

County of Santa Clara

Probation Department

Juvenile Division
840 Guadalupe Parkway
San Jose, California 95110

Administrative Offices
840 Guadalupe Parkway
San Jose, California 95110



Laura Garnette
Chief Probation Officer

DATE: September 11, 2020

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors
Jeffrey V. Smith, County Executive

FROM: Laura Garnette, Chief Probation Officer

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SUBJECT: Off-Agenda Report The following item is a referral/request from the August 21, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting, Item #155. Consider proposed modifications to the County's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Recommended Budget to produce the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Final Budget.

At the August 21, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Probation Department presented a report related to the County's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Recommended Budget to produce the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Final Budget. During the presentation Supervisor Cortese requested that Administration report to the Board on date uncertain through the Finance and Government Operations Committee or the Public Safety and Justice Committee relating to identifying a Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Advocacy Services position in the Probation Department.

The CSEC Advocacy Services position held by a Deputy Probation Officer was implemented in FY16. As a member of a larger, multiagency collaborative that addresses the sexual exploitation of children, the CSEC Deputy Probation Officer attends and actively participates in County-wide efforts. The Deputy Probation Officer coordinates the division's efforts to support the implementation of a state mandated local program as defined by SB 794. This includes the implementation of policy and procedures to identify, document, and determine appropriate services for children and youth who are receiving child welfare services, are involved in commercial sexual activities or are at risk of becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Additionally, the coalition developed protocols to expeditiously locate any child missing from foster care.

The functions of the CSEC Deputy Probation Officer have developed and changed over time as implementation occurred. A 16-hour training was developed wherein all Deputy Probation Officers in the juvenile division have been trained and the course is offered yearly for any Deputy Probation Officers who have joined the juvenile division. The CSEC Deputy Probation Officer's focus has moved from initial implementation to a role that supports the integration of identification, documentation, and service determination for CSEC youth by the line level staff.

As per the Board of Supervisors approval of the recommended budget to produce the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Final Budget, the CSEC Deputy Probation Officer's code is scheduled for deletion. However, the CSEC advocacy function will be moved into the Juvenile Probation's Quality Systems Unit vacant Deputy Probation Officer position. The integration of the CSEC advocacy functions in this Unit will allow the CSEC Deputy Probation Officer to continue as a member of the larger, multiagency collaborative, maintain the functions of reviewing Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool assessments, case conference with staff, and coordinate with the Public Health Department, Department of Family and Children Services, Behavioral Health, and advocacy agencies to provide appropriate services to children and youth. As a staff member in the Quality Systems Unit, the Deputy Probation Officer will also be able to integrate the trauma informed, risk reduction approach to policy, practice, and general casework. While the position will be deleted, the functions and integration into service delivery will not be impacted and will not result in a reduction in services to children, youth or system partners.