated radio systems to the Motorola APX which is interoperable with the PSEC system.

Recommendation 4: Municipal police agencies in Riverside County without direct Public Safety Enterprise Communication (PSEC) capability shall develop and implement a consistent communication system to ensure reliable and seamless coverage between the cities, the Sheriff's Department, and the safety agencies of other counties.

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department, Riverside County:
AGREE

We must ensure the implementation of a consistent and unified system which enhances interoperability between all allied agencies.

- **Finding 5: Transitional Housing**

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department, Riverside County:
AGREE IN PART

Our city has seen an increase in transient activity since AB 109 was implemented. Transitional housing would greatly benefit these individuals and can be implemented prior to the release from confinement during the case plan meeting with the probation officer; however, we strongly oppose any new transitional housing in the City of Banning. We have over 29 group homes in our city; because of loop holes in state law, the majority of these homes are unregulated by government entities.

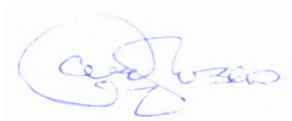
Recommendation 5: The Probation Department shall oversee the development of half-way houses to provide services to the released supervised inmates to assist them with re-entry into communities.

Response from Interim Chief Alex Diaz, Banning Police Department, Riverside County:
AGREE IN PART

Although we agree that transitional group homes and transitioning “transient” inmates from jail to the community through half-way housing is beneficial, an increase in this type of housing within our city would create an additional financial strain to our city and our under-staffed police department.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss, please contact the undersigned (951) 849-1003

Sincerely



Alex Diaz
Interim Chief of Police

AD/ds