

Date: 2015  
From:  
Subject: Grand Jury 2014-2015 Humboldt county Grand Jury Report

**Effects of Assembly Bill 109 and Proposition 47 on the Probation**

**Department Recommendation**

R2. The Humboldt County Grand jury recommends that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors direct the Humboldt County Department of Human Resources to review its hiring and recruitment procedures with an objective of increasing retention of probation and substance abuse counseling staff.

**Response**

This recommendation will not be implemented (by DHHS) as it is not warranted or reasonable for the following reason:

The Department of Human Resources Director Reports to the Board of Supervisors.

The Department of Health and Human Services is supportive of enhanced recruitment and retention for all County positions including those indicated in R-2.

**Recommendation**

R6. The Humboldt County Grand Jury recommends that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors appoint the individual heads of Mental Health, Social Services, Alcohol and Other Drug Programs, and Employment Training Program to the Community Corrections Partnership committee as a whole (F5)

**Response**

This recommendation will not be implemented (by DHHS unless directed by the Board of Supervisors) as it is not warranted or reasonable for the following reason:

The recommendation is beyond the purview of DHHS to implement and one that the Board of Supervisors would review and respond to.

However, in order to provide additional clarification to the public and the Grand Jury regarding this recommendation the Department is providing the following information:

DHHS is an integrated Department under county ordinance and State Welfare Institutions Code.

Mental Health  
phone: (707) 268-2990  
fax: (707) 476-4049

Public Health  
phone: (707) 268-2121  
fax: (707) 268-2126

Social Services phone:  
(707) 476-4700  
fax: (707) 441-2096



It is comprised of 6 former Departments currently organized under 3 Branches (Social Services, Public Health and Mental Health).

The Department has one Appointed Department Head (the DHHS Director) and 3 non appointed Branch Directors that oversee the above mentioned Branches.

The functions of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drugs are integrated Divisions under the Mental Health Director and the functions of employment and training are a Division under the Social Services Director.

The DHHS Director is a voting member of the CCP Executive Committee.

In addition, the following DHHS staff regularly attend CCP Executive: the DHHS Assistant Director of Programs (whose assignment is to oversee the 3 Branches in terms of programs), the Mental Health Director, and the Departments Legislative Analyst. In addition as needed the Departments Compliance Officer and Research and Evaluation Division lead attend the CCP Executive meeting to report out on items or joint Departmental projects of interest to the Executive group.

As warranted, other DHHS staff or Directors attend the CCP Executive meeting if an actionable or informational agenda item is on the CCP Executive Agenda.

In relation to the (non-executive) CCP Committee membership recommendation under R-6, the DHHS is not in opposition to the recommended action but has not received requests to expand its membership from the Chief Probation Officer or other members and does not see a need for further formal appointments to the CCP Committee. Staff time is a valuable commodity and needs to be carefully allocated.

At minimum the DHHS is always represented by the DHHS Assistant Director of Programs and/or the Mental Health Director at these CCP meetings and other Branch Directors or staff attend at will or if requested by the CCP.

Should the Board of Supervisors implement R-6 the Department will assign staff as appropriate.



