

**BOARD OF JUVENILE HEARINGS**

**Executive Board Meeting**

**January 24, 2018**

**Meeting Called to Order at 9:56 a.m.**

**Roll Call:** Commissioners St. Julien, Bowens and Infante and Executive Officer Stern present.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

No consent calendar to approve

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**PRESENTATION**

**Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act presented by Tiffany Shultz, Assistant Chief Counsel, Board of Parole Hearings**

SHULTZ gave a PowerPoint presentation.

**Report from Division of Juvenile Justice Director, Chuck Supple**

SUPPLE discussed the importance of sustaining and advancing the gains made in *Farrell* litigation with the implementation of the IBTM, risk assessment tools, case management system and developing individualized evidence based programs for each youth. SUPPLE expressed the significance that Honorable Discharge will have on motivating DJJ's youth, ultimately changing DJJ's culture and building critical community partnerships. SUPPLE recognized the contribution of each Commissioner in the youth's journey from the beginning Initial Case Review, to Annuals and Discharge Consideration Hearings. SUPPLE congratulated the Board on their first public executive meeting.

**Report from Executive Officer, Rachel Stern**

STERN welcomed the three new Governor appointed Commissioners and community members to the first public meeting since 2011.

STERN introduced the three Commissioners and two Youthful Offender Parole Board Representative Retired Annuitants, YVETTE MARC-AURELE and SHARON GARCIA. STERN described their professional background and decades of experience and welcomed everyone to the Board.

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The board has one vacant civil service Youthful Offender Parole Board Representative position.

The board has updated its public website on the internet and will be working to update its internal on the intranet page as well. All board members have laptops and board packets for Discharge Consideration Hearings are uploaded the week prior allowing for an administrative prep day for commissioners to prepare for the week's hearings.

The commissioners are conducting all Initial Case Reviews and Annual Reviews pursuant to SB 843, as well as Discharge Consideration Hearings (DCHs). In 2017 they conducted 302 annual reviews, 454 DCHs and 232 ICRs.

Commissioners will be attending regular facility events, case conferences, promotional interviews, family events and various treatment groups. The board will be inviting facility staff including Youth Correctional Counselors and Treatment Team Supervisors to attend DCHs.

The board is planning to attend the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Conference in March. Additional trainings will be provided at board meetings.

The board is working on creating an Honorable Discharge SB 625 visual for the youth to be displayed on each living unit.

The board is also working on reviewing all board related regulations and policies, with a primary focus on Honorable Discharge.

**PRESENTATION**

**Senate Bill 625 (Atkins) Chapter 683, Statutes on 2017, Honorable Discharge presented by Kevin Walkow, Chief, Office of Legislation, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

WALKOW gave a PowerPoint presentation.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

DAVID STEINHART, Director, Commonweal Juvenile Justice Program

STEINHART shared a memo and his comments regarding proposed criteria for Honorable Discharge.

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PAM VILLANUEVA, Los Angeles County Public Defender, stated the Honorable Discharge status will give former youth returning back into their community a second chance. VILLANUEVA stated she was honored to be here today in collaboration with several juvenile justice partners such as KEVIN WALKOW, CHUCK SUPPLE, and Commonweal to provide feedback about how the youth are doing in the community. VILLANUEVA agreed with STEINHART'S recommendations and having an accessible form that will allow youth to submit it and be considered for an honorable discharge. VILLANUEVA expressed the importance of the county fulfilling their requirement to notify the youth, and allowing successful youth to be engaged with county level and DJJ youth. VILLANUEVA stated the importance of the Board's discretion in granting Honorable Discharges and the potential barriers an Honorable Discharge will help these youth overcome.

ROSALINDA VINT, President, Women of Substance and Men of Honor, congratulated Commissioner INFANTE on his appointment to the Board of Juvenile Hearings. VINT has over 16 years of volunteer experience at Ventura Youth Correctional Facility. She has noticed that following public safety realignment, many community resources for former youth were taken away. VINT suggested the importance of the counties knowing that Honorable Discharge is coming and the need for more resources. VINT expressed the significance of the first 90 days of community reentry. VINT thanked the Board for giving the "hand up, not hand out."

VICTOR MALIN, Acting Director, Anti –Recidivism Coalition (ARC), thanked CHUCK SUPPLE for all of his hard work. MALIN recognized Commissioner BOWENS' efforts in helping youth get their birth certificates, social security cards and drivers licenses. MALIN expressed his agreement with the requirement that former youth are not eligible to earn an Honorable Discharge until 18 months after their release from DJJ. MALIN suggested he would like to see former youth given the opportunity to earn an honorable discharge 12 months after discharge. MALIN offered his support and service to the Board.

CRISTIAN FRANCO, Justice Policy and Program Assistant, Motivating Individual Leadership for Public Advancement (MILPA), recognized MALIN for his efforts at ARC, and DJJ staff MARTY GIANNINI for pushing FRANCO to succeed and encouraging him to uncover the skills he had, like leadership. FRANCO also thanked MS. MARC-AURELE for helping him gain valuable skills he continues to carry with him today. FRANCO shared his experience with DJJ including the positive experience he had as a community volunteer while housed at Dewitt Nelson Youth Correctional Facility. FRANCO suggested incorporating skills and trainings that are relevant to

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today's job opportunities such as technology and computers, barbering, computer coding and entrepreneurship. FRANCO recognized Executive Officer STERN's proposal to post the Honorable Discharge information on the living unit as a visual reminder of a youth's ultimate goal.

FELIPE A. MACIAS, Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) shared his recent experience reintegrating back into his community after being discharged from DJJ.

ISAAC MADISON, Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC), shared his recent experience reintegrating back into his community after being discharged from DJJ. MADISON recognized Commissioner BOWENS' college academy. MADISON stated that the Honorable Discharge would be good for someone like him who is trying to rehabilitate.

ELIJAH SWAN, Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC), shared his experience reintegrating back into his community after being discharged from DJJ. SWAN agreed with FRANCO's recommendation for technological programs preparing youth for society. SWAN recognized Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp programs that allow youth to get their ID cards prior to discharge.

DARIO SOTO, Motivating Individual Leadership for Public Advancement (MILPA), shared his experience in the California Youth Authority and Division of Adult Institutions. SOTO suggested that youth need to have tools to deal with self-healing and building their self-esteem.

ISRAEL VILLA, Program and Policy Coordinator, Motivating Individual Leadership for Public Advancement (MILPA), shared his experience growing up in group homes, the California Youth Authority and the Division of Adult Institutions and the impact of trauma on young offenders. VILLA stated he stands behind STEINHART'S recommendations regarding SB 625 Honorable Discharge. VILLA expressed his hopes that this process will allow room for those who are experienced in juvenile justice and formerly incarcerated persons who have historically been excluded to participate in discussions regarding reform.

**TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING**

STERN tabled any newly signed legislation to February's meeting.

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**OPEN COMMENTS**

ISAAC MADISON commented that Honorable Discharge may allow him the opportunity to obtain housing in other states.

DAVID STEINHART, Director, Commonwealth Juvenile Justice Program commented on what the Board will tell the youth about the penalties and disabilities portion of the legislation. STEINHART emphasized having a broad policy in determining Honorable Discharge criteria.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

COMMISSIONER ST. JULIEN requested DJJ vocational and educational program training.

COMMISSIONER BOWENS requested DJJ Acceptance and Community Release Accountability Section training.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.**