



Richard L. Ainsa
Referee
Juvenile Court I

Maria T. Leyva-Ligon
Referee
Juvenile Court II

Marc Marquez
Deputy Chief
Juvenile Services and Operations

LINDA Y. GARCIA
Deputy Chief
JUVENILE Facilities

ALBERT MENDEZ
Deputy Chief
Finance and Support

JUDGE ENRIQUE H. PEÑA
JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER
Yahara Lisa Gutierrez
Judge
65th Judicial District Court

Juvenile Probation Department
Quarterly Report
November 4, 2024

Administration Updates

- Chief Medina and Rene Vargas have been selected by the Meadows Foundation to serve on the statewide Youth Justice Continuum of Care Council. This council is a critical component of a larger initiative aimed at reducing youth incarceration and expanding access to community-based, evidence-based services. This effort is supported by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) and the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI), who have partnered through a federal planning and assessment grant. Goals are to identify and expand diversion opportunities
- Our specialty courts have been selected by the Texas Specialty Court Resource Center to provide a peer review of Hidalgo County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court and their Juvenile Mental Health Court in early November.
- The department is partnered with the Arizona State University Youth Justice Lab in the development and implementation of a family engagement tool. This is funded through the Annie E. Casey Foundation and led by Dr. Adam Fine (ASU).

Personnel Changes

- Director of IS&R – PS24 to PS25
- Data functional Analyst, Intermediate (GS27) to Data Analyst Manager (PS13)
- Executive Assistant (GS24) to Executive Coordinator (GS28)
- Administrative Specialist (GS12) to Administrative Specialist Intermediate (GS16)
- Office Assistant (GS07) to Administrative Specialist Intermediate (GS16)
- Interim Director of Juvenile Detention (JP19) – Temporary Position
- Interim Director of Juvenile Corrections (JP19) - Temporary Position
- Data Functional Analyst (GS20) – New Position
- Administrative Specialist Intermediate (GS16) – New Position

Accounting Unit

- Submitted the Department's FY 2025 State Aid budget to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.
- The Department's financial records were audited by the County's Auditor's Internal Audit division. The Department was in compliance with all aspects of the audit and there were no errors or irregularities.
- The Department's FY2025 County of El Paso budget was approved by Juvenile Board and submitted to the County.

Intake Unit

- Submitted the Department's FY 2025 State Aid budget to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.
- The Department's financial records were audited by the County's Auditor's Internal Audit division. The Department was in compliance with all aspects of the audit and there were no errors or irregularities.
- The Department's FY2025 County of El Paso budget was approved by Juvenile Board and submitted to the County.

Probation Services Unit

- 3 Challenge JSO's who cross trained in our unit applied and were offered positions as FCO's and CIP; Arrieta, Mercado and Fresquez are on probationary status.
- Conducted CSL activities through Aliviane CreateART & Chihuahua Baseball Game.
- Probation Services Social Wellness Off Site Event was on August 22nd.
- Buddi Rollout – new GPS July 22nd.
- JPM Rico's Retirement Celebration was on July 23rd.
- Female FCO assistance of JDTC drug testing.
- Back to School Bash collected 10 boxes of school supplies.
- Pretrial, Probation, Parole Week Celebration a lot of probation services staff assisted (Gabby G, Johana, Jessica, Elizabeth S, Tammy, Aurora).

Special Programs Unit

- Jacqueline Nevarez was promoted to JPM.
- JPM Catherine Garcia received the Making a Difference Award.
- JPOs personally provided youth and siblings with school supplies for the 2024-2025 school year.

- The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court and Project HOPE have been awarded CJD grants for FY2025.

Clinical Unit

- Clinical onboarded two new counselors: Angel Almeraz, LPC and Nichole Mahoney, LMSW and a new program manager, Eugene Reyes.
- Two youth were admitted into clinical services under the new TJJD Regionalization grant.
- Francisco Torres was recognized by Mr. Rick Levinson a top EMDR training and consultant for his EMDR skills and ability to deescalate a student in crisis during one of his trainings.
- Jessica Saenz was recognized by Texas Tech Psychiatric Department for her professionalism, aiding the onboarding of new fellows and assisting with training new fellows to meet TJJD requirements while also increasing their understanding of juvenile justice. Jessica is also expecting her second child next month.

Detention Unit

- Mr. Vidal Flores, Javier Villegas and Victoria Carrillo were trained on Restorative Circles and will coordinate circles training within the Detention population.
- Pre-Adjudicated Facility was certified by the Juvenile Board and passed all safety and security measures.
- The unit welcomed six new JSO's and all received their TJJD certification in August.
- Mr. Javier Villegas and George Perez were accepted for TBRI Practitioner training and are set to attend in October and December of 2024.

Challenge Academy

- Ms. Julissa Lopez was trained on restorative circles and will begin practice of this skillset within Challenge population.
- Post Adjudicated Facility was certified by the Juvenile Board and passed all safety and security measures.
- The unit welcomed five new JSO's and all received their TJJD certification in August.
- Mr. Jacques Washington was accepted for TBRI Practitioner training and is set to attend in October of 2024.
- Ms. Arlette Franco was named Interim Director of Challenge and is very excited to assist as part of the Program Redesign.

Maintenance Unit

- New A/C unit installations for Wellness lobby and Detention Library were done.
- Upgraded Security Systems for Detention and parking lot areas.
- Completed roof repairs sitewide.

Training Unit

- Training & Compliance Manager Elizabeth Calvillo recently met with four additional trainings team and has conducted “Train the Trainer “courses. The primary objective is to ensure consistency among trainers and to provide the highest level of training to our JPD employees.
- Training Officer Julio Acevedo has collaborated with the Clinical Unit and received training in psychometric screening. He will now serve as an additional resource for screening suicide ideation.
- In Q4, all certifications and recertifications were 100% compliant and 10 New Juvenile Supervision Officer Certifications were approved.
- Between July and September 2024, a total of 635.5 training hours were completed.

Culinary Unit

- Culinary Unit has assisted in providing Juvenile Board with lunch. The team also provided lunch for the County Strategic Planning Meeting for two days.
- The Unit is up to date on training hours, staff is waiting on the Training Team to approve.
- The Unit is still on 10/4 schedule trial. This is to help reduce overtime in the unit.
- The Unit has received new menus signed by Dietician for this Fiscal Year.

Information Systems and Records Unit

- KnowBe4 Cybersecurity Training: Completed at 100%.
 - a. The State of Texas requires this training for all state and local governments, including elected officials, who use a computer for 25% or more of their daily duties. This training must be completed by July 26, 2024. It is extremely important that this training be completed before this suspense because it directly impacts federal grants the County relies upon for many citizen services. To ensure compliance, computer accounts will be disabled for those who have not completed this training by the due date.
- Documents Translated: Court Interpreter translated the following Court Documents:
 - a. Family Sustainability Report.
 - b. Order Waiving Fees.
 - c. Program Discharge Order.
 - d. Order Setting Hearing.

- JMIS: the team completed the following development requests:
 - a. Module to import Recidivism on Adult Data provided by TJJD.
 - b. Transforming Juvenile Probation: New JOP version deployed in July 2024.
 - c. Updated the GPS related documents due to change in vendor (buddi).
- Technology Upgrades:
 - a. Install Wireless Access Point (WAP) in challenge by the Clinicians area.
 - b. Install Fiber and another WAP in the Maintenance Shop.
 - c. Upgraded a total of 69 computers.
- Public Information Act Requests: the IS&R unit provided the answers for the following PIAs:
 - a. Aliviane: THC felonies in El Paso County.
 - b. Law Office of Danny Razo: Juvenile Cases represented by Mr. Danny Razo.

Respectfully submitted,



Rosie Medina
Chief Probation Officer
Public Servant
El Paso County Juvenile Justice Center