

**County of Santa Cruz
Probation Department**

MISSION STATEMENT

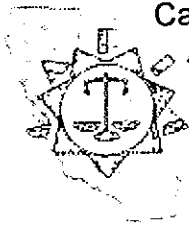
The Santa Cruz County Probation Department is committed to preventing crime and to helping repair harm caused by crime. We promote:

- ▶ Community safety and health,
- ▶ Offender accountability and opportunity for positive change,
- ▶ Justice for victims,
- ▶ Respect and fairness for all.

Our **VISION** is to be a leader and an active partner with the community in promoting safety and in building productive futures.

We hold these **VALUES**:

- ▶ Integrity,
- ▶ Excellence,
- ▶ Compassion,
- ▶ Creativity,
- ▶ Collaboration,
- ▶ Respect,
- ▶ Fairness.



California
Association of
Probation
Institution
Administrators

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF
PROBATION INSTITUTION ADMINISTRATORS

MISSION STATEMENT:

THE MISSION OF THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PROBATION INSTITUTION ADMINISTRATORS (CAPIA) is to build and support a juvenile detention system in California which utilizes the assessment of risk, eliminates the unnecessary detention of youth, provides a safe and humane institutional environment for those residents in detention, develops professional child supervision staff who recognize and respect the dignity of residents, and demonstrates a level of care which serves as a model to other states and jurisdictions.

VALUES AND BELIEFS:

In carrying out the mission of the organization, we recognize the following:

◆ **Youth, not needing secure detention, should be provided less restrictive alternatives to incarceration:**

The unnecessary detention of youth is not in the best interest of the family or the community. Less restrictive alternatives should be established which will provide the means necessary to meet the needs of the Court, the family, and the community.

◆ **Youth have the ability to make positive change:**

Residents will leave the institution better, or no worse than when they entered the institution. If given the opportunity, residents have the ability to make positive change and to provide the support necessary for change to occur.

◆ **Youth have the right to be treated with respect and dignity:**

Residents are entitled to an environment, which treats them with respect, and dignity, respects their value, recognizes their individual rights, is culturally sensitive, and understands and recognizes cultural diversity.

◆ **Youth deserve fair consistent discipline, and a safe and humane environment:**

Residents are entitled to a level of supervision and discipline, which promotes accountability and responsibility and shall not exceed the limits necessary to achieve the desired behavior. The institutional environment should be as least restrictive as possible, but structured as necessary to maintain order and safety. Institutional staff should strive to maintain control by communication and interacting with residents and through the use of other professional skills and abilities.

◆ **Youth need institutional programs and services which foster physical, moral, emotional and intellectual growth:**

For change to occur, residents need academic, psychological, psych-educational, recreational, and other services which will promote personal growth and enable them to develop the skills and values necessary to succeed. Institutional programs should be designed to address these needs.

◆ **Youth need positive role models:**

Residents view institutional staff as role models and look to them to exhibit standards of socially acceptable behavior. Therefore, institutional staff should always project the appearance, attitude, and behavior which creates an atmosphere of mutual respect and which displays the highest ethical and professional standards.

◆ **Institutional staff are our most valuable resource:**

Institutional staff is the most valuable resource in fulfilling the mission of the organization and the institution. Through utilizing their professional skills, institutional staff is the catalysts for providing residents the opportunity for change. Further we believe that institutional staff deserves to be treated with respect and dignity; be provided direction, training, and support; and be expected to adhere to the highest professional and ethical standards.

1.3 JUVENILE HALL/PHILOSOPHY & PURPOSE

Discussion:

A. Juvenile Hall Philosophy

Juvenile Hall is unique, in the nature of its responsibilities, among other institutions, correctional or otherwise. The philosophy for the operation of Juvenile Hall is embodied in the Juvenile Court Law, which developed in this country beginning in the late 1800's, and which had its basis in the old English Common Law. The motivation for special handling of youthful offenders was based on the belief that young offenders should be judged neither as adults nor criminals. The aim of the new court was to provide assistance, not punishment, by providing individualized services appropriate to the particular needs of children. Juvenile Hall provides a portion of those services required by law, which includes secure custody in physically restricting facilities segregated from adult offenders.

Specifically, Juvenile Hall is committed to providing temporary care of minors coming within the provisions of Section 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, pending court dispositions or transfers to another jurisdiction or agency. Such temporary care involves five basic functions:

1. Secure physical care that prevents damaging effects of confinement.
2. A service to the community and to the authorized agencies responsible for exercising the police powers of the state.
3. Constructive individual and group activities, including a well-balanced school program.
4. Counseling and guidance to help the child with the immediate problems of detention.
5. Observation of behavior used in composing professional reports that enhance the Court and Probation's understanding of the minor.
6. Although these five functions are interrelated, all are specifically dependent on the first; secure physical care. Unless a minor needs secure custody, he/she should not be detained for convenience nor merely as a means of imposing regulated activities, guidance or observation. However if secure physical care is required, all five functions must then be integrated into the program.

B. Purpose of Juvenile Hall

1. Detention is the temporary care of minors for whom secure custody is required for their own protection or that of the community, in physically restricting facilities, pending court disposition or transfer to another jurisdiction or agency.
2. Juvenile Hall is an institution for temporary care and is established in California under Article 23 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. Juvenile Hall is intended to guarantee a minor's appearance in court, provide the Court with diagnostic information, and help with beginning steps of rehabilitation.
3. Juvenile Hall is not designed, nor should it be used as a treatment center. However, Section 730 of the Welfare and Institution Code authorizes commitment to a county juvenile hall in the absence of a ranch, camp, forestry camp or juvenile home. That section implies that treatment should be offered to youth committed to the juvenile hall.
4. The law places responsibility upon the Juvenile Hall to provide much more than minimum necessities for living. A skilled, alert and dedicated staff and an activity program to promote the growth and development and mental and moral well being of the detained youngsters are absolute necessities if the responsibilities of Juvenile Hall are to be properly fulfilled.

C. Legal Relationship to the Probation Department

1. Juvenile Hall is one division of the Probation Department. The Chief Probation Officer, appointed by the Superior Court acting as the Juvenile Court Judge, is the administrative officer for the court. As such, the Juvenile Hall staff is under the direction of the Juvenile Court Judge and is responsible for carrying out policy established by the Juvenile Court Judge.