

# 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: 1/13/2016

Facility Capacity: 24

Last Inspection: 12/19/2014

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

Commission Chair: Mary Cone

Telephone No. 707-565-8164

Signature

Commission Inspection Team: Edy Ullman

Dennis Ruggiero

Major Concerns and Recommendations:

No major concerns.



# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPLS INSPECTION REPORT

### AREA REVIEWED: Please Check

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Physical Plant
- Meals/Nutrition
- Mental Health
- Physical/Dental Health
- Religious Services
- Volunter Involvement
- Visiting
- Volunter Involvement
- Other

#### PROGRAMS

- Education
- Vocation/Employability
- Community Service
- Victim/Gang Awareness
- Substance Abuse
- Other

#### PERSONS INTERVIEWED

- Minors
- Superintendent
- Medical/Psyche. Staff
- School Staff
- Supervisor
- Child Supervision Staff  
(Counselors)
- Food Services Staff
- Other

### GENERAL INFORMATION

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

No. Currently the number of youth is 8+4. (8 in residence, 4 in Aftercare) 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:

12/13/2015

#### SINCE THE LAST INSPECTION INDICATE:

Number of Suicides:

0

Number of Attempted Suicides:

0

Number of Deaths From Other Causes:

0

Number of Escapes:

0

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## SLEEPING ROOMS (Cells)

### Comments:

There are two 12 bed dormitories. Beds were neatly made. The 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:** 10/19/2015  
(Health & Safety Code Section 13146.1)

**\*Medical/Mental Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 12/29/2015

**\*Environmental Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 9/1/2015

**\*Nutritional Health:**  No  Yes **Date:** 10/19/2015  
(Health & Safety Code Section 101045)

### Facility Safety and Security:

## STAFFING

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

Minimum 1:12 when awake and minimum 1:12 when sleeping.

### Communication In Language Minor Can Understand?

Bilingual Spanish speaking staff is available, but not 24-7. There is always a bilingual staff member available by phone at the Juvenile Hall.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### STAFFING (Continued)

#### Diversity of Staff:

The 17 person staff is predominantly male, with 14 male and 3 female staff members. The Director is female. Ethnicity: 13 Caucasian, 3 Hispanic, 1 Black.

#### Staff/Minor Interactions:

Interactions are caring and supportive. Staff is always looking to improve and add services that can be beneficial to the youth. Youth interviewed said they felt they could talk to Staff when they had questions or complaints. Staff give the residents the tools to succeed and are very much willing to work with the youth as needed.

#### Staff Interviews - Comments:

There is a good rapport between youth and Staff. Staff demonstrated caring attitudes and a willingness to work with the youth to improve their lives.

### CONDITIONS OF GROUNDS

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

Buildings are well maintained. Grounds are 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 soccer field which is located in the lower area of Camp. Youth are, on occasion, taken to a baseball diamond that is a short walk up the road. There is also a garden area with raised beds where vegetables and ornamental plants are grown.

### 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 is 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 is kept in good condition. Camp has a large industrial washing machine and dryer which is in good working order. The walls, paint and floors are clean and in very good shape. There are no plumbing problems and air vents and windows are in good condition.

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

Chemicals are locked in a storage closet when not in use.

#### Weapons Locker Location:

There are no weapons at Camp. Staff carry pepper spray. Handcuffs and leg irons are available if needed.

#### Recreation/Sports Equipment:

There is a variety of sports equipment and youth participate in an assortment of activities including basketball, volleyball, soccer, ping pong, use of medicine balls, puzzles, board games and the radio. On weekends and rainy days, video games are available. Youth are sometimes taken to play baseball at a local baseball field. There is a minimum of an hour of physical exercise time, but most youth do more.

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

Not applicable to Camp



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## INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

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

Not applicable to Camp

**Sleeping Rooms/Dormitories:**

There are two dormitories with 12 beds per dorm. Conditions are clean, well organized and uncluttered.

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

Beds are metal cots with new five inch mattresses which are at least 12 inches off the floor. The facility recently bought new pillows and bedspreads for all beds. The floor is clean and there is a locking chest under each bed for personal items.

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

Minors have one foot locker which holds approved personal possessions. No food is allowed in the foot lockers. The number of personal possessions is restricted for health and safety purposes.

**Graffiti Present?**

Graffiti is well controlled. None visible.



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## INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

### Ample Blankets?

There is one cover blanket on each bed and two extra blankets per bed. New blankets were recently purchased and received by the youth during the Winter holidays. The interior temperature at Camp is maintained at 68 degrees.

### Study Area:

Youth are able to study on their cots, on benches outside, in the dining room, dayroom, Quiet room, and in the study area. Residents also have access to three computers that have Word software for their homework assignments and other creative writing purposes. They have supervised internet access during school via Chromebooks (laptops) and two desktop computers.

### Adequate Lighting:

There is ample lighting. Youth are in bed by 9:30 PM and "Lights Out" is at 10:00 PM. There are night lights lit during the sleeping hours.

### Temperature:

The interior temperature is maintained at 68 degrees. Youth that were interviewed stated they felt warm in the Camp buildings due to adequate heating and seasonally appropriate clothing.

## ORIENTATION OF MINORS

### Are minors oriented to rules and procedures?

Youth are oriented by caseworkers via a sign-off sheet. They are given a handbook which is also available in Spanish. They are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the handbook content through a written test as their first program step. Youth interviewed acknowledged that they had been well-oriented and felt comfortable speaking with Staff if they had a question or felt they had been treated unfairly.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

## ORIENTATION OF MINORS (Continued)

### Are rules and grievance procedures posted?

The rules and grievance procedures are posted and are in the resident handbook.

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

Youth interviewed said they were oriented to Camp rules and grievance procedures when they arrived. One youth said that he would "Ask a Staff member if he had a question" about a particular rule. The telephone number for the Juvenile Justice Commission is also posted for further assistance if needed.

### Minors Interviewed - Comments:

Two youths were interviewed. #1, a 17 year old with a baby daughter, has been at Camp for 7 months and was very satisfied with the education and vocation training he is receiving. He feels that his outlook on life has changed at Camp and he is now planning for the future. He is working on his GED, visiting his daughter on weekends and hopes to become an underwater welder. #2, a 16 year old with a child on the way, has been at Camp for 5 months and takes great pride in his busy, productive schedule. He has gained many life skills at Camp and feels his ART and substance abuse programs have helped change his attitude. He feels there is a lot of freedom at camp and understands that his choices have consequences. He is looking forward to being a father and has a very positive outlook.

## MEALS/NUTRITION

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

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

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

The youth are trained by the Chef. They receive orientation and rules before starting. Working in the kitchen is part of a rotating 14-day duty schedule. Sanitation procedures are required and practiced by all kitchen workers. Youth also work towards obtaining their Food Handler's Certificate. The Camp Chef is dedicated to providing the residents with a thorough education in food preparation. He feels that the time spent in his Culinary Program will allow some of the residents to obtain jobs in the food industry.

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## 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 is always available. (see Snacks below)

#### Are minors permitted to converse during meals?

Youth may converse with others at their table. There is to be no loud talking from one table to the next.

#### Are staff present and supervising?

Staff are always present. There is 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 lunch and dinner is also available. Ample amounts of fruit is available on the kitchen counter for residents during breaks from vocational training and school sessions and in the evening. An ample supply of food was available in the pantry and refrigerators.

#### Are servings ample, nutritious and appetizing?

The chef provides nutritious and varied meals. Snacks are served mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Fruit is available at all times. Occasionally there are "bonus snacks" such as hot chocolate. Most youth interviewed spoke favorably about the type and quantity of the food served.

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### 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 residents. Camp does not allow "sharing" of food.

#### Length of time allowed to eat:

Youth are afforded at least 30 minutes per meal. The allotted meal times are appropriate and sufficient.

### PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF MINORS

#### Appearance?

Youth are clean and appropriately dressed. Clothing is based on "step level". The majority of Camp attire consists of jeans and a short-sleeved gray shirt. Those minors that are new to Camp or are on a Restrictive Program wear red jumpsuits and have orange recreation and sleepware clothing issued to them. Clothing worn by residents is clean and well-maintained. There is a laundry on the premises.

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

Youths shower every evening. All showers are supervised by Staff. There are four shower stalls with half-walls for privacy and safety. No more than three or four youth are allowed in the shower at a time.

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

Clothing fits and is appropriate for weather conditions. Clothing is clean and well-maintained. Shirts are tucked in and belts are worn. Youth are issued additional clothing in the winter such as beanies, jackets and sweatshirts/sweatpants for sleeping. In warm weather sweatpants are exchanged for shorts. Sweatshirts are available year-round.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

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### PROGRAMS

#### RECREATION - Types and amount each day:

There is at least three hours of recreation per day, including after lunch and after school. Activities include basketball, baseball, soccer, running, ping pong, calisthenics, board games, watching television, radio, video games and reading.

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

There is plenty of time for physical exercise each day. There is a minimum of one hour per day and most days more than that is available. Youth have the ability to go outside in their free time in the afternoons and have access to exercise and recreational equipment.

#### Access to religious services:

Religious services are provided by volunteer spiritual advisors on Sundays. Those youth that are entitled to go on furlough may also choose to attend services with their families.

#### Medical/Mental Health Services:

There is a nurse practitioner who comes to Camp one day a week. Youth are transported to routine doctor appointments by parents or staff. In an emergency, youth are transported immediately by staff to the appropriate care facility. Mental health services are regularly provided by a therapist. If needed, dental services are provided by the Juvenile Hall dentist or a dentist in the community. Dental surgeries are performed by an outside dental surgeon.

#### Volunteer Program:

There are two or three non-denominational spiritual advisors available weekly. Volunteer tutors assist students during instructional time. There is a "Friendly Visitors" component established for visiting days but this is currently not utilized very often.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

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### PROGRAMS (Continued)

#### Counseling and Casework:

Each youth is assigned a caseworker with whom they work closely. The caseload is no more than three youth per caseworker. Residents receive counseling from their caseworker at a minimum of once a week. Additionally, two therapists (one is bilingual) do individual and family counseling.

#### Family Reunification Planning:

The goal of the Camp Program is family reunification. The furlough program as well as individual and family counseling supports this goal.

#### Substance Abuse Counseling:

Substance abuse counseling is provided through Alcohol and Other Drug Services (AODS). AODS provides individual and group counseling. There are optional weekly meetings which alternate between Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous. Staff may take up to three youth to community-based NA meetings once a week.

#### Victim Awareness Classes:

Victim awareness is a large focus of the everyday program at Camp. Youth have the ability to work off Victim Restitution payments while at Camp. This program allows the youth to work towards making their victims whole again, while also working on a greater understanding of the impact of their actions on others.

#### Gang Awareness Classes:

There are currently Aggression Replacement Training (ART) classes twice a week at Camp.

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### PROGRAMS (Continued)

#### Sexual Harassment Classes:

There are no formal classes, but harassment is dealt with both in the educational setting ("Healthy Relationship" classes) and Camp Program setting. The "Healthy Relationship" classes are given bi-annually and last 8-10 weeks. There is a Sexual Harassment Prevention policy in place and it is strictly enforced.

#### Parenting Classes:

Camp youth that are fathers or about to become fathers, have the option to attend parenting classes in the community if their significant other and child can attend. The Nurse Practitioner informs youth about services in the community available to help with their role as a parent. The camp also has parenting books in the library. Additionally, parents of Camp youth may attend a weekly "Parent Group" while their child is in this program.

#### Vocational Classes:

Vocational training in woodworking, welding, forklift operation, culinary arts and gardening are offered and each youth participates. Youth learn to make picnic tables, benches, planters, display cases, fire rings, bear-proof food storage containers and other products sold to state/county/regional parks as well as the public. (682 picnic tables were built last year!) Youth often interact with customers at Camp and go on supervised deliveries to practice their customer service skills. Youth are trained on forklift operation and may earn their Forklift Operator's Permit. Youth learn the basics of cooking and kitchen operations and may earn their Food Handler's Certificate. Youth get training in gardening practices and cultivating vegetable and ornamental plants.

#### Community Service:

Youth in the Culinary Program participate in catering jobs in the community with the Chef. These outings give the youth an opportunity to learn restaurant etiquette, hospitality, catering protocol, etc. Youth also may participate in Habitat for Humanity projects.

#### Work Program:

As part of Aftercare, the youth are assisted in obtaining employment or volunteering. Youth are guided in job obtainment skills, resume writing and job placement. This includes collaboration with Sonoma County Job Link and California Youth Outreach, Social Advocates for Youth and various apprenticeship programs. There is an Advisory Committee that helps youth make job connections and there are often guest speakers.

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### PROGRAMS (Continued)

#### Other:

There are numerous adjunct programs that support youth in becoming self-reflective individuals and responsible citizens. These include: interactive journaling classes, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Healthy Relationships, an annual sex education class by the Southwest Health Clinic and Core Correctional Practices. In 2015, youth participated in the following field trips: Winter trip to Claire Tappan Lodge, Maker's Fair, a ropes course, hiking at a Landpath venue, SAY sponsored field trips to autobody and a culinary programs, a fall backpacking trip to Trinity Wilderness, a SCOE sponsored trip to Angel Island, a 7-week apprenticeship program at the Union Hall, a North Coast Builders Exchange dinner, a tour of Job Corps and Job Link, and a tour of SRIC's Shone

### DISCIPLINE OF MINORS

#### Frequency and Type:

Most discipline involves taking grades away or counseling the youth. Rules and consequences are known and understood. As a last resort, a youth may be returned to Juvenile Hall. There are also "time-outs" to Juvenile Hall, level drop, placement in a red suit, time-outs on bed or assignment to a "weekend reflection crew".

### GRIEVANCES

#### Number and Type:

Grievances average about three per week. There are two types: grades and conditions of confinement. Grievances usually involve petty disputes and are resolved before they escalate. The low resident numbers have resulted in very few grievances.

### TELEPHONE

#### Access:

Phone use is restricted and supervised by staff. Youth may receive calls from parents with the permission of the caseworker. The Juvenile Justice Commission phone number is posted.



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## CORRESPONDENCE

### Postage Free:

Two letters per week to parents or guardians are postage-free. Letters to attorneys are also postage-free. Youth may send more letters with postage provided by friends or family. There is no limit to the number of letters a resident may send.

### INCOMING/OUTGOING - Is mail read?

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

### Confidential Correspondence:

Youth are allowed confidential correspondence with their attorneys.

## 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 during family counseling.

### Do staff supervise visits?

Visits at Camp are supervised by Staff.

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### VISITING

#### Adequate privacy during visits?

All visits take place in the one large common room at Camp. Privacy needs are balanced with the need to protect the safety and security of the Camp and its residents.

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

The majority of residents receive visits. Due to transportation problems, some families are unable to make regular visits.

### SCHOOL

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

There is one full-time teacher at Camp. She has run the Camp School for three years. Youth interviewed stated they respected their teacher and appreciated the focus on obtaining a high school education. Additional teachers at Camp one day per week are: a Resource Teacher, a Resource Assistant, a Math Tutor and a Language Teacher.

#### Number of minors attending school:

All youth attend school until they have passed their GED or received their high school diploma. After graduation, youth are allowed in the classroom if they wish to work on resumes, help tutor, want access to the computers or are enrolled in the SRJC.

#### Number of minors in each classroom:

No more than 14 students are in the classroom at a time. Youth are divided into morning and afternoon school sessions. The other half of the 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 residents are on independent study. When youth complete the high school diploma/GED program, they work full-time in the vocational skills program. Once on Aftercare, youth usually attend a school away from Camp which at times could include independent study.

#### Atmosphere of Classroom:

The classroom is structured, with consistent rules and high behavior and academic expectations. Students work at their own rate for Math, Science and Social Studies, based on their credits. English is a teacher led class that is based on books with a character based literacy component. Prior visits indicate there is an atmosphere of real learning and mutual respect thanks to the dedicated staff at Camp.

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

Yes, there are adequate supplies and textbooks. The classroom is also equipped with ten Chromebooks (laptops).

#### Activities and Coursework:

Camp school curriculum includes standard high school required courses and many special activities. Students are often working individually on specific courses toward graduation or obtaining a GED. The teacher provides direct, whole-class instruction that includes Algebra, hands-on lab science and weekly current events. There are additional Tinkering and Maker classes.

#### Are minors required to do homework?

Youth are required to do homework most Mondays through Thursdays. It is in their best interest to ask for homework so they can form study groups and stay on schedule.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

## JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

### SCHOOL (Continued)

#### Number of minors not attending. Reason?

All youth attend school at Camp 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:

School staff and Camp staff work as a team to help youth be successful in school. Camp staff are very supportive of the students academically and behaviorally. Staff help the teacher problem solve when needed, as well as support academic progress and school placement ideas. It is a wrap-around approach.

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

Not applicable to Camp.

### ACCESS TO MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

A nurse visits Camp once a week. If medical attention is needed youth are transported to a doctor by a parent or Staff. In emergencies, Staff will transport the youth immediately. There are two mental health professionals available (one is bilingual). Youth may also be transported by parents to therapy sessions off-campus. An interview with the Camp Nurse Practitioner indicated that the Camp is vigilant about the administration and documentation of prescribed medications. A review of Camp Incident Reports demonstrated a history of timely and appropriate response to both the routine and emergency medical needs of Camp residents.

# 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:

**ALLISON GANTNER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
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