



William Dickinson | Chief Probation Officer

Kern County Probation

“Commitment to a Safe Community”

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



This Annual Report contains information about the wide-ranging vital public safety services the men and women who make up the Kern County Probation Department strive to provide every day. It is the dedicated work our staff that defines our “Commitment to a Safe Community” as we seek to reduce the incidence and impact of criminal behavior in Kern County.

Probation staff have one of the most important missions in society as we seek to provide “Accountability and Opportunity” to those who have had a negative impact on the community through their actions. We must hold people accountable when necessary to redirect negative behaviors. We must also provide opportunities for people to change their thinking and behavior patterns for them to become productive, law-abiding citizens. The application of these two principles is what drives and motivates the work we do.

We seek to accomplish our mission by taking a collaborative, best practice driven, evidence-based treatment and trauma informed approach across the spectrum of our duties, from youth services through adult services. Our staff are trained in these principles and practices and regularly work with a multitude of other government agencies, community-based organizations and dedicated volunteers to affect positive changes in those we are called to work with.

As you read this Annual Report, I hope you will gain a better understanding of the importance of probation services in the criminal justice system and the positive impact these services have on our community. I am truly inspired by the work of the dedicated staff who make up the Kern County Probation Department.

Sincerely,
William Dickinson
Chief Probation Officer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISSION - VALUES	3
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT.....	4
KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.....	5
KERN COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION	5
PROBATION DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION	6
DEPUTY CHIEFS.....	6
DIVISION DIRECTORS	7
ASSISTANT DIVISION DIRECTORS.....	8
FISCAL, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING	9
FISCAL SERVICES.....	9
RESEARCH, ANALYSIS, AND DATA (RAD).....	10
CCP COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PROGRAM INFORMATION	10
STREET INTERDICTION TEAM (SIT) INFORMATION	11
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.....	12
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.....	12
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT	12
STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING	13
SPECIAL SERVICES TEAM.....	14
FIREARMS/RANGE.....	14
SIMUNITIONS.....	14
FORCE OPTIONS SIMULATOR (FOS)	15
FLEET	15
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES	15
PROBATION VOLUNTEER SERVICES.....	16
SOCIAL MEDIA	17
HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT	18
ADULT COURT SERVICES.....	19
INVESTIGATION UNIT	19
PRE-TRIAL UNIT.....	20
ADULT PROBATION SERVICES	21
FELONY SUPERVISION UNITS	21
K-9 PROGRAM	23
AB 109 SERVICES.....	24
POST RELEASE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION (PRCS)	24
MANDATORY SUPERVISION (MS)	25
ADULT PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS (APS)	26
YOUTH COURT AND PROGRAMS.....	29
INVESTIGATION UNITS I AND II.....	29
PRE-SCREEN SERVICES.....	30
BRIDGES ACADEMY.....	31
YOUTH PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS	32
YOUTH SUPERVISION.....	32
YOUTH METRO SUPERVISION	33
YOUTH RE-ENTRY SUPERVISION	34
YOUTH PLACEMENT SUPERVISION	35
YOUTH REGIONAL SUPERVISION	37
PROBATION AUXILIARY COUNTY of KERN	39
YOUTH FACILITIES	41
JAMES G. BOWLES YOUTH DETENTION CENTER	42
YOUTH RE-ENTRY SUPERVISION	42
CUSTODY INTAKE.....	43
PATHWAYS ACADEMY.....	44
LARRY J. RHOADES KERN CROSSROADS FACILITY.....	45
REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL	46
MENTAL HEALTH.....	46
COMMUNITY SERVICE	46
CAMP ERWIN OWEN	47

MISSION - VALUES

MISSION

The mission of probation services is to reduce the incidence and impact of criminal behavior of juveniles and adults.

VALUES

Commitment • Integrity • Professionalism

OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The Probation Department is committed to staff development and an ongoing evaluation of all services provided.

Staff are encouraged to provide input to influence the direction of the department and to improve the delivery of services.

To achieve our goals, the Probation Department will strive to be responsive to community needs and concerns.

KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Presiding Judge – John W. Lua

Metropolitan Division

Judith K. Dulcich
John D. Oglesby
Charles R. Brehmer
J. Eric Bradshaw
John R. Brownlee
Brian M. McNamara
Tiffany Organ-Bowles
Kenneth C. Twisselman II
Chad Louie
Michael A. Caves
Bradley King
Gloria J. Cannon
Elizabet Rodriguez
Andrew Kendall
Sally Ackerknecht
Thomas S. Clark
David R. Zulfa
Michael G. Bush

Metropolitan Division – Juvenile Justice Center

Brett Myers
Marcus Cuper
Christie Canales Norris
Susan M. Gill

Metropolitan Division – Traffic Court

James B. Green
T. Mark Smith

Metropolitan Division Justice Building

Cynthia L. Loo
Donald B. Griffith
Kevin Moran
Raymonda Burnham Marquez
Dawn Bittleston
Lisa Pacione
Tanya R. Richard
Bernard Barman, Jr.
Gregory A. Pulskamp
Stephanie R. Childers
Gina M. Cervantes

North Division

Jose R. Benavides
Wendy Avila
David E. Wolf
Keenan Perkins
Marcos Camacho

East Division

Jason W. Webster
Cole McKnight
Kenneth R. Green
Murray Robertson

South Division

Bryan K. Stainfield
William J. Schlaerth

KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



District 1 – Supervisor Phillip Peters

District 2 – Supervisor Chris Parlier

District 3 – Supervisor Jeff Flores

District 4 – Vice Chairman David Couch

District 5 – Chairman Leticia Perez

KERN COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

Jamie M. Henderson
Chairman

Robert Kilgore
Vice Chairman

John Alcala
Secretary

Matthew Branch
Timothy Kleier
Sandeep Malhi

Bryan Meyer
Teresa Vasquez
Ray Yocum

PROBATION DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION



William Dickinson
Chief Probation Officer

DEPUTY CHIEFS



Scott Royer
Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Administrative Services Bureau



Victor Cotera
Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Adult Services Bureau



Elaine Moore
Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Youth Services Bureau

DIVISION DIRECTORS



Brian Gaona
AB 109 Services



Frank Herrera
Administrative Services



Jason McPhetridge
Adult Court Services



Laura Rivas
Adult Probation Services



Jeremy Roberts
Camp Erwin Owen



Rebecca Vaughan
Fiscal, Research, and Planning



Eric Meyer
Kern Crossroads Facility



Michael Mata
Youth Court and Programs



Ryan Wegis
Youth Detention Center



Joel Walton
Youth Supervision

ASSISTANT DIVISION DIRECTORS



Melanie Gradowitz
Administrative Services



Jason Hillis (Ret.)
Camp Erwin Owen



Teresa Dickey
Camp Erwin Owen



Brian Mara
Kern Crossroads Facility



Marc Herrera
Youth Detention Center



Jessica LaFebre
Youth Detention Center



Jesse Weinman
Technology Services Manager

FISCAL, RESEARCH, AND PLANNING



Rebecca Vaughan
Division Director

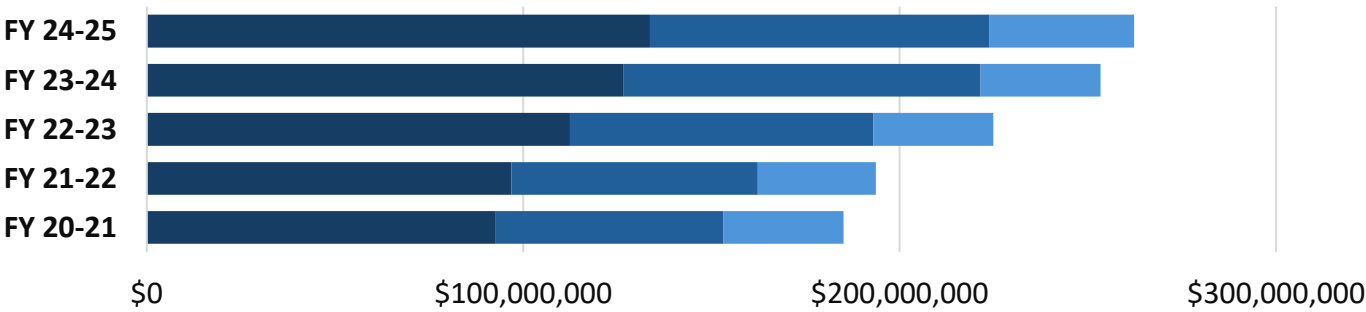
The Fiscal, Research & Planning Division is the financial backbone of department operations as well as strategic planning, data collection, and reporting. In addition, responsibility for nearly all Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) activities are housed under this division. The units within the division include Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Collections, Revenue & Billing, and Research, Analysis & Data (RAD) comprised of 29 staff.

During FY 24-25, the division experienced several operational impacts. Fiscal staff began implementation of a new county-wide financial system in May 2025, completely changing fiscal processes. In addition, due to the State of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Initiative, ongoing discussions with collaborative partners including managed care plans have continued regularly and frequently since 2022. This program changes access and delivery of Medi-Cal services to now include pre-release services to youth in detention facilities. The Research, Analysis & Data (RAD) Unit has been heavily involved in the process. Though the youth institutions have already started implementation, Kern County is scheduled to officially go-live sometime during FY 25-26.

FISCAL SERVICES

Eighteen (18) fiscal staff handle a multitude of complex financial and administrative activities, budget development and preparation, fiscal projections and planning, accounts payable, claims preparation, accounts receivable, victim restitution collection and disbursement, purchasing, revenue, billing, financial reporting, contracts, and capital assets. The department’s budget grew from \$126,683,817 in FY 23-24 to \$133,654,604 in FY 24-25, a 5.5% increase.

Probation Department Approved Budget



	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25
Expenditures	\$92,531,650	\$96,847,043	\$112,444,608	\$126,683,817	\$133,654,604
Revenues	\$60,637,593	\$65,502,986	\$80,550,550	\$94,789,760	\$90,111,247
Net County Cost	\$31,894,057	\$31,344,057	\$31,894,058	\$31,894,057	\$38,511,547

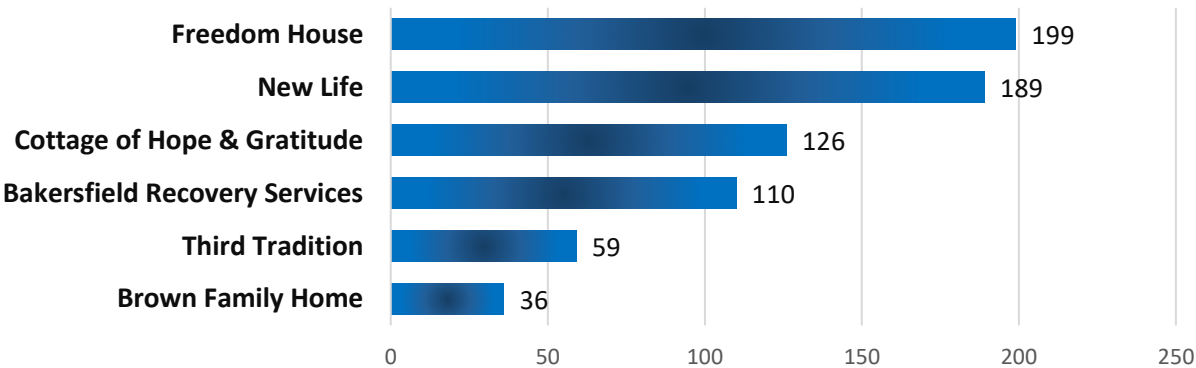
RESEARCH, ANALYSIS, AND DATA (RAD)

The Research, Analysis & Data (RAD) Unit was established in October 2011 to meet the increasing demands for data collection and research initially brought about by the implementation of the Criminal Justice Realignment Act of 2011, also known as Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109). The RAD Unit has grown from one Analyst to include nine staff as of FY 24-25. The unit includes a youth and adult side, each led by a Supervising Departmental Analyst. RAD’s responsibilities include the following: grant writing and management, data collection and analysis, report development, research studies, Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) activities, Senate Bill (SB) 823 Subcommittee activities, coordinating Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Street Interdiction Team (SIT) program coordination, claim preparation and/or review for various programs, project management for CalAIM, and special projects.

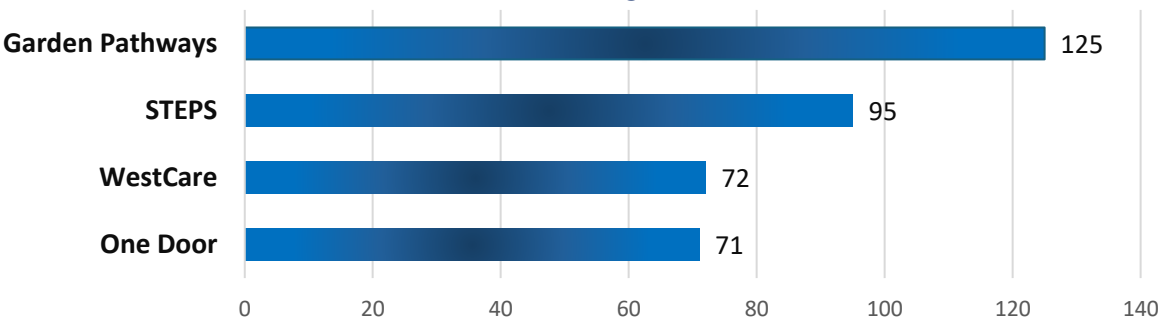
CCP COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PROGRAM

The Community-Based Organizations Program (CBO) provides flexibility to support the needs of the community and respond under the direction of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). CBOs can provide programs for maintaining sobriety, housing opportunities, case management services, or mental health and education/prevention services. These organizations can consist of Sober-Living Environments (SLE’s) and supportive non-residential services. In FY 24-25, 10 organizations worked with participants.

Sober Living Environment Participants
FY 24-25



Non-SLE Participants
FY 24-25



STREET INTERDICTION TEAM (SIT)

The Street Interdiction Team (SIT) is a multi-departmental law enforcement task force consisting of numerous law enforcement agencies throughout the County of Kern. SIT Periodically plans and operates enforcement teams in different regional areas to address specific community needs. This demonstrates a successful showing of force and cooperation throughout Kern County. SIT operations draw an assembly of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies that provide a multitude of experience, information, and resources to ensure the most effective regional policing strategies are put into practice. SIT offers regional law enforcement agencies some relief in addressing AB 109 impacts by pooling resources for intelligence gathering, leveraging resources, and providing agency collaboration and cooperation in tracking offenders as they move throughout Kern County and the State.

In FY 24-25, through the collaboration of this multi-departmental law enforcement task force, 28 SIT Operations (carried out in 32 days, 265 hours) were completed throughout Kern County where the following items were seized:

- Weapons & Other – 33 firearms, 24 ammunition rounds, and knives
- Currency – \$7,927
- Vehicles – 20 various confiscated items including stolen vehicles and stolen motorcycles
- Paraphernalia – digital scale, stun gun, and glass smoke pipes
- Narcotics – 860 grams of a variety of drugs, including methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl, cannabis, psilocybin mushrooms, and MDMA pills



Street Interdiction Team Budget FY 24-25	
FY 23-24 Carryover	\$659,927
FY 24-25 Budget	\$435,524
Q1	\$381,397
Q2	\$130,524
Q3	\$362,440
Q4	\$162,035



Agencies involved with SIT Operations during FY 24-25 include Arvin PD, Bakersfield PD, California City PD, Delano PD, Kern County District Attorney, Kern County Probation Department, Kern County Sheriff's Office, McFarland PD, Ridgecrest PD, Shafter PD, Taft PD, Tehachapi PD, and Wasco PD.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



Frank Herrera
Division Director

The Administrative Services Division is the cornerstone of the Probation Department, supporting the department by providing key logistical support in human resources, technology, staff development, policy development, and administrative investigations. Nearly every aspect of the department’s day-to-day functions are enhanced and influenced by the services provided by this division.



Melanie Gradowitz
Assistant Division Director

The Administrative Services Division continues to meet the challenges of an everchanging employment landscape. The Administrative Services Division strives to provide the highest quality services to the Probation Department to fill vacant positions with the most suitable employees, provide the best trainings available, uphold the public trust, provide human resources guidance, and interpreting and applying statute.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Administrative Services Division combines and centralizes a variety of mission critical support service functions. These services include human resources, payroll, staff training and development, public relations, volunteer services, and intern programs. Additionally, the division conducts pre-employment background investigations, develops and publishes policy, and initiates recruitments for vacancies and promotions.

The Administrative Services Division represents the department at Pitchess Motions, complies with Subpoena Duces Tecum for records, produces records for Juvenile Court proceedings pursuant to WIC 827, and produces records pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

Records Custodian Response FY 24-25	
California Public Records Act	6
Subpoena Duces Tecum	20
WIC 827	22
Pitchess Motions	1

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

The Professional Standards Unit maintains the responsibility of processing permanent and extra help candidates for employment. Priorities include processing background investigations in a timely and efficient manner while being responsive to the department’s needs. The unit maintains extra help employee hiring and retention to provide for adequate staffing levels within the youth detention facilities. In addition, the unit is responsible for conducting security clearances and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) checks on contracted providers, as well as Grand Jury background checks. This requires officers to conduct a wide spectrum of duties ranging from coordinating interviews and physical agility testing to conducting comprehensive background investigations and making referrals to psychological evaluations.

As part of the recruitment process, officers are charged with conducting outreach to local colleges, attending job fairs, maintaining marketing supplies and updating employment information on various websites. During Fiscal Year 2024-2025, recruitment and community outreach played a large role in officer duties. With the assistance of officers from various units, the department continued to make connections with many community members.



Background Statistics FY 24-25	
Background Investigations	241
Permanent Positions	173
Extra-Help Positions (includes rehires)	68
PREA/Security Checks	25
Intern/Volunteer Background Checks	63
Contractor Background Checks	49

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

The mission of the Staff Development Unit is to ensure sworn and non-sworn staff are provided with the most current and diverse training to develop safe, confident, and knowledgeable employees to better serve our community. Sworn



staff are provided with training that meets or exceeds the requirements as established by the Standards and Training for Corrections, a branch of the Board of State and Community Corrections. Non-sworn staff are provided with training that enhances both professional growth and development as well as personal well-being. All training provided is consistent with current legislation and evidence-based practices. This approach broadens the knowledge base of the employees and enhances their effectiveness within the department. Staff are trained and tasked with the dual role of utilizing accountability and opportunity in all facets of their duties. The Staff Development Unit focuses on these responsibilities to provide a professional level of service that meets the needs of the community. The department continues to host a state-approved Juvenile Corrections Officer Core, Deputy Probation Officer Core, Adult Corrections Officer to Juvenile

Corrections Officer Core, Juvenile Corrections Officer to Deputy Probation Officer Core, and Deputy Probation Officer to Juvenile Corrections Officer Core. The training division offered 747 different classes, which totaled 6,034 hours, in the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year.

SPECIAL SERVICES TEAM

The Juvenile Court Work Program (JCWP) is a probationary term serving as an alternative to incarceration. Building positive work habits and encouraging self-esteem while completing community projects is at the core of JCWP. This program teaches discipline through fair and firm rules. Services are provided for referred minors from the Juvenile Court or Traffic Court.

Normally, work is completed for governmental entities or nonprofit organizations, such as the Kern County Parks Department, Kern County Fire Department, Kern County Property Management or the Shafter Animal Shelter, to name a few. Our participants are monitored by Youth Services Officers (YSOs), who ensure youth safety and encourage them to learn new skills.

Occasionally, we are tasked with clearing and cleaning alleys in the areas of the County affected by unlawful dumping. This fiscal year, JCWP serviced 301 youth with a total of 14,722 hours of community service. Two YSOs are assigned to JCWP as part of the Special Projects program. They are dedicated to repairing and installing items throughout the department in areas restricted to minors. The Special Projects program is tasked with reducing department costs by performing repairs and installations. They have reduced these costs by eliminating some installation/assembly charges for furniture, appliances, and earthquake protection for heavy items.

FIREARMS/RANGE

The range staff consists of ten Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified instructors. Each quarter, they qualify more than 180-armed field officers and provide ongoing training to maintain proficiency. Training is conducted on two primary weapon platforms: pistol and shotgun. In addition, all new officers complete a 36-hour firearms course focused on firearms law, safety, marksmanship, and tactics. Selected officers also receive specialized instruction through a 36-hour shotgun course. The range staff ensure that officers remain skilled and confident with both handguns and shotguns, and they also serve as expert witnesses in firearms-related cases when needed.



SIMUNITIONS

The Simunitions (SIMS) staff consist of 24 SIMS certified instructors. They are responsible for providing ongoing training to the 180 plus armed field officers. SIMS is a scenario-based force-on-force training that allows officers to train under stressful conditions and teach them the most appropriate response to their situation. Officers are exposed to a variety of scenarios they may encounter in the field. SIMS training prepares officers to make quick, sound decisions under stress, which is essential for their safety and the safety of the community. All field officers are initially sent through a 40-hour class and receive up to eight hours of training annually. SIMS remains one of the best training platforms to teach and reinforce PC 835(a), SB10, department policies, and safety practices.

FORCE OPTIONS SIMULATOR (FOS)

The department continues to recognize the importance of offering the most updated training resources to fill in or enhance standard training platforms. The VirTra simulator utilizes all the weapon systems our field officers are equipped with and can provide real-time results to tailor training sessions to fit the specific needs of an officer. With over 300 simulations to choose from, FOS instructors become well equipped to assist an officer in any capacity. The dedicated FOS site allows instructors to train officers utilizing the specific offerings of the FOS system. It also assists in reaffirming or enhancing lessons learned from FOS within the classroom setting at the facility. FOS also allows officers to train with their same department issued firearm platform, Glock 17. During FOS training sessions, officers are given the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to safely handle their department firearm, manipulate, and shoot the department handgun qualification course during day and night (low-light) conditions.

FLEET

Our 240+ vehicle fleet is operated by our Fleet Manager and a Probation Technician. The Fleet Manager ensures vehicles are maintained on a regular schedule, repaired when damaged and replaced when appropriate. Patrol vehicles are appropriately equipped, and all transport, commuter, and service vehicles are utilized appropriately. We also manage and track the vehicles' fuel use via department issued gas cards.



TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The mission of the Technology Services Unit is to provide the highest quality technological services, in the most cost-effective manner, to facilitate the mission of Probation as it applies to reducing the incidence and criminal behavior of juveniles and adults. We promote the use of technology to support the department's mission, empower staff, foster collaboration, and to improve inefficient operations through automation.

PROBATION VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer Services offers valuable support to probation programs, activities, and staff. The Probation Volunteer Services Coordinators recruit, screen, train, and place volunteers in various units throughout the department. The coordinators also provide support for inter-agency contractors in all three youth facilities. Volunteer Services Coordinators further conduct background clearances for all the volunteers and contractor personnel.



Community volunteers are vital to the success of the department. The volunteers donate thousands of hours each year providing mentoring, artistic outlets, life skills, and introducing hobbies. Potential volunteers may apply as part of an active volunteer organization such as Mindfulness Meditation, Outsiders' Nation, and Youth for Christ. Others volunteer individually as inspirational speakers telling life-stories and experiences.

Volunteer/Intern Services FY 24-25		
	Volunteers	Accumulated Hours
New Volunteers		
Juvenile	63	-
Institutions		
Youth Detention Center	232	2,180.60
Camp Erwin Owen	34	1,311.12
Crossroads	103	1,331.90
Total	432	4,823.62
CA Volunteer Rate = \$40.14		\$193,620.11

One volunteer-led program that is notable for its success is the Mindfulness Breathing classes taught by a volunteer from the Comprehensive Blood and Cancer Center (CBCC). These classes have helped youth achieve relaxation through breath work. Youth have expressed the breathing techniques have started to help them sleep at night and calm their minds in negative situations. Classes also include drawing, painting, shadowing, and abstract art which allows our youth an opportunity to connect, relate, and grow through this mindfulness program.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The department continues to leverage social media as a valuable resource for connecting with the community. Interactive technology enables regular engagement with the public and provides insight into the department's responsibilities. The department's continued investment in expanding its reach through the use of social media has led to the utilization of a Social Media Coordinator and a Probation Technician. With these two dedicated staff members focused on enhancing social engagement, the department's community relations efforts have grown significantly and are poised for further growth in the coming years. Multiple social media platforms are employed to share relevant information about department services, special events, safety topics, staff recruitment, and employee accomplishments. The department's Facebook page reaches approximately 697.3k users, gaining 1.2k new likes, while 16.5k users have clicked on the department's Linktree link to learn more about services and job opportunities. On Instagram, the department reaches around 151.8k users, accumulating 1k new followers, with 8.2k users clicking on the Linktree for more information. The department consistently utilizes platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to communicate important information to the public.

Community Relations plays a crucial role in connecting the department with the community, focusing on fostering strong relationships through social media engagement and outreach initiatives. By participating in various community and recruitment events, the department demonstrates its commitment to being an active and accessible presence within the community. This approach ensures community members feel informed and involved in the department's efforts.

Social Media Statistics FY 24-25		
Facebook Posts	Instagram Posts	X Posts
363	363	40



A significant aspect of our strategy includes leveraging social media as a vital communication tool. With the appointment of a dedicated Social Media Coordinator and Probation Technician, the department has enhanced its public interaction and engagement, utilizing platforms like Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and X to share important information about services, events, and recruitment opportunities. This social media strategy increases the department's visibility, effectively promotes its values, and showcases the diverse roles available within the organization.

Kern County Probation Department

NOW HIRING

BUSINESS MANAGER

- Bachelor's degree in business or public administration
- Possession of valid Class C California Driver's License prior to the time of appointment is required.
- 2 years of experience in management, administration, or staff roles with a focus on budget analysis, personnel management, or related fields; or equivalent combination of training and experience.

APPLY NOW

<https://linktr.ee/kernprobation>





KERN COUNTY
PROBATION
DEPARTMENT

We Are Hiring PROBATION TECHNICIAN

REQUIREMENT

- ✓ Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of college coursework, including courses in the behavioral sciences.
- ✓ A valid California Class C driver's license is required at time of appointment.
- ✓ Pass a background check
- ✓ Candidates must be willing to work in Bakersfield or any other community throughout Kern County.

Click on the link in our bio or go to our linktree to apply today!

<https://linktr.ee/kernprobation>

Recruitment Closes September 25th

www.kernprobation.com

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 Assist probation officers with performing caseload management activities; reviews cases; schedules appointments; enters progress notes in case files and enters information in a case management system.
- 2 Conducts risk and/or needs assessments; completes case plans and reports according to needs.
- 3 Assists clients in communicating with representatives of the department, community agencies, and others.
- 4 Other as assigned

NOW HIRING





DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICERS

NOW HIRING

HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT

The Human Resources (HR) Unit is comprised of one Administrative Coordinator, two Senior Human Resources Specialists and two Human Resources Specialists. From hiring to retiring and everything in between, the unit handles Human Resources support and payroll processing for every employee of the Probation Department.

One of the most crucial functions of the unit is payroll, diligently processing an average of 665 timecards bi-weekly, ensuring each employee is paid accurately and in a timely manner. Additionally, the unit oversees a variety of employee status changes including name changes, address changes, officer fitness pay, STC Certificate pay, new recruitments, and promotions. Furthermore, they maintain the Organizational Chart, Employee Roster, and Employee Performance Reports.

The office facilitates department hiring as approved by the County Administrative Office and has experienced an increase in back filling positions in the current fiscal year. For Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the unit has fingerprinted and notarized 379 individuals including permanent and Extra Help candidates, new hire candidates, volunteers, interns, Behavioral Health and medical staff, and Buena Vista Museum volunteers. The Human Resources Unit ensures compliance with Workers' Compensation injury reports of accidents and injuries to the rules and regulations of California Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

HR staff provide the assistance and guidance placing staff on approved leaves of absence. Some of the most common processed leaves include non-job-related Illness or Disability, Pregnancy Disability Leave, Family Care Leave, Compensable Disability, Personal Necessity Leave, and Intermittent Leave.

The unit priorities revolve around serving the people that make up the department. They take pride in the department and support staff in both payroll and human resources capacities. This allows staff to focus on carrying out the department's mission of service to the community. Now and going forward, the unit intends to develop, refine, and expand HR skills to continue offering the best support, training, and customer service to employees, clients, and the community.

ADULT COURT SERVICES



Jason McPhetridge
Division Director

The Adult Court Services Division provides investigation and pretrial services to the Superior Court. Officers in the division work tirelessly providing valuable information to help with informed decision making. These efforts further public safety, a fair court process and positive pretrial outcomes. The following is a more detailed breakdown of the Adult Court Services Division.

INVESTIGATION UNITS

The Adult Investigations Units serve the Superior Court by providing pre-sentence investigation reports based on an analysis of a defendant’s social and criminal history, the nature of the crime, the impact on the victim (if applicable), and the sentencing law as it applies to the specific charges pled and proven. The court either requests a full pre-sentence investigation report or a “short” report. Due to recent legislative changes, the unit also must complete various reports related to re-sentencing. The Investigation Units are required to learn, understand, and implement complex intricacies of the law to help the court make informed decisions.

In addition to composing court reports, Officers in Adult Investigations appear in court representing the department as Court Hearing Officers (CHO). These duties include providing various court-related services to regional courts, the Pre-Preliminary Court, Felony Revocation Court and the misdemeanor courts. These CHOs provide specialized assistance to the courtrooms they serve. CHOs assigned to the misdemeanor court help process hundreds of cases daily by providing information pertaining to probation compliance, expungement eligibility and recommendations for new law violations. This service alleviates tremendous stress to the Misdemeanor Court by helping find quick resolutions to many cases. CHOs assigned to the Pre-Preliminary Court provide detailed information to help resolve felony cases early in the court process. Those officers assigned to the Felony Revocation Court review probation compliance, possible violations of various post-conviction supervision statuses and record relief eligibility.

Regardless of where they are assigned or the specific duties, Adult Investigation Officers play an integral part in the Criminal Court system.

Investigation Statistics FY 24 – 25	
Superior Court Pre-Sentence Full Reports	420
Superior Court Pre-Sentence Short Reports	4,070

PRETRIAL UNITS

The Pretrial Units were created in response to the California Supreme Court decision *In re Humphrey*. The units have two primary functions and is staffed with both probation officers and probation technicians.

The first function is to gather and submit a pretrial assessment report to the court for arraignment which consists of a brief summation of the defendant’s criminal history and an empirically based pretrial assessment and release matrix. The information is intended to assist judicial officers with pretrial release decisions. If the court decides to release the defendant into the community, the information helps the court determine the appropriate level of monitoring.

Secondly, the units provide monitoring services of defendants released from pretrial detention. Based on the level of monitoring designated by the Court, defendants are contacted monthly via phone and/or by conducting home calls. Additionally, GPS tracking, alcohol monitoring, bus vouchers and other services are available for select defendants. Defendants on monitoring have been accused of committing crimes ranging from low-level felonies to murder.

Pretrial Statistics FY 24-25	
Assessment Reports Completed	6,800
Monthly Average of Defendants Monitored	166
Monthly Average of Defendants Monitored on GPS	18

Both units work together with the court to provide a constitutionally sound system for the accused while also helping to ensure community safety.



ADULT PROBATION SERVICES



Laura Rivas

Division Director

The Adult Services Division provides supervision services to over 6,300 offenders placed on felony probation. Officers in the division work tirelessly holding offenders accountable for their criminal decisions and providing them the opportunity to become law abiding and productive community members. Officers work diligently to creating tailored case plans to target top criminogenic needs while working collaboratively with community-based programs to provide services. The following is a more detailed breakdown of the Adult Services Division.

FELONY SUPERVISION UNITS

Felony probation is the suspension of the imposition or execution of a sentence and the order of conditional and revocable release in the community under the supervision of a Deputy Probation Officer. The Adult Services Division has four supervision units charged with serving over 6,300 offenders on felony probation. This conditional release typically ranges from three to five years in length. During this time, officers monitor their compliance with terms and conditions imposed by the Court. Felony probationers are placed on specific caseloads based on risk level and offense type. These specialty caseloads include mental health, domestic violence, substance abuse, sex offenses, human trafficking, gangs, and DUI. Officers assigned to these caseloads receive specialized training to meet the specific demands of each caseload.

Supervision Unit D supervises felony probationers who assess as high risk to reoffend and pose the greatest potential threat to community safety. These felony probationers include active gang members, drug traffickers/dealers, sex



offenders, and high-profile offenders. They also oversee sex offender caseloads which include stringent reporting requirements to the state, GPS ankle monitoring, counseling as required by Chelsea's Law, and intense supervision due to the safety concerns presented to the community. One officer is assigned to the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (CalMMET)/HIDTA. These specialized task forces work diligently and collaboratively at eliminating drug trafficking in Kern County. Officers from the division regularly assist in operations to combat drug trafficking organizations.

Noteworthy statistics for KC-HIDTA are as follows:

- 287 operations
- 319 arrests (65 fugitives)
- 1 butane honey oil lab
- 175 firearms seized
- \$620,000 in cash seized
- Methamphetamine: 2,560 lbs. and 2,746 lbs. in solution
- 5 meth laboratories dismantled
- Cocaine: 284 lbs.
- Heroin: 17lbs

- Psilocybin: 24 lbs.
- Marijuana: 11,937 lbs. and 243K plants
- THC edibles/other: 925 lbs. and 9,307 THC vapes

Additionally, the division oversees administrative caseloads and is responsible for processing in and out of county transfers and interstate compact cases and works with Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision.



Officers regularly meet with probationers both in the office and in the field. During office conferences, officers meet with probationers and review their terms and conditions, conduct Offender’s Needs Assessments, refer to appropriate service providers, and construct and tailor case plans to best assist probationers in becoming productive, successful, and law-abiding members of the community. In addition to office conferences, officers conduct home calls to ensure compliance and verify probationers’ progress with their case plans.

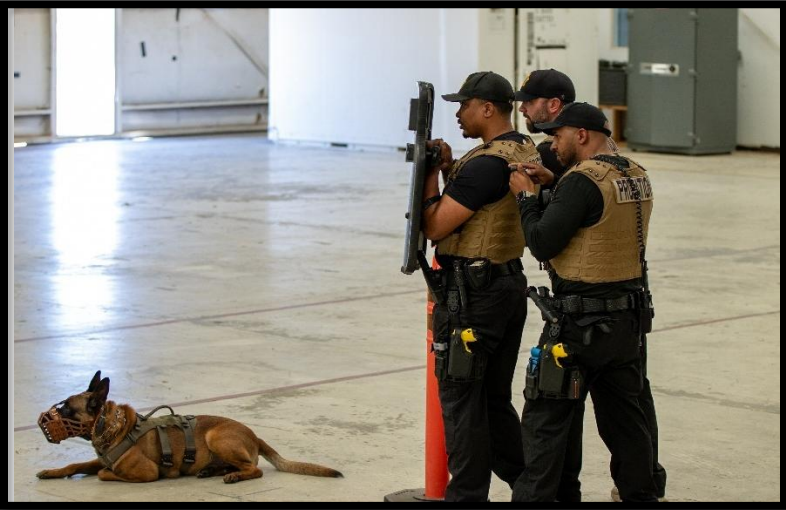
If a violation is discovered, officers determine the appropriate response to the violation and whether it will involve an informal sanction or a filing of a Declaration letter to inform the Court of the probationer’s non-compliance. However, equal importance is placed on assisting probationers while still providing for public safety.

Over the last year, the division has made over 38 arrests for drug related new law violations, conducted 27 gang investigations, 14 human trafficking investigations and PC 290 investigations, provided gang testimony on 2 cases and testified in one human trafficking case, authored approximately 10 search warrants, and seized approximately 33 firearms which led to approximately 21 arrests for firearm or ammunition related charges. Officers have assisted allied agencies in multiple operations in efforts to keep the community safe and maintained ongoing community engagement through various community events.

Felony Supervision FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	3,287
Office Conferences	9,723
Declaration Letters Filed	1,505

K-9 PROGRAM

The department’s K-9 program, which was implemented in 2005, also resides in the Adult Probation Services Division under the purview of the Supervision D Unit. The mission of the K-9 Program is to provide narcotic detection capability to aid in the investigation and prosecution of persons engaged in illegal narcotic activities. Additionally, the K-9 is trained to apprehend violent and dangerous persons who pose danger to the community and/or officers.



Through Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funding, the department was able to purchase another canine to assist officers in the field. In June of 2025, K9 Sepp retired from service and the department welcomed K9 Enzo to the family. The Probation K-9 team has partnered with allied law enforcement in their efforts to ensure a safe community. In addition to the K-9’s apprehension abilities, allied agencies have relied on the K-9 team’s detection services including requests for K-9 searches of stopped vehicles.



*Sepp
Retired June 2025*



Welcome Enzo!

AB 109 SERVICES



Brian Gaona

Division Director

The AB 109 Services Division is responsible for the supervision of felony offenders under the statuses of Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), Mandatory Supervision (MS), and Felony Probation. Each of these statuses have different rules and regulations which are discussed below. In addition, the AB 109 Services Division provides rehabilitation services to offenders through the Adult Programs and Supports (APS) Unit. The AB 109 Services Division truly strives to uphold the model of “accountability and opportunity” to all those we serve.

POST RELEASE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION (PRCS)

As a result of AB 109 realignment in 2011, the Probation Department became responsible for supervising PRCS offenders. These offenders are released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) being classified as “low-level” offenders. This State classification is misleading because a large percentage of these offenders have prior serious/violent felony convictions; however, they still qualify for PRCS because their current offenses are not serious/violent. Many of the offenders on PRCS display criminal sophistication and a propensity for violence, so it is critical they are provided opportunities to make positive changes in their lives while being held accountable for any continuing criminal and antisocial behavior. Two supervision units are exclusively dedicated to monitoring the PRCS population, which consists of approximately 2,100 offenders with approximately 1,000 offenders being actively supervised with some of those having Felony Probation status as well. In 2025, Officers assigned to the PRCS Unit completed approximately 2,513 field contacts and conducted over 1,706 arrests for various offenses which included violations of PRCS, and Felony Probation, and a variety of new law violations for firearms, ammunition, and drugs/sales related charges as well as charges related to drugs or theft with two prior convictions under Proposition 36.

Field Supervision and Enforcement Spotlight

During the fiscal year officers in the PRCS Unit conducted a home call in the 6000 block of Knudsen Drive in Bakersfield. Officers contacted a subject who was on active Post Release Community Supervision as well as a female subject and a youth. During a search of the residence, officers located approximately 7.86 grams suspected methamphetamine, approximately 19.23 grams suspected fentanyl, a Ruger model P89DG 9mm firearm reported as stolen, ammunition, multiple digital scales, various denominations of US currency, pepper spray and drug paraphernalia. Due to the condition of the room as well as the availability and access of the contraband, the youth was taken into protective custody.

As a result, both adult subjects were arrested for various charges which included possession of a controlled substance for sales, possession of controlled substance while armed, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of ammunition by a prohibited person, unlawful possession of tear gas, receive/possess stolen property, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, and child neglect.



MANDATORY SUPERVISION (MS)

In addition to PRCS, AB 109 created a second supervision type under Penal Code Section 1170(h), known as Mandatory Supervision (MS). MS is the supervision status for an offender who is denied felony probation but is no longer eligible for state prison as a result of AB 109 legislation. Offenders are often committed to the County jail for a period of incarceration followed by supervision through the Probation Department. As with the PRCS population, Mandatory Supervision offenders often show greater criminal sophistication and propensity for violence typically found in the State Parole population. This unit also supervises offenders with multiple different types of supervision statuses, and it is not uncommon for officers in this unit to supervise offenders with cases that fall under not only Mandatory Supervision, but Post Release Community Supervision and Felony Supervision as well. The MS Unit is dedicated to supervising over 700 offenders. Officers completed approximately 1200 field contacts and conducted over 280 arrests for various offenses which included violations of MS, PRCS, and Felony Probation, and a variety of new law violations for firearms, ammunition, and drugs/sales related charges as well as charges related to drugs or theft with two prior convictions under Proposition 36.

AB 109 FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	3,713
Office Conferences	7,533
Declaration Letters Filed	1,986

Field Supervision and Enforcement Spotlight

During the year, officers in MS conducted a home call in the 400 block of 15th Avenue, Delano, CA. Officers contacted a subject, who was on active Mandatory and Felony probation. During the search, officers located a 9mm semi-automatic handgun, .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun, 20-gauge Mossberg shotgun, live 9mm and .45 caliber ammunition, Tan Tactical body armor, and 19 grams suspected methamphetamine.

As a result, the subject was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, possession of ammunition by a prohibited person, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of a controlled substance by being armed and possession of body armor by prohibited person.



ADULT PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS (APS)

The Adult Programs and Supports (APS) Unit encompasses the Kern County Probation Department's Adult Program Center (APC) and the GEO Day Reporting Center (DRC).

The DRC is contracted with GEO Reentry, a company that operates similar reporting centers throughout the nation. GEO Reentry has a long history of successfully reducing recidivism with their programs. They use the same assessment tool as the Probation Department, formalize specific case plans to address criminogenic needs, and provide a wide variety of evidence-based programs (EBP's) and other services onsite. Criminogenic needs related to employment, education, aggression, antisocial behavior, domestic violence, and substance abuse can all be addressed in one location. Key components of the DRC include Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, job readiness, substance abuse testing, daily reporting, sanctions, rewards, and supervision in conjunction with GEO Reentry and the assigned Deputy Probation Officers. The DRC can change the lives of offenders and break the cycle of criminal behavior, which is crucial

to decreasing recidivism, reducing crime, ensuring public safety, and limiting societal and monetary costs. The Probation Department has witnessed the incredible and positive transformation of DRC graduates and believes this program is key to reducing recidivism and complying with the AB 109 legislative intent.

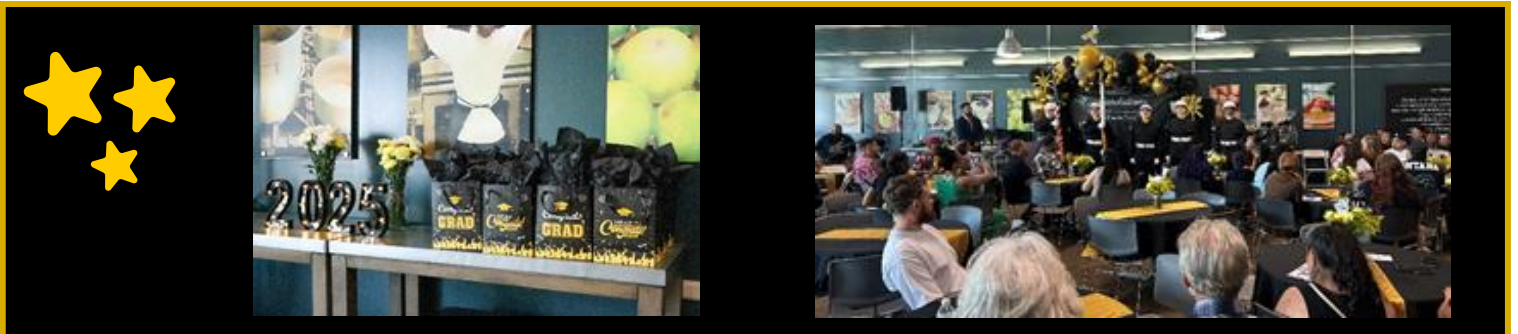
The Adult Programs Center (APC) is a program within the Adult Programs and Supports Unit of the AB 109 Services Division which focuses on delivering evidence-based programs (EBP) to adult offenders on Felony Probation, Mandatory Supervision, and Post Release Community Supervision. APC is unique in that the program is mostly delivered by non-sworn Probation Program Specialists. These Specialists are provided extensive training in numerous EBP modalities to address the specific criminogenic needs of the offender, such as employment, education, aggression, antisocial peers, antisocial behavior, and substance abuse. Currently, APC delivers the following EBP modalities: Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Substance Abuse (CBI-SUA) and Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS). The modalities involve both group and individual counseling sessions and have demonstrated reduced recidivism through empirical evidence.

The APC is constantly adjusting and evolving to meet the needs of the offender and the community. As a result, the APC continues to make changes within the program as it grows and is focused on increasing the delivery of services through the following components: job development, education coordination, trauma-informed care, and substance abuse treatment with drug/alcohol testing.

◆◆◆ APC Graduation ~ *Highlighting Sustained Success* ◆◆◆



APC held its annual graduation ceremony on June 25, 2025. Program Specialists and Program Deputy Probation Officers work together to keep participants motivated and actively engaged to fully participate in treatment. Staff provide referrals to supportive services while holding participants accountable to program expectations and monitor their progression to achieve their goals within the program. This year, the APC program celebrated 28 graduates who were committed to positive life change and successfully completed the APC program. These participants completed some of the following required classes: Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Thinking for a Change (T4C), Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), and Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Substance Use Adult (CBI-SUA). In addition, they completed one-on-one EPICS (Effective Practices in Community Supervision) sessions with their program specialist. Some participants obtained and maintained sobriety, found part-time and full-time employment, entered vocational programs and higher education, and followed through with specialist and probation referrals for additional supportive services with sober living environments and housing programs.



Additionally, because of their successes, most of our graduates were nearing completion of probation or have already successfully completed probation. Three APC participants gave heartfelt and eloquent speeches about their achievements and how they persevered to attain their goals while in the APC program. Three APC graduates were also acknowledged for their successes and received awards for “Perfect Attendance,” for “Outstanding Participation,” and “Perseverance.” These award recipients received a special gift bag prepared by APC staff and received a \$50 Visa gift card



provided by the Probation Auxiliary County of Kern (PACK). All graduates received a special gift bag and received their APC graduation certificates. The APC graduates were celebrated at a formal ceremony, where they enjoyed live entertainment and shared a great meal together along with their families and special guests, the Probation Management Team, and probation officers who were in attendance. Congratulations to our 2025 APC Graduates!



YOUTH COURT AND PROGRAMS



Michael Mata
Division Director

The Youth Court and Programs Division provides a myriad of services to justice-involved youth. School staff provide support to youth in the educational setting while Program Specialists provide evidence-based services to reduce recidivism by addressing criminogenic needs. To determine appropriate dispositions for new law violations, Youth Investigations Officers move cases through the Court process.

I am very proud to serve alongside the staff of the Youth Court and Programs Division. We serve a unique and critical role in the Juvenile Justice System and exemplify the department's dual philosophies of "Accountability and Opportunity".

INVESTIGATION UNITS I AND II

Youth Investigations I and II provide a multitude of services for the Juvenile Court. Upon receiving a law enforcement report, the Petition Desk submits the report to the District Attorney's Office for review. If the District Attorney files charges, a Petition is filed and a Court date is set. The case is then assigned to an investigations officer. Other duties of the Petition Desk include processing applications for record seals pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 781 and providing reports to the Court, conducting emancipation interviews, and making recommendations to the Court pursuant to Family Code Section 7120.



The investigations officer reviews the law enforcement report, obtains medical, mental health, and school records, works with victims of crime, interviews the youth and their family, utilizes a risk assessment tool to determine a youth's risk level to reoffend and criminogenic needs, and makes recommendations for services. With the information gathered during the investigation, the investigations officer prepares memorandums and dispositional reports for the Court which include a recommended disposition that addresses the youth's criminogenic needs and focuses on providing the appropriate level of rehabilitation, consequence, and services to the offender.



There are two staff assigned as Court Hearing Officers (CHO) who are responsible for representing the Probation Department in Court during Wardship proceedings. They review the Court calendar and ensure all reports going to Court are accurate and complete. The CHO supports Probation recommendations, provides insight and makes notes during the hearing. Following the hearing, the CHO gives the youth and their parents any necessary guidance and forms.

When a youth is before the Juvenile Court and appears to fall under both WIC Sections 602 and 300, the Court will order a Joint Assessment pursuant to WIC 241.1 to determine if delinquency or dependency will best serve the needs of the youth. Investigations officers prepare reports which include a psychosocial and educational history of the youth, the circumstances which led to the youth's removal from the home, the circumstances of the alleged offense, and recommendations from the youth's social workers, attorneys, and Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer.

When a youth's competence to stand trial is in question, the Court will suspend proceedings pursuant to WIC 709 and appoint a psychologist to assess the youth. The psychologist conducts an evaluation of the youth and prepares a report for the Court with recommendations as to the youth's competence. If it is determined the youth is incompetent to stand trial, the Court will order the youth to participate in competency training through the Probation Department or Kern Regional Center. The investigations officer provides individualized competency training to the youth to assist in restoring them to trial competency. The assigned officer provides the Court with a memorandum regarding the youth's progress and reassessment of competency by an appointed psychologist.

With the passage of Proposition 57 in November 2016, the Juvenile Court gained sole discretion to determine whether a youth is tried as a juvenile or as an adult in a Court of criminal jurisdiction. Investigation Officers provide a detailed social, educational, and behavioral history of the youth as well as recommendations to the Court as to whether the youth is likely to be rehabilitated prior to the expiration of the Juvenile Court's jurisdiction.

The passage of SB 823 in September 2020 resulted in the closure of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation – Division of Juvenile Justice and required counties to develop Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTF) to provide long-term housing and treatment for those higher need youth. Pursuant to WIC 875, youth who have been adjudicated for an offense which falls under WIC 707(b) are eligible for SYTF. The Investigations Officer will address the applicable criteria and make a recommendation to the Court as to the appropriateness of commitment to the SYTF.



PRE-SCREEN SERVICES

Youth Investigations II also includes a Pre-screen Unit responsible for reviewing all law enforcement reports and citations for youth who are out of custody and not on probation. The purpose of the pre-screen assessment is to establish whether a youth is low, moderate, or high risk to reoffend based primarily on static risk factors. The "Risk Principle" consists of determining if the youth is at risk of future criminal behavior and matching interventions and supervision to the risk level of the offender. This principle indicates interventions should be focused primarily on higher risk offenders.

If a youth, who is under the age of 18, is cited for a misdemeanor charge that does not involve restitution, a warning letter may be sent without an investigation being conducted. If circumstances indicate further investigation is needed, the youth is assigned to a Pre-screen Officer. During the investigation, if a youth is determined to be low risk to reoffend, every effort is made to divert him/her to community resources. If the youth is arrested for a felony offense and is fourteen years of age or older, officers are required to have the case reviewed by the District Attorney's Office before diversion. If the youth is found to be at moderate or high risk to reoffend, the case will typically be sent to the Petition Desk who will submit a petition request to the District Attorney's Office.

Another responsibility of Pre-screen Officers is participation in the Child Death Review Board. Representatives from various agencies, including Public Health, Bakersfield Police Department, District Attorney's Office, and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, meet monthly to review each case involving the death of a child. The Board gathers data and creates annual reports to aid in planning community outreach and improving services for the public.

BRIDGES ACADEMY

Bridges Career Development Academy is a structured and supervised school-based collaborative between the department and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, for high school-aged youths. The program accepts youth



ordered by the Court, referred by their probation officer, and exiting an in-custody treatment program. Bridges students are offered the opportunity to finish their high school requirements with a blended-learning model, consisting of career and technical courses, career-readiness training and support, work-based learning opportunities, evidence-based treatment, on-site mental health services, on-site daycare, and college and career focused field trips. Every youth enrolled at Bridges Academy is assigned to a Resource Officer. The Resource Officers provide students with referrals for treatment to meet their court orders, assist in obtaining documents for employment, and arrange transportation to and from school.

Additionally, Resource Officers provide daily contact, guidance, and mentoring while the youth are attending Bridges Academy. The school maintains a target of 80 students and generally runs at capacity. Bridges Academy offers a block schedule that offers construction technology provided by an instructor who is certified by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (N.C.C.E.R.). Completion of the Core Construction course provides the students with an international industry-recognized certification in basic construction knowledge and skills.

To address career readiness and soft skills attainment, youth participate in a multi-week Senior Intensive Course. The youth take classes in leadership, team building, financial management, business communications, resumé writing, portfolio development, interviewing techniques and etiquette skills. Bridges students recognize the benefits they are receiving, and it has become a safe and supportive environment to come to each day. There is also an Alumni Club for

youth that has exited Bridges, where former students can return to update resumes, conduct job searches in the computer lab, receive support for upcoming job interviews, and get help with FAFSA completion and college registration.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS

The Youth Programs and Supports (YPS) Unit was created to bring evidence-based and best practices treatment into the Probation Department, allowing for easier access and measurable outcomes. The mission of YPS is to empower youth by providing support and intensive skill training through evidence-based practices to reduce delinquent behavior for a safer community. The unit is designed to offer youth a respectful and safe environment for individualized treatment to address their criminogenic needs through evidence-based and cognitive behavioral treatment models. The curriculum is delivered in an office setting, as well as offsite at the department's youth treatment facilities and Bridges Academy.



The unit receives referrals from Probation Officers based upon youth's Court orders and/or criminogenic needs. Program Specialists facilitate curricula in group settings and/or on a one-on-one basis depending on the youth's needs. The treatment provided promotes accountability, development of attainable goals, and a framework for making positive changes in personal values for increased success and reduced recidivism.

The current Probation Supervisor of YPS is the department liaison for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). As the liaison, the supervisor sits on the county-wide steering committee that is led by the Department of Human Services as well as the steering committee for the Kern Coalition Against Human Trafficking grassroots community group. Participation on the county-wide steering committee is a requirement of the state in order for the county to be eligible for federal funding. The steering committee is responsible for creating policy, planning training, and identifying resources for CSEC. Additionally, the supervisor leads a department Human Trafficking Team tasked with educating department staff and facilitating resources for identified and suspected CSEC youth supervised by Probation.



"Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment."

John Madden

YOUTH SUPERVISION



Joel Walton
Division Director

The Youth Supervision Division consists of the Youth Re-Entry Supervision Unit, the Youth Metro Supervision Unit, the Youth Placement Supervision Unit, the Youth Regional Supervision Unit, and the Clerical II Support Unit. These units provide youth on probation up to the age of 25 an array of services which include intense supervision, case planning and targeted case management, referrals to services to address criminogenic needs, and the care and treatment of placement youth whose care, custody, and control have been vested with the Probation Department. Officers conduct home calls, administer drug tests, maintain and update case plans, complete Court reports, and provide transportation for youth committed to our facilities to and from medical appointments and Court hearings. Service referrals to the Garden Pathways Mentoring program, the SMART Team, mental health providers, educational services, the Youth Programs and Supports Unit, and community partners are completed on a regular basis.

I am proud of the care, compassion, and dedication our officers and support staff exhibit on a regular basis in providing the young people of Kern County with “Accountability and Opportunity” in their lives.

YOUTH METRO SUPERVISION

Youth Metro Supervision (YMS) officers provide the bulk of youth supervision in the Metro Bakersfield area, and they supervise Low, Moderate, and High risk to reoffend youth. Youth assigned to YMS are referred to services based upon specific Court orders or based upon an assessment and case plan. Officers conduct assessments and develop case plans to evaluate each youth and formulate a plan to address each youth’s specific criminogenic needs. YMS officers routinely refer youth to counseling services to address anger management, substance abuse, and any other issues the youths or their families may need to address to support a successful family dynamic. YMS officers also monitor school attendance and performance and routinely file violations of probation with the Court upon identifying and attempting to correct non-compliance with the Court’s orders. YMS officers also assist as needed for transporting youth to and from medical appointments and Court hearings.

Metro Supervision FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	1,872
Office Contacts	1,528
Petitions	159
Arrests	66
Probation Searches	2,610
Drug Tests	813
Court Reports	92

Officers in Youth Metro Supervision regularly participate in a myriad of community activities including school career/college days, Reading Across America, and Dr. Seuss Day at local elementary schools. In addition, officers with the YMS Unit provide home visitor safety presentations to local non-profit organizations and governmental agencies to highlight issues related to safety during home calls.

YOUTH RE-ENTRY SUPERVISION

The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) program was created by the Crime Prevention Act of 2000 to provide a stable funding source for local juvenile justice programs aimed at curbing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth. JJCPA provides funding for the Youth Re-Entry Supervision Unit.

The Youth Re-Entry Supervision Unit is dedicated to providing wards who have been committed to Camp Erwin Owen, the Pathways Academy, the Kern Crossroads Facility, and the APEX Academy with intensive supervision and referrals to community-based educational and counseling programs.



In order to redirect delinquent behaviors, youth are under commitment to these programs for one year, serving a portion of that time in custody and the remainder of the time on furlough release. These youth are composed primarily of those who, because of their level of delinquent behavior, require intensive supervision. Caseloads are typically comprised of probationers with a high risk to re-offend, such as gang members or gang affiliated violent offenders, habitual offenders, and youth with chronic substance use disorders.

The primary goal of the Youth Re-Entry Supervision Unit is to set the stage for youth to successfully transition from custody to the community. Case plans are geared toward eliminating the youth's criminal and delinquent behaviors that have been identified through evidence-based assessments. Officers will typically begin building rapport with youth during their commitment program.

Officers participate in both the Review Board and Pre-Release meetings at all three facilities. These meetings give the Probation Officer an opportunity to provide input on the services the youth will receive while in commitment and in designing an appropriate transition case plan for the youth as they re-enter our community.

Re-Entry officers work alongside the Re-Entry, ADA, and Programming (RAP) Units in the facilities to identify needs and determine the various re-entry services appropriate for youth. By improving communication between facility staff and supervision officers, there is a higher likelihood of identifying the criminogenic needs of the youth and establishing a measurable case plan upon their release.

Re-Entry Supervision FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	740
Office Contacts	623
Petitions	26
Arrests	125
Probation Searches	1,168
Drug Tests	492
Court Reports	98

Upon release, the Re-Entry officer will complete field calls at school and in the home in order to ensure the youths' compliance with both their furlough terms and their terms and conditions of probation. Re-Entry Officers are also responsible for monitoring referrals made to community agencies and the documentation of all referrals to community resources, along with progress made, or lack thereof.



In addition to supervising youth released from local commitment facilities, Re-Entry is responsible for supervising youth released from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice (CDCR-DJJ). With the passing of Senate Bill 823, youth previously committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) since July 1, 2021, are now committed locally to the Achievement Perseverance Excellent (APEX) Academy. The Re-Entry Unit continues to supervise those youth released into the community from DJJ and from APEX. A Re-Entry officer is physically located at the Kern Crossroads Facility/APEX Academy to act as a dedicated point person for 6-month reviews pursuant to W&I 875 to ensure consistency and continuity of reports.

The Kern County Probation Department recently contracted with GEO Re-entry Services to establish the Youth Day Reporting Center (YDRC). Through this program, youth, either pending release or released from DJJ and the APEX Academy learn the life skills and coping mechanisms needed to successfully reintegrate into their communities and reduce the likelihood of returning to the criminal justice system. The YDRC offers Evidence-Based Programs and Best Practices using Moral Reconciliation Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Treatment, Thinking for a Change, alcohol and drug testing, employment training, case management services, and daily check-ins.



YOUTH PLACEMENT SUPERVISION

The Youth Placement Supervision Unit supervises youth in out-of-home care while adhering to State and Federal regulations concerning the welfare of those wards. The Placement Unit is responsible for a wide variety of duties, including following Court orders for probation youth placed in foster care and assisting these youth in rehabilitation and overall development. Division 31 regulations and Title IV-E, along with the Welfare and Institutions Code, provide the mandates regulating out-of-home placements.

Officers work toward assisting youth with developing rehabilitation goals and finding the least restrictive, most family like environment through assessment, supervision, mentorship, referrals to appropriate placements, addressing medical needs, and counseling referrals.

Over the past few years, new procedures have been implemented regarding youth placement. The recent Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) legislation became a focal point operationally in our unit, bringing many changes and new procedures. The State and our unit are now moving toward a “Kin First” ideology, and we are utilizing more Resource Family Placements and Emergency placements, so the youth are not pending placement in the Youth Detention Center. Child and Family Team Meetings (CFTM) are held with a team to help facilitate appropriate placements. Officers spend hundreds of hours monthly conducting these meetings.

Placement Supervision FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	1,336
Office Contacts	626
Petitions	18
Arrests	33
Probation Searches	397
Drug Tests	27
Court Reports	104

With this shift in “Kin First” placement, we now have a dedicated Probation Technician who focuses on finding available family members who can be a long-term support system and a possible placement option. The Probation Technician completes a family tree, conducts searches through CWS and various other systems, so the youth can be emergency placed with family pending the Resource Family Approved (RFA) process. Officers work in collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to help families through the RFA process.

The Placement Unit also has a dedicated officer who works as a liaison with the Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery (KBHRS) team. This officer is assigned to Placement; however, maintains offices at both Probation and KBHRS, working as part of the Multi-Integrated Services Team (MIST) and the Youth Wraparound team. These teams have implemented evidence-based programming and services for at-risk youth in Kern County.

The Placement Unit also continues to supervise Non-Minor Dependents (AB12 youth) up until the age of 21. Once the youth reach the age of 18 and exit home-based care, if they work, continue their education, or are tending to their mental health needs, they remain eligible for funding and housing. Placement officers supervise these youth and help with their transition into adulthood.

Placement officers are mandated to conduct face-to-face contacts monthly with each youth. There are youth placed in Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP's), RFA's, and in Supervised Independent Living Program (SILPs) both in and out-of-county. Placement officers travel monthly throughout California to ensure these youths' needs are met. Two dedicated Office Service Technicians help input data into CWS/CMS, the State's foster care database.



“A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent.” - Douglas MacArthur



The Dream Center is a one stop shop for all youth who are in or have been in foster care. The Dream Center brings together many collaborative partners with the Kern County Network for Children (KCNC), Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) services, DHS, Independent Living Program (ILP), Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS), and Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). Foster youth up to the age of 25 are offered supportive services, such as emergency food and clothing, housing assistance, job leads, independent living classes, resume assistance, enrolling in college, filling out FASFA

forms, and mental health and/or substance abuse linkage.

YOUTH REGIONAL SUPERVISION

The Youth Regional Supervision Unit serves outlying communities and Courts by providing juvenile supervision and other specialized services to youth in the outlying areas. Officers supervise probationers who reside in Ridgecrest, Kern Valley, Tehachapi, Mojave, Arvin, Lamont, Taft, Shafter, Wasco, Delano, and McFarland.

Regional Officers continue to provide direct supervision and support to youth placed on formal probation. Officers utilize the risk assessment tool to develop case plans by identifying the top criminogenic needs of each probationer and referring them to the appropriate evidence-based programs. Intensive aftercare services are provided for youth exiting Camp Erwin Owen, Kern Crossroads Facility, and Pathways Academy. Youth released from treatment facilities remain on a furlough status for a period of months prior to transitioning to regular supervision.

An officer from the Regional Unit is dedicated to providing Home Supervision (HSP) and Electronic Monitoring (EM) supervision. Home Supervision typically occurs while a youth is awaiting their Court case to resolve and is utilized by the Court in lieu of detention in the Youth Detention Center (YDC). While helping to relieve overcrowding in YDC, Home Supervision also reduces negative peer influences that are associated with detention in a facility while awaiting trial.

Electronic Monitoring is an alternative to incarceration for low-risk offenders or youth stepping down from a more secure facility. EM is a system that provides fiscal savings as well as increased physical space in facilities that are at or near capacity. Youth supervised under EM may live at home while under Court-imposed supervision by a Global Positioning System (GPS) device, which the Probation Department monitors. EM allows youth to be released from custody early and monitored electronically for the remainder of their commitment. Criteria for participation in the program includes a thorough assessment of the youth for suitability. Youth who violate the terms and conditions of EM may be arrested and placed in the Youth Detention Center or returned to the secure facility from where they were released. It should be noted that officers contact youth on court-ordered Home Supervision in all metro and outlying areas of Kern County daily, which include weekends and holidays. Each Regional Supervision officer works diligently to ensure the Court’s orders are being met. Those youth who are not in compliance with the Court’s orders are held accountable for their actions.

During this fiscal year, the Regional Unit supervised approximately 1,500 probationers with approximately 3,200 field contacts by our officers. Officers conduct field contacts with youth either at their reported address, school, employer, or any counseling they have been ordered to complete. Officers regularly check for compliance with Court orders and conduct drug tests. In addition to their caseload duties, officers in this unit have actively worked as trainers for the Probation Department. Officers served as Field Training Officers as well as instructors for Defensive Tactics, Baton, Gracie Survival Tactics, Simunitions, Taser, and firearms. Officers served as certified instructors in the training and development of new Deputy Probation Officers in the department’s DPO Core training program. Officers also regularly provided coverage in the department’s youth detention facilities.

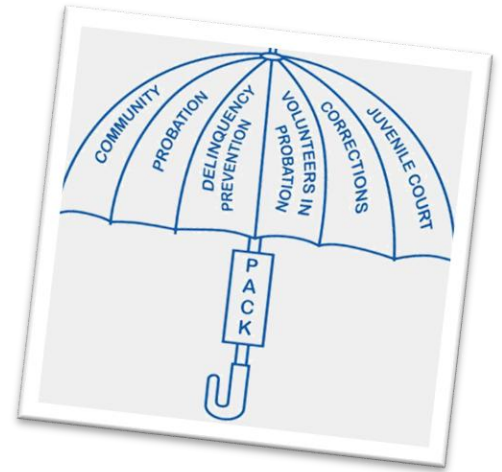


Regional Supervision FY 24-25	
Field Contacts	3,843
Office Contacts	550
Petitions	36
Arrests	119
Probation Searches	1,025
Drug Tests	97
Court Reports	95

Regional Officers continue to participate in job fairs located in various outlying communities, providing valuable information to individuals in those areas who are interested in a career in Probation. Officers routinely volunteer to participate in various community events throughout the county to promote a safer community and build strong relationships within the community. Regional Supervision will continue working with local agencies to address community concerns and work collaboratively with law enforcement and service providers to meet the needs of the public.

PROBATION AUXILIARY COUNTY of KERN

Probation Auxiliary County of Kern (PACK) is a non-profit organization chartered in October 1976. PACK is endorsed by the Superior Court Judges of Kern County, the Kern County Probation Department, and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission. As an organization, it assists youth in the juvenile justice system and those considered at risk by removing barriers to success and ultimately reducing recidivism. PACK also provides assistance to adults under the supervision of the Kern County Probation Department. PACK's mission is to provide support and services alongside the Probation Department to enable individuals to become responsible and productive members of society.



PACK provides opportunities by qualifying individuals in the form of school materials, clothing, scholarships, and services not included in the public budget for juvenile probation services. PACK's support can include educational, recreational, and personal necessities for individuals. The goal is to provide resources to help individuals move forward in their lives, and to encourage them to be the best version of themselves they can be. Grants, sponsorships, donations and fundraising activities contribute toward PACK's General Fund.



The PACK Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to at-risk individuals. \$500 in scholarships were awarded this year to assist in the cost of continuing education in either college or trade school. Award winners were participating in rehabilitative programming, had been successful in meeting their terms of probation, or were recently discharged from probation status. Scholarships were awarded to students attending higher education including Bakersfield College.

Photos with Santa is a fun family fundraising event especially for probation staff, families, and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Claus (former long-time probation employees) volunteer each year to visit and take pictures with their children, families, and pets. These wonderful photographs mark the occasion and capture the memories for years to come. Purchase of photos at this event support PACK's mission to provide assistance to at-risk individuals. Revenue raised from the Photos with Santa event goes to support PACK programming.

The 35th Annual 5K/10K Fog Run event took place on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at Lake Ming. This annual event is a family friendly race hosted by PACK to raise funds to help reduce recidivism in the community by bridging any gap in services provided by the Kern County Probation Department. A percentage of the proceeds raised at this event go towards the Helping Hands program which provides clothing, shoes, and toiletries to referred at-risk youth in the community. A grand total of 670 runners attended this year’s fundraiser Fog Run making this year the second largest participation recorded.



YOUTH FACILITIES

MISSION

We will provide safety and security within our institutions by maintaining a structured program that models dignity and respect to all, performing all duties with integrity, and working to achieve the goal of protecting society through incarceration, character development, and redirection of behavior of delinquent youth.

Values

Operating Principles

Dignity	All employees, minors, and the public deserve and will be treated with dignity and respect.
Integrity	We will perform all of our duties with integrity, taking pride in our work, respecting the work of others and modeling responsible behavior that meets departmental expectations
Safety	Safety and security are supported by providing a safe, clean, and healthy environment for staff, youth, and visitors.
Character	Our commitment to positive character development is focused on redirection of behavior through counseling, mental health services, and education.
Structure	Our programs will provide structure, discipline, consistency, and accountability in a fair and responsible manner.

JAMES G. BOWLES YOUTH DETENTION CENTER



Ryan Wegis

Division Director

The James G. Bowles Youth Detention Center (YDC) is responsible for the detention and wellbeing of youth as they await court, placement or are serving their custodial sanction. The staff work under the guiding principles of Dignity, Integrity, Safety, Character and Structure to provide a rehabilitative environment for the youth in our care.

I am proud to be a part of the James G. Bowles Youth Detention Center team and to support staff in our efforts to provide a rehabilitative and safe environment for youth and staff alike. We continue to enhance the programming provided to youth in our effort to reduce the incidence and impact of criminal behavior. We strive to provide accountability for youths' behavior while also creating the opportunity for them to achieve the change necessary to return to the community as productive member.



Marc Herrera / Jessica La Febre

Assistant Division Directors

YOUTH DETENTION SERVICES

Youth detained at YDC receive education services through the Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) and mental health services through Juvenile Probation Psychiatric Services, a division of Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. Extra-curricular, pro-social and religious services are provided through various community volunteer groups and individuals. Youth who have completed high school have the opportunity to attend post-secondary education.

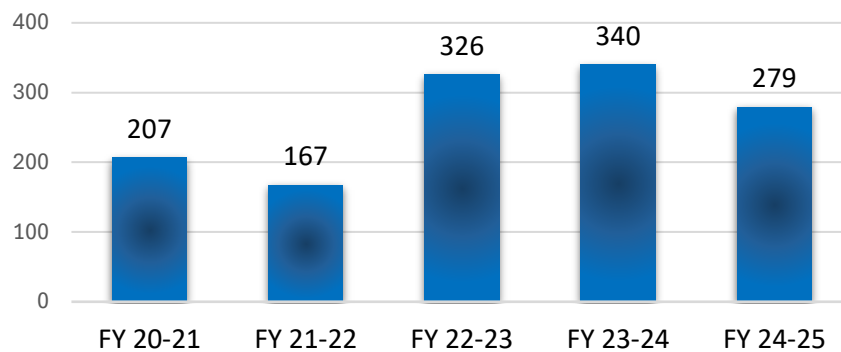


CUSTODY INTAKE

The Custody Intake Unit is located at the Youth Detention Center and consists of Deputy Probation Officers whose primary duties are to receive, process and make detention decisions on youth brought to the YDC for alleged criminal offenses and violations of probation terms. Officers use the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) to help determine initial detention decisions. They also process releases from custody for youth who are no longer ordered to be detained or have completed their commitment. They monitor and control the overall population of the Youth Detention Center, Pathways Academy, and the Furlough Treatment and Rehabilitation program.

Custody Intake Officers serve as liaisons between Probation and other law enforcement agencies regarding the statuses of youth and adults, often helping to secure holds during non-business hours for Mandatory Supervision and Post-Release Community Supervision violators.

Youth Detention Center Commitments



Youth Detention Center Intakes by Offense

Offenses	FY 20-21	FY 21-22	FY 22-23	FY 23-24	FY 24-25
Against Persons	152	223	298	238	268
Against Property	160	166	294	335	277
Drugs/Alcohol	28	25	53	26	28
Weapons	143	183	220	157	140
Violations of Probation (Includes Aftercare Furlough Violations)	179	209	327	382	407
WIC 707B	87	121	205	172	223
Home Supervision Violation	19	19	45	72	84
Warrants	167	159	170	205	194
Other*	178	309	469	404	337

*Booked for medical holds, disciplinary holds for Camp Erwin Owen, Kern Crossroads Facility, Furlough Treatment and Rehabilitation, Pathways Academy, Failure to Appear, and Courtesy Holds for other counties.

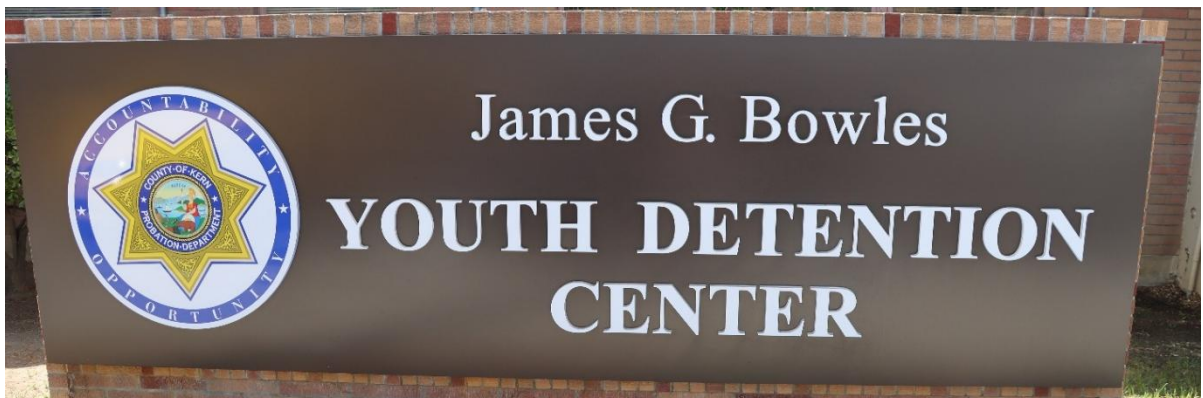
PATHWAYS ACADEMY

The Pathways Academy program is an in-custody rehabilitation treatment program for female youth offenders. Pathways is under the umbrella of the Youth Detention Center Division and is located on the campus. Pathways is a year-long commitment program which utilizes four different program lengths to assist the female youth offender population in achieving rehabilitation goals.

Pathways Academy FY 24-25	
Intakes/Admissions	29
Furlough Violation Average Length of Stay (Days)	15
Average Length of Stay (Days) for 12-Week Program	0
Average Length of Stay (Days) for 18-Week Program	61
Average Length of Stay (Days) for 24-Week Program	26
Average Daily Population	6
# Girls in 12 week program	3
# Girls in 18 week program	27
# Girls in 24 week program	29
# Girls in 36 week program	4

Each in-custody phase of the program provides youth with structured components in the areas of socially acceptable behavior, therapeutic intervention, and life skills. Youth detained at Pathways receive education through KCSOS and mental health services through JPPS. Evidence-based modules, including the comprehensive journaling program Forward Thinking, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), and Seeking Safety are facilitated by JPPS. JPPS continues to facilitate parenting and family groups as well.

Extracurricular, pro-social, and religious services are provided through various community volunteer groups and individuals. Through Kern County Probation Volunteer Services, there are various guest speakers and programs scheduled throughout the month. Youth also participate in community enrichment activities and give back by assisting organizations as volunteers. Through these activities the youth are exposed to pro-social events and functions in their community.



LARRY J. RHOADES KERN CROSSROADS FACILITY



Eric Meyer

Division Director



Brian Mara

Assistant Division Director

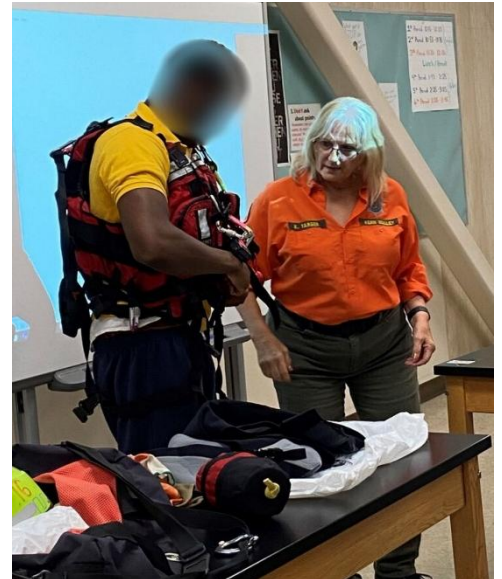
Crossroads' pro-social, incentive-based behavior management system is reinforced throughout the facility and strives to effect positive change with the youth. Throughout a commitment, a youth will meet with numerous service providers to address criminogenic needs, further his education, gain valuable skills and construct a release plan incorporating past success and future needs.

Youths are immediately immersed into the program and provided care using several collaborative agencies and volunteer organizations within our community. The primary objectives of the Kern Crossroads Facility program are to provide safety and security for the public and the youth committed herein. Additionally, the aim is to produce a productive, positive, and well-prepared youth who will return to the community.

The Larry J. Rhoades Kern Crossroads Facility (KCF) is a 120-bed secure residential facility with two distinct programs on site. The Kern Crossroads Program is designed for the rehabilitation of male youths between the ages of 14-18. The Achievement Perseverance and Excellence (APEX) Academy is Kern County's male Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF). APEX houses youth up to age 25 who were adjudicated for serious and/or violent offenses in Juvenile Court.

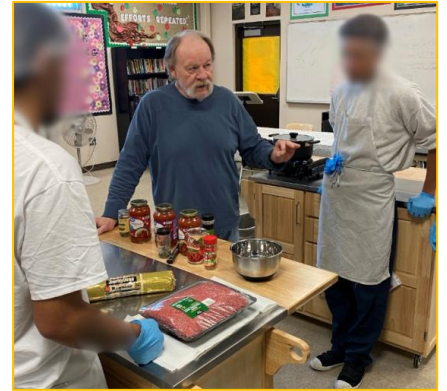
Crossroads youth are provided educational, vocational, behavioral health, medical and religious services to meet their needs, inspire growth, and provide opportunities for positive reintegration upon their release. Youths committed to KCF complete either a 168 or 252-day program. The length of their program is determined during an initial assessment meeting involving collaboration between Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KBHRS), Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) and Probation staff. A youth's criminogenic needs, criminal history, behavior and past performance on probation are considered in this decision.

APEX Academy youth participate in a rehabilitative program based on three pillars: Education/Vocational Training, Programming, and Treatment. Youth participate in the Rising Scholars Program through Bakersfield College, Prison Education Project Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses through KCSOS, internships through the Kern Community Foundation, mental health treatment through KBHRS, mentoring and community support through numerous faith and community-based organizations, and case planning through Probation staff.



REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Youth attend school 240 minutes per day in an educational program operated by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS). The school program consists of Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Careers, and W.I.N. (What I Need). Redwood High School has a library, workshop room, and Learning Center that provides additional support to special education students in subjects identified in their Individual Education Plan (IEP). Crossroads has partnered with KCSOS to provide certification courses empowering youth with skills to help prepare them for employment in their communities. The instructors facilitate classes that provide certification in forklift safety, virtual welding, OSHA-10, and Serv Safe food handling, as well as vocational training in the plumbing, electrical, and carpentry trades. Select youth who attend Bridges Academy continue vocational training following their release.



MENTAL HEALTH

The Kern Crossroads Facility contracts with Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KBHRS) to provide mental health programming. They provide an array of evidence-based and best-practice group programs as well as individual trauma-informed interventions which include Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Seeking Safety, Dialectic Behavioral Therapy Approach Skills Training, and Forward-Thinking Journal Series. In addition, KBHRS provides Stages of Accomplishment (JwSO) which addresses inappropriate sexual behavior, Family Services, and offers 24/7 Dad, as needed, to youth with children. Youth receive mental health treatment recommendations based on the result of a comprehensive mental health evaluation and risk assessment provided by the Mental Health team at arrival to the facility. Youth then receive a developed treatment plan based on those recommendations. All treatment plans are tailored to the individual needs of each youth, which determines type, duration, and frequency of services provided. This treatment plan is reviewed at an initial classification and assessment meeting, attended by collaborative agencies involved in the youth's treatment program.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Eligible youths participate in various activities in the community throughout the year. Youth showcase their skills by submitting their creations in various categories at the Kern County Fair, guest speaking at professional gatherings, and assisting during the annual Bus Driver Appreciation event hosted by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. Both the Crossroads and APEX Honor Guards have been recognized for their dedication; they regularly receive invitations to present the nation's colors at special events and ceremonies throughout the community.



CAMP ERWIN OWEN



Jeremy Roberts
Division Director

Established on December 5, 1938, Camp Erwin Owen (CEO) is an integral part of the overall rehabilitative services offered through the Kern County Probation Department, and it is the gem of the Kern River Valley. The picturesque backdrop of the Sequoia National Forest and dedicated probation staff create the perfect environment for youth to make positive changes in their lives. CEO is a rehabilitative program and working ranch where youth can harvest fruits and vegetables from a five-acre garden, tend to chickens and hogs, help maintain facility grounds, and assist at the dining hall.



Youth participate in various community service opportunities which benefit residents of the Kern River Valley. They also enjoy recreational and educational outings within the surrounding Sequoia National Forest.

Teresa Dickey / Jason Hillis (Ret. May 2025)
Assistant Division Directors

Camp Erwin Owen (CEO) is located on approximately 56 acres in Kernville, CA. CEO youth are provided with essential elements of evidence-based treatment and counseling, participate in vocational assignments throughout the facility, and attend school. CEO collaborates with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS), Kern Medical Correctional Medicine, Clarvida (behavioral health services), and numerous community resources to meet the individual needs of every youth in the program. CEO is a prosocial, incentive-based, trauma-focused program centered on developing relationships of mutual respect and trust while rewarding youth for displaying positive behavior and reaching program and personal goals.

Erwin Owen High School (EOHS) serves CEO students academically by helping them improve study skills and catch up on credits. CEO students may also enroll in the Auto/Ag Mechanics course where they can earn an Automotive Services Excellence (ASE) certification. CEO students also participate in lessons for career readiness skills, one-stop college registration and testing, and FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) workshops that are made available for parents and guardians.



Clarvida provides evidence-based behavioral treatment groups, comprised of Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBI-SA), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Seeking Safety, and Thinking 4 Change (T4C). Individual, group, and family therapy are also provided, in addition to crisis intervention.

CEO youth participate in numerous service projects throughout the Kern River Valley. Some of these include distributing food with the local Rotary Club, setup and take-down for local events, trail maintenance for the U.S. Forestry Service, and participation in the setup and cleanup of the yearly Whiskey Flat Days celebration in Kernville.



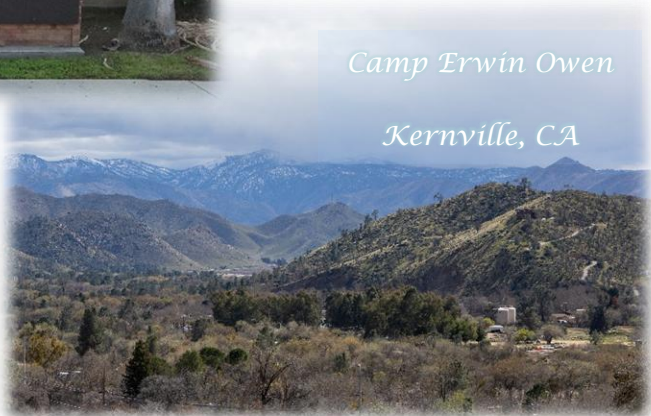
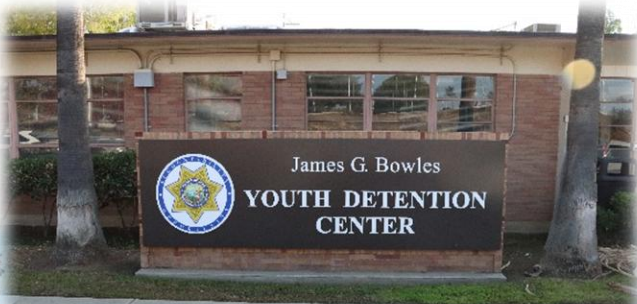
After working hard and giving back to the community, youth earn the opportunity to participate in the Camp Outdoor Education Project (COEP). Taking advantage of the Sierra Nevada Mountain range, the youth participate in monthly outings that include hikes to Pack Saddle Trail, the 7-Teacups, and Trail of a Hundred Giants, fly fishing on the Kern River, river rafting down the Kern River, and overnight camping trips. Additionally, because of very generous donations from the Kern River Valley community and the Probation Auxiliary County of Kern, CEO youth are afforded the opportunity to attend Los Angeles Dodger baseball games, UCLA football games, trips to the Long Beach Aquarium, and a beach day at San Simeon, CA.

CEO has been a fixture in the Kern River Valley for over eight decades and could not be successful without its dedicated Probation staff and support from the local community. With the collaborative efforts of CEO's partners, the youth are given an incredible opportunity to feel valued, take pride in a job well-done, understand the benefits and importance of helping others, and participate in activities they may normally not have access to.





Commitment to a Safe Community



*Camp Erwin Owen
Kernville, CA*