County of Kern

Public Safety Realignment Act
FY 2026/27 Plan

(Approved by CCP 06/10/2026)

(Approved by Kern County Board of Supervisors – 7/14/2026)

Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee

William Dickinson, Chief Probation Officer (Chairperson)
Tara Leal, Court Executive Officer of the Superior Court
Brent Stratton, Chief-Bakersfield Police Department
Peter Kang, Public Defender
Alison Burrowes, Director-Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner
Cynthia Zimmer, District Attorney

Table of Contents

AB 109 Background

Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109), the Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011, was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on April 4, 2011. It became effective on October 1, 2011. This Act, along with numerous trailer bills, made major changes to the criminal justice system in California. With these changes has come a large shift of responsibilities passed from the State to the Counties.

Some of the most significant changes in the law that Realignment brought include the following:

- Certain felonies, often referred to as Non, Non, Non (non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex offenses), are no longer punishable by a state prison term. Instead, these felony charges are only eligible for county jail sentences.

- Certain offenders released from State prison are no longer released on State parole but instead are released on “Post Release Community Supervision” (PRCS). These offenders are supervised by the Probation Department.

- Most offenders on State parole and all offenders on PRCS will now serve time in county jail for violations instead of State prison.

- The Court and not the State Parole Board began hearing violations of PRCS offenders. On July 1, 2013, the Court also began hearing violations of offenders on State Parole.

- The law states that counties should focus on using alternative sanctions and evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism (PC 17.5) more effectively.

AB 109 also created the Executive Committee of the previously established Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). This committee is responsible for creating and presenting a plan to the County Board of Supervisors regarding allocation of funds and implementation of policies and procedures related to Realignment. The plan is deemed accepted unless the Board of Supervisors rejects the plan with a four-fifths vote against. In such a circumstance, the plan is returned to the CCP for further consideration.

Existing Implementation

Each fiscal year since October 1, 2011, the Kern County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved the Kern County Public Safety Realignment Act Plan as recommended by the Executive Committee of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) as mandated by Penal Code Section 1230.1. These plans have directed funding to numerous county agencies and community organizations to account for the additional public safety burden placed on the County. The plans included a mix of intense supervision, evidence-based assessments and treatment, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, a day reporting center, increased jail capacity, jail incarceration alternatives, employment services, community-based organizations, District Attorney and Public Defender staff, multiagency law enforcement operations, and veteran services.

The CCP understood from the beginning that the Realignment process would evolve and change as it moved forward. The CCP acknowledged the need to be flexible in its approach to address aspects of Realignment as the practical and logistical realities presented themselves. The keys to making Realignment successful include the collection of data, communication between community partners, and a willingness to find solutions which best benefit our community.

There have been both successes and struggles since the beginning of Realignment. Challenges include the sheer number of realigned offenders continues to be significantly higher than projected (Tables 1 and 2). These higher than anticipated numbers put a strain on all CCP partners in the form of higher supervision caseloads and increased need for a variety of community services. The limited amount of State dedicated funds for Kern County has also been a challenge. This puts Kern County at a disadvantage compared to other counties who have considerably more resources to devote to services. The CCP developed a strategic plan to address the performance elements which will impact the amount Kern receives in Growth funding (the strategic plan is discussed in greater detail below). While Kern County has taken many positive and innovative steps to address Realignment, additional steps are needed; however, limited funding may restrict implementation.

There have been many positive actions taken by the CCP in response to Realignment. All parties involved in implementation have been fully engaged and worked together to make this difficult transition as successful as possible. By incorporating AB 109 legislative intent and ideas, Kern County is currently doing the following:

- Implementing evidence-based programs that have more long-lasting positive results.
- Utilizing Sheriff's Virtual Jail to allow and monitor conditional releases, which can save millions of dollars compared to incarceration.
- Improving interdepartmental cooperation in addressing specific issues and goals to improve communication, form partnerships, and expand services.
- Creating employment services and paid work-experience program
- Providing a Pre-Trial Release Program

- Reorganizing department workloads and units for maximization of efficiency related to implementation of AB 109 programs.
- Operating the Day Reporting Center, which produces pivotal changes in anti-social behaviors of offenders.
- Expanding in-custody educational, vocational, and evidence-based programs to provide the necessary tools to reduce recidivism.
- Utilizing the community-based organizations (CBO) program, which provides a multitude of services to offenders.
- Applying information gained from the criminal justice system benefit-cost analysis developed through collaboration with the national Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative.
- Operating the Probation Department's Adult Programs Center, which has an emphasis on evidence-based programming focused on changing anti-social behavior.

The CCP is dedicated to ensuring Realignment will be as successful as possible. Reviewing and revising the plan each year provides the impetus for a strategic continuous improvement process.

Table 1 – PRCS and Mandatory Supervision Offenders (Sentenced under 1170-h)

Time Period	PRCS Packets Received	PRCS Population* (Snapshot as of April 29, 2025)	Offenders Sentenced to MS (As of April 29, 2025)	MS Population* (Snapshot as of April 29, 2025)
Oct 2011-April 8, 2026	13,957	2,414	4,853	624

*Includes those on warrant status

Table 2 – AB 109 Population Impacts to Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO)

Time Period	Parole Violators Received	Probation PRCS Violators PC 3455(A)	Probation Flash Violators PC 3454(C)	AB 109 NNN Population Received	Total AB 109 Population Impact to KCSO
Oct 2011-April 20, 2026	27,488	24,254	3,420	10,703*	72,739*

*System conversion from CJIS affected capturing this data. Figures provided are accurate as of September 2025.

Strategic Plan for Factors Affecting Growth Funds

In October 2014, the CCP approved the establishment of an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning committee to develop a strategic plan specifically to address the factors affecting AB 109 Growth funds which became performance-based beginning with the Growth funds received in the Fall of 2016. In December 2014, the CCP contracted with a consultant to assist in the development of the plan. From January to May 2015, over 250 various communities, agency and offender stakeholders were engaged through personal interviews and surveys. Many of them also participated in one of three stakeholder sessions which elicited their input regarding gaps, barriers, community resources, and innovative programming for the criminal justice community of Kern County. Their input was captured into five key focus areas. From the data collected, the Ad Hoc committee developed Mission, Vision, and Values statements (listed below) which were approved at the July 15, 2015, CCP meeting. The Strategic Plan will be an on-going document as the CCP proceeds with refining and further developing Strategic Plan initiatives.

The Strategic Plan was relied heavily upon when determining the focus areas for the Request for Applications (RFA) released in September 2015, and the Request for Proposals (RFP) released in June 2016 and June 2018. The CCP will continue to utilize the Strategic Plan when determining areas of need for the adult criminal justice population.

Mission:

The Community Corrections Partnership is committed to working together in order to promote a safer community through effective strategies.

Vision:

The Community Corrections Partnership provides leadership through the partnering agencies and partnerships with the community to encourage, support, and network effectively for a safer community by doing the following:

- **Decrease criminal recidivism through data-driven decision making which addresses substance abuse, criminogenic factors, and mental health issues**
- **Increase offenders' successful reintegration into the community using research-based strategies and interventions**
- **Encourage and support effective prevention strategies for members in the community**
- **Create opportunities for self-sufficiency among offenders**

Values:

<u>Community Safety</u>: The CCP is committed to decisions which prioritize a safe and secure community, which increases the quality of life for all people in Kern County.

<u>Accountability</u>: The CCP holds itself and its partners to all established standards, agreements and policies.

<u>Fiscally Responsible</u>: The CCP believes in being good fiscal stewards of the public funds entrusted to the Partnership.

<u>Research Matters</u>: The CCP recognizes the importance of outcome-driven decision making by implementing current research and evidence-based practices.

<u>Transparency</u>: The CCP meetings are open to the public, all reports and agendas are available for review, and public input is welcomed.

<u>Change</u>: The CCP acknowledges people can change when they are willing and provided the opportunity and resources to succeed.

Evidence-Based Programming

Realignment encourages counties to focus on community-based corrections programs and evidence-based practices. To this end, Kern County has focused on the use of proven assessment tools, evidence-based practices, and the addition of evidence-based programs specifically to reduce recidivism and ensure public safety.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services' (KernBHRS) Substance Use Disorder Division bases screening and assessment on the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria that covers six dimensions including withdrawal potential, biomedical conditions, psychiatric conditions, motivation for recovery, relapse or other problem potential and recovery environment. Stressful Life Experiences Screening (SLES) is utilized in substance use disorder treatment programs in order to gauge trauma that individuals may have experienced and to address it in a trauma-informed environment. These tools are strength-based, multidimensional assessments that address the patient's needs, barriers, liabilities, and willingness to participate in treatment. The screening tools also incorporate clients' strengths, resources, and support structure within their environment. These assessments are utilized in the creation of treatment plans in order to accurately place individuals into programming. Departments are committed to continuing to implement the use of assessments as a valuable evidence-based tool to most effectively serve the AB 109 population.

In addition to utilizing these various assessment tools, Probation Officers, Sheriff's Deputies, and KernBHRS staff have been trained in Motivational Interviewing (MI). MI is a conversational method that assists staff with developing intrinsic motivation within clients in order to change their behavior. Once a Supervision, Programming, and/or Treatment plan is developed individuals are referred to various evidence-based programs.

Evidence-based programs are valuable assets due to their significant reduction of recidivism when completed with fidelity. The Probation Department's Adult Programs Center (APC) provides validated evidence-based programs to address specific criminogenic needs. APC offers Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) and utilizes Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) which is an evidence-based approach to case management.

The Sheriff's Office Programs Unit of the Compliance Section has partnered with the KernBHRS' Substance Use Disorder Division and Correctional Behavioral Health to provide evidence-based curriculum to individuals in custody. Inmates are offered ART, Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Matrix Program, MRT, Seeking Safety, and T4C. The classes equip offenders with new ways of thinking, substance use disorder treatment, cognitive behavioral therapy, and coping skills. KernBHRS also provides these programs as out-patient services after release from custody.

A key component to the success of evidence-based programming is attributed to the collaboration between CCP agencies. These collaborative efforts foster greater communication and help contribute to the success of programs. The increased use of evidence-based tools and inter-departmental cooperation is a positive by-product of Realignment.

Data Collection, Research, and Analysis

The passage of AB 109 compelled department heads to review the amount of cooperation, coordination, and collaboration that existed between county agencies. As a result, the department heads sought to gain an understanding of what impact AB 109 would have on individual departments and the county. Each department has assigned key knowledgeable staff to collaborate to formulate innovative ideas and solutions, to make well-informed data-driven decisions on a timely basis, and to produce results in accordance with these observations.

In October 2011, the Kern County Probation Department created the Research, Analysis, and Data (RAD) unit to assist Probation and the CCP with data collection and reporting. In fulfillment of these goals, the RAD unit provides the following services:

- Review and analysis of vital program data and quarterly reporting of dashboard reports to the CCP and Board of Supervisors regarding realignment activity within Kern County.
- Incorporate evidence and research into program development and policymaking.
- The submission of annual data reports to the Chief Probation Officers Association of California (CPOC), which reports on data elements pertaining to Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), Mandatory Supervision, felony probation and youth offenders.
- Prepares, conducts, and administers the Request for Proposal (RFP) and the Request for Application (RFA) competitive grant processes for AB 109 funds, which are distributed through the Community-Based Organizations (CBO) Program.
- Conducts program evaluations, such as the DRC evaluation.

The Sheriff's Office is also committed to data collection, research, and data analysis. The Sheriff's Office has partnered with California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB) to examine the effects of the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program. In 2013, the Department received grant funding from the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for the RSAT program, an expansion of the Matrix Program. The RSAT program focuses on intensive, outpatient, substance use treatment which requires extensive data collection. Through the RSAT program, the Sheriff's Office provides Office Service Assistants to collect and monitor data elements such as drug tests, class participation, ONA scores, recidivism, and others.

Additionally, the Department staffs Sheriff Program Technicians (SPT) to collect and monitor data. SPT are designated to evidence-based programming and works closely with Sheriff Deputies in the Programs Unit to monitor out-of-custody case management, recidivism, and other factors and to the CBO Program. The second SPT is dedicated to the CBO Program and receives daily census data from CBOs, receiving daily census data from CBOs. They also track financial information, enrollment and waitlists, and successful completions or failures.

Kern BHRS has implemented several changes to collect and maintain accurate data. In FY 2014/15, the Substance Use Disorder Division implemented the use of Flow Data to manage the number of program participants, which is used to capture accurate AB 109 participant numbers and to run reports.

Correctional Mental Health uses the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to collect screening data and run reports, such as crisis calls and discharge plans. Correctional Mental Health has also created pre and post-tests that collect information for programs, such as Thinking for a Change (T4C). The pre and post-tests allow for an in-depth analysis of data to move programs forward and were implemented in FY 2017/18.

Since the implementation of AB 109, the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, and Kern BHRS have continued to participate in data sharing to effectively serve the population. The three departments collaborate and pool data to report CBO information (such as financial information, number of participants, services received, etc.) to the CCP, Board of Supervisors, and state agencies on an as-needed basis.

The Sheriff's Office participates in the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) pilot project by contributing to the state-wide research project to track and assess the reorganization of California's incarceration systems through data sharing.

In FY 2026/27, data collection, research, and reporting remain significant as decision making will be based upon data extracted and reported, correlations between variables, and statistical analysis. Plans include further development of data tracker definitions and working within the development of the new system(s) to expand and/or improve the capacity for data collection, measurement, and evaluation training. Additionally, direct collaboration with other counties will be implemented, when possible, to facilitate networking opportunities and the development of new ideas to best serve AB 109 clients. The current CBO contract period provides services for the calendar years 2026-2028. An annual report template was added in the CBO contracts to include consistent data elements such as demographics, drug screening, length of stay, program completion, supervision status, employment, programs and services.

County staff remain active on the State level to ensure Kern County is receiving all crucial and available resources, access to accurate and useful information, and recognized as an important and significant member of the Central Valley community. Each year, information will be provided to the CCP and the Board of Supervisors that provides a comprehensive assessment of all AB 109 implementation and Realignment activities.

FY 2026/27 Plan

Every year the CCP is tasked with developing a new plan which will address the pressing issues of Realignment in Kern County. The guiding principles remain public safety, reducing recidivism, and data-driven decision making. Each individual agency's specific plans are explained in the following pages.

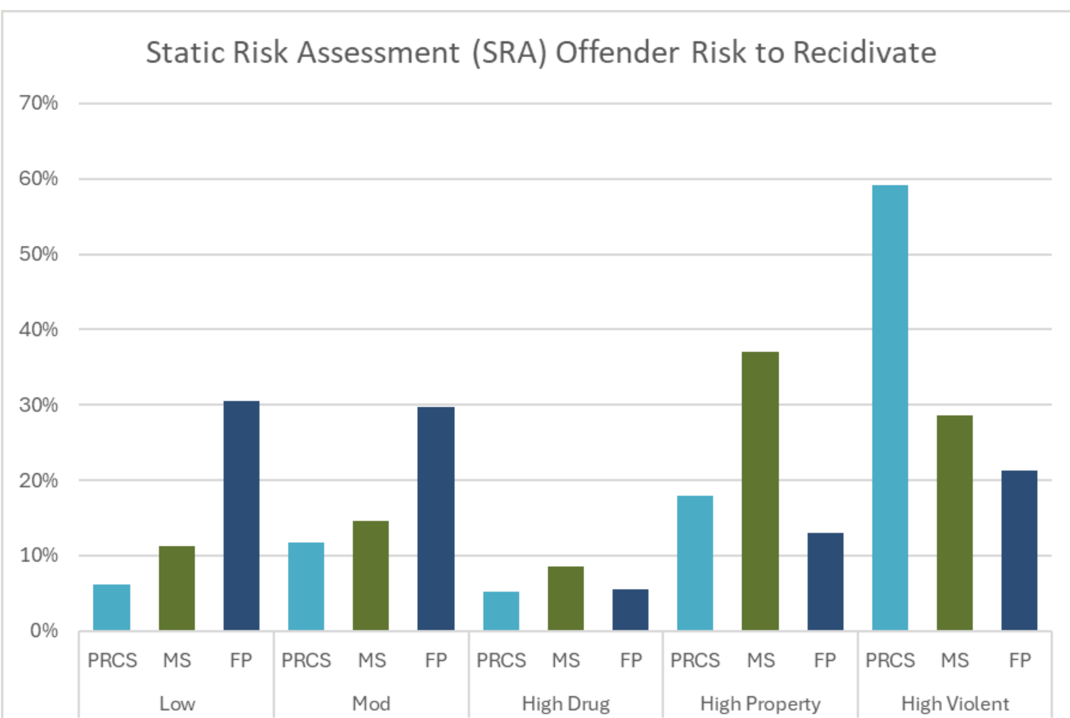
Probation Department

AB 109 redefined the California criminal justice system resulting in significant changes to the Adult Divisions of the Probation Department. Since the inception of Realignment, approximately 3,000 additional felony offenders are now under the supervision of the Probation Department in an ongoing basis. However, there are many more significant changes beyond the sheer numbers. Real philosophical and pragmatic transformations have permeated the way Probation does business. Evidence-based practices and data collection are the cornerstones of our reducing recidivism strategy. Breaking the cycle of re-offending is essential to ensuring long-term safety in our County. The Probation Department is on the cutting edge in this area using such tools as evidence-based assessments, individualized case plans, response matrix, and criminogenic needs targeted programming. The benefits of reducing recidivism are evidenced by the reduction in victimization and significant systematic cost savings. A detailed explanation of Probation's plan follows below.

Evidence-Based Assessment Tool

The foundation of the Department's movement toward evidence-based practices is a proven assessment tool. The Static Risk and Needs Assessment (SRNA) can predict with significant accuracy the level of an offender's risk to recidivate. This allows targeted supervision for those at higher risk to re-offend, thereby utilizing the Department's resources to greater capacity, efficiency, and effectiveness. Every offender under supervision is assessed with an SRA (Static Risk Assessment). This provides needed direction with caseload processing and prioritization. This tool also reveals the fundamental differences between the different supervision statuses (see Chart 1).

Chart 1 - Static Risk Assessment (as of April 24, 2026)

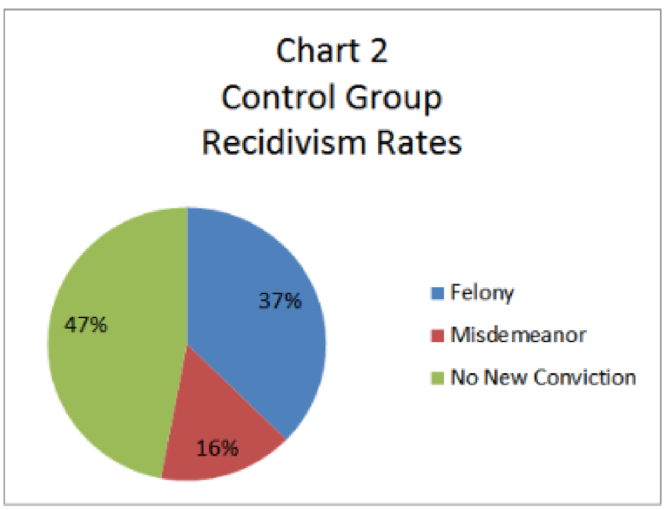


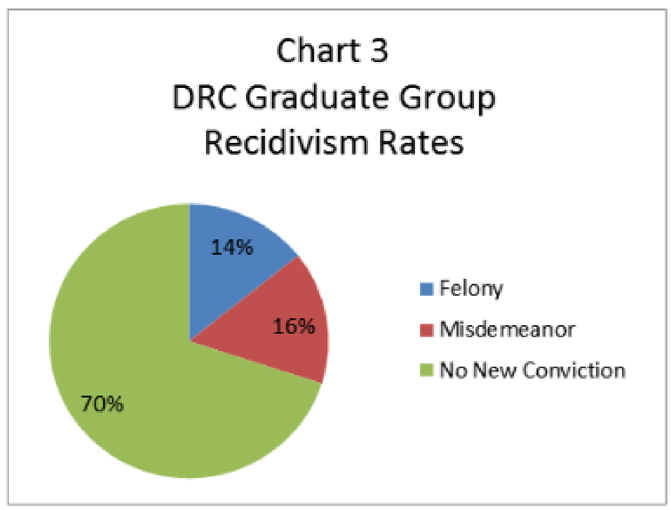
Based on recent Static Risk Assessment data, the group of offenders most likely to recidivate are those who are considered High Violent, followed by High Property, Low, Moderate, and High Drug. Further insights into this type of data helps the Probation Department make operational decisions regarding supervision assignments and targeting resources to better serve the public through reducing recidivism in this population.

In addition to the SRA, the Department has implemented widespread use of the dynamic needs portion of the assessment tool, the Offender Needs Assessment (ONA). The ONA is a critical part of Probation's supervision plan post Realignment. The ONA identifies the offender's criminogenic needs and helps develop an individual case plan to address those needs. The Probation Department utilizes a holistic supervision paradigm. Holding offenders accountable is a priority; however, we must also attempt to place them in the best situation to succeed. This can be accomplished by matching their needs to the appropriate services. The Department is committed to conducting ONAs on all offenders on high-risk caseloads.

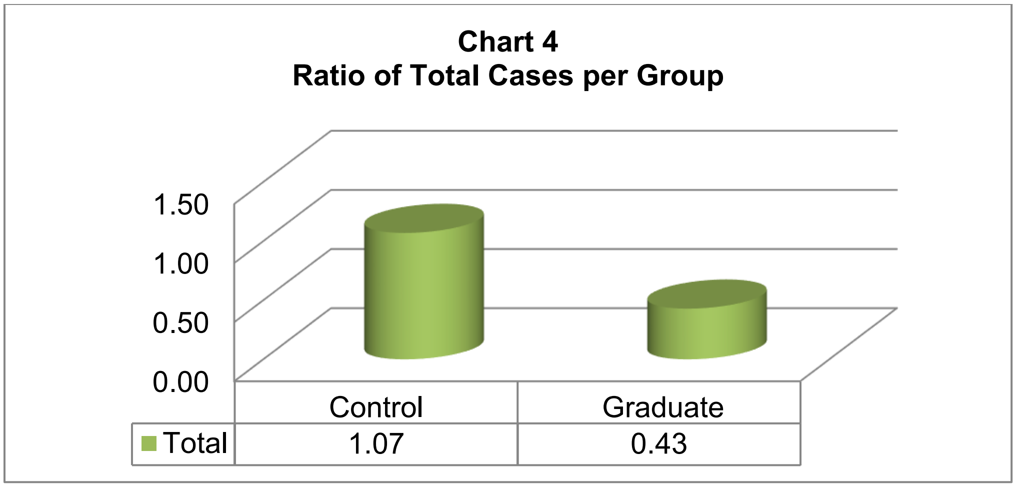
Day Reporting Center

One of the Probation Department's most innovative programs resulting from Realignment is the Day Reporting Center (DRC). The DRC has a capacity to serve 100 high risk offenders at a time. A previous internal study of the effectiveness of the DRC showed the positive impact the program has on participants by significantly reducing recidivism. Graduates recidivated only 30% of the time compared to the control group at 53%; felony recidivism was 14% compared to 37% (see Charts 2 and 3).





The impact was even more pronounced when the actual number of criminal cases was examined. The control group produced a ratio of 1.07 criminal cases to offender while the graduates only produced .43 cases to 1 offender (see Chart 4, below). The full study can be located at http://www.kernprobation.com/ab109ccp-realignment/plans-and-reports/.



In addition to our internal study, there are national studies which reflect the positive benefits of day reporting centers.

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, anti-social behavior, and substance abuse can all be addressed in one location. Key components of the DRC include Cognitive Behavioral Therapy including free domestic violence counseling, job readiness, substance abuse testing, daily reporting, sanctions, rewards, and supervision in conjunction with GEO Reentry and the assigned Deputy Probation Officers (DPO). Additionally, the DRC offers classes in Spanish to help encompass those who need court ordered counseling and reach as many clients as possible. 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.

Adult Programs Center

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, anti-social peers, anti-social 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 the ability to reduce recidivism through empirical evidence.

The program consists of four phases and could be completed between 9-14 months. The first phase focuses on individual EPICS sessions which focus on goals, identifying roadblocks and collaboratively planning to remove the roadblocks. The second, third and fourth phases focuses on the completion of three out of four EPB modalities including the above classes of T4C, ART, MRT and/or CBI-SUA. The CBI-SUA class is a longer class, so it counts as two phases. Along with incentive-based programming, participants can purchase unique items with points earned through participation and program goal completions. APC provides day and evening classes giving participants flexibility in their schedules to work toward completion. The final aftercare phase allows our Specialists to continue to work individually with the participants to assist in job search, resources and build life skills. We provide a graduation ceremony once a year for our participants who complete the program to celebrate their achievements with family and loved ones.

Dedicated onsite Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) provide daily truancy and retention interventions for the APC. Should an offender not attend the program for an unexcused reason, the officers attempt to locate and return the participant to the program. This is essential to improving performance outcomes as participants stay in the program longer and are more likely to complete the program due to increased supervision and swift accountability. Additionally, the onsite DPOs assist with any behavioral problems and participant conflicts, thus providing the specialists and participants with added safety and security as well as convenient access to an officer. The APC is constantly adjusting and evolving to meet the needs of the offender and the community.

Supervision

As a result of Realignment, the Probation Department's supervision responsibilities now include Post Release Community Supervision, Mandatory Supervision and an increased number of Felony Probationers. Regardless of the supervision status, certain supervision principles are universal. This includes manageable caseload sizes with the goal of continuing to improve the officer to offender ratio. The smaller ratio provides officers with more time to dedicate to each interaction, which enhances the effectiveness of evidence-based practices.

A Response Matrix, including redirection, additional terms and conditions, treatment, electronic monitoring, flash incarcerations, the DRC and APC, community-based organizations, and formal violations resulting in custody time, is being used to address violation behaviors. A response commensurate with the nature of the violation, the number of prior violations and the offender's risk level will be imposed. Responses will be swift, certain, specific and graduated. As part of the Response Matrix, appropriate incentives will also be utilized to facilitate and reinforce the positive behaviors of offenders. Research shows that the incentive to sanction ratio should be 4:1 to be effective. The Response Matrix was designed to be clear and easy to follow which fosters consistency in officers' responses to offender behaviors. DPOs also utilize Motivational Interviewing, a technique which has been shown to develop an offender's intrinsic motivation to initiate a change in their own behavior.

Investigations

Since the advent of AB 109, Investigation staff have responded to the need for additional assessments, increased court reports and other needed services. These staff continue to provide the Court pre-sentence investigation reports in a timely manner and maintain current courtroom coverage. They also create a static risk assessment for every Felony Probation and Mandatory Supervision offender who is sentenced locally to ensure proper supervision levels. Investigation staff play an integral part in the criminal justice system by providing information to the court and other justice partners to help foster informed decision making. AB 109 funding help the unit compensate for the increased work because of Realignment.

Pre-Trial

On March 25, 2021, the Supreme Court of California decision In re Humphrey changed the bail system in California. At issue was the setting of monetary bail and the defendant's ability to pay said bail. The Supreme Court of California held bail must be set in an amount that is affordable to a defendant. Furthermore, the Court must find the defendant to be a danger to the community, a danger to a specific victim, or is not likely to make future court hearings to continue any pre-trial detention. Additionally, if the Court makes a clear and convincing finding as to one of those considerations, the Court must still consider less restrictive options if available which would mitigate those concerns to keep a defendant detained pending trial. A large percentage of these defendants may potentially be subject to punishment options brought about by AB 109.

To comply with the constitutional findings of Humphrey, the Probation Department created a Pre-trial Unit to assist the Court in making informed decisions regarding pre-trial release, which includes pre-release information and monitoring services. The assessment unit gathers and submits a summation of the defendant's criminal history at the time of arraignment and provides a Public Safety Assessment (PSA). The PSA is an empirically based instrument which identifies a defendant's likelihood to appear for hearings and commit new law violations while awaiting trial. The monitoring unit oversees many of the defendants who have been released from detention. The level of monitoring is determined, subject to overrides by the court, by using a release decision matrix which is part of the PSA assessment tool. Monitoring may include home calls, checks regarding compliance with court terms and conditions, GPS and alcohol use tracking, and court reminders by telephone and other electronic means.

Research, Analysis, and Data Unit

The Research, Analysis, and Data (RAD) unit is responsible for data collection, state and local reporting, and program evaluations. The unit has also been involved in several large projects, including coordinating and planning for the eProbation case management system conversion, and several Request for Proposals/Applications. Within the RAD unit, two Departmental Analysts, and one Supervising Departmental Analyst are funded with Realignment dollars. The Probation Department understands the importance of, and has committed to, research and data.

Information Technology

AB 109 has created numerous IT challenges for the Probation Department. The Department is the hub of Realignment data collection for the CCP and the County. Integration of information, data reports and complex recidivism formulas are all necessary and important components of the overall success of Realignment. Furthermore, the changes in the law have created the need for additional reports and case management system (CMS) capacities. There has also been an increased request for information from State agencies and organizations for numerous studies. The Probation Department must maintain a sufficient level of IT services to meet these challenges.

Support Staff

Office Service Technicians (OST's) are specifically assigned to the Adult Probation Services and AB 109 Services Divisions. These positions are needed to support the increased work associated with reception areas, reports, filing and miscellaneous paperwork. Additionally, Probation Technicians assigned to the Adult Probation Services and AB 109 Services Divisions assist DPOs directly with their case management duties. Support staff play a vital role in the Department's success in meeting mission critical goals and in the implementation of programs.

Collaboratives

The Probation Department has maintained and grown numerous collaboratives since the beginning of Realignment. It is clear that to accomplish the Department's goals of public safety and reducing recidivism, a county-wide team approach is needed. Some of these collaboratives include ETR, KernBHRS, CBOs, and other law enforcement agencies. ETR receives referrals from DPOs for AB 109 employment and work experience programs. These programs offer offenders a way to improve their job skills and readiness for employment. Officers work closely with both mental health professionals and substance abuse specialists from KernBHRS. Certain offenders must have their behavioral health and substance abuse issues addressed before they can move forward with their overall rehabilitation. The Probation Department directly refers offenders into a number of community-based organizations which address many different issues, including transitional housing. These additional services increase the likelihood of successful completion from supervision and are a welcome and needed resource for officers. Probation works closely with other law enforcement agencies on a regular basis and is an integral member of the Street Interdiction Team (SIT), a group that conducts collaborative operations throughout the County.

Operating Costs

To achieve the stated goals and objectives listed in this section, there are numerous associated operating costs. These costs include office and field equipment, licensing rights, vehicle maintenance and fuel, training, overtime, and more. The largest expenses are building leasing costs for our AB 109 Services Division.

Probation Department’s FY 2026/27 AB 109 Base Allocation

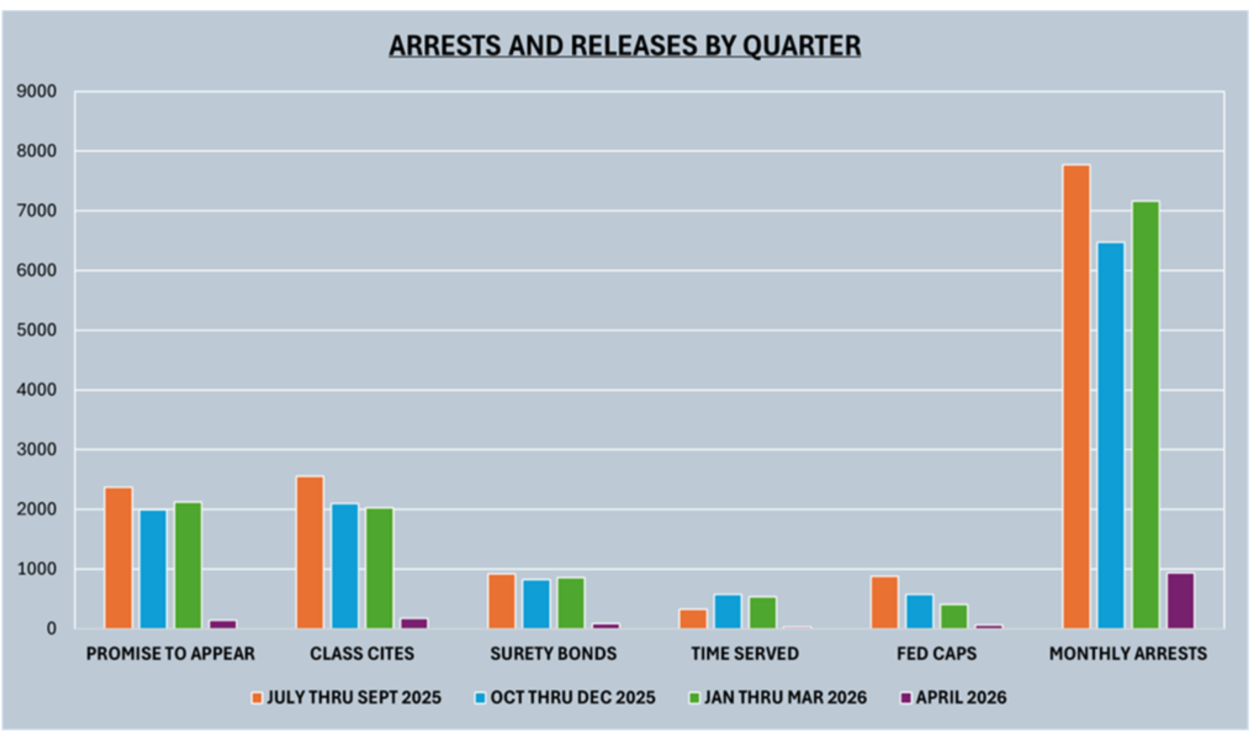
Position/Item	**#**	**Cost per Unit**	**Cost for 1 Year**
Probation Division Director	2	$312,916	$625,832
Probation Supervisor	5	$234,757	$1,173,785
Senior Deputy Probation Officer	15	$211,909	$3,178,635
Deputy Probation Officer	60	$177,071	$10,624,260
Probation Program Specialist	10	$116,168	$1,161,680
Senior/Probation Technician	10	$107,668	$1,076,680
Office Services Specialist	1	$98,661	$98,661
Office Services Technician	4	$94,503	$378,012
Departmental Analyst	3	$124,829	$374,487
Database Analyst	1	$166,064	$166,064
Programmer	1	$192,089	$192,089
Technical Support Specialist	1	$127,440	$127,440
	113		
Total Salaries & Benefits			**$19,177,625**
Day Reporting Center (DRC)			$1,235,628
Operating Expenses			$2,538,709
Total Services & Supplies			**$3,774,337**
Total			**$22,951.962**

Sheriff's Office

Since its implementation in 2011, AB 109 Realignment has redirected numerous offenders who previously would have been sentenced to state prison to instead serve their sentences in county jails. This transition resulted in an increased jail population during the first three years of AB 109 Realignment, requiring the Sheriff's Office to early release approximately 9,500 inmates per year in order to remain within federally mandated population limits. Following the enactment of Proposition 47 in 2014 which reclassified many felony offenses as misdemeanors, both arrest numbers and the need for early releases declined significantly. Despite ongoing operational challenges, the Sheriff's Office continues to advance its AB 109 Realignment initiatives with a focus on reducing recidivism.

In recent years, early releases have again risen as portions of the Sheriff's Office jail capacity remain unoccupied due to staffing shortages. As of April 10, 2026, a total of 6,662 early releases (commonly referred to as "Fed Caps" and "Class Cites") have occurred in FY 2025/26. These releases, including federal population cap releases and citations for non-violent unsentenced felonies, were necessary to prevent inmate population levels from exceeding the limits established under the Anderson v. Kern case decision.

The chart below provides a quarterly overview of arrests made in FY 2025/26, along with the corresponding types of releases during the same period. Arrest and release patterns remained consistent across each quarter. Please note that the fourth-quarter data (represented by the purple bars) appear lower because information for May and June 2026 was not available at the time this report was prepared.



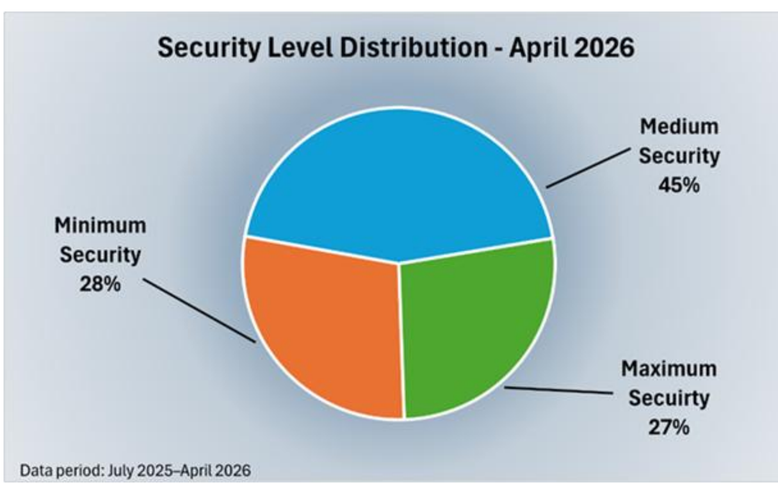
AB 109 Realignment also resulted in individuals receiving county jail sentences comparable in length to those previously served in state prison. Prior to realignment, the maximum jail sentence was generally one year; however, following AB 109 Realignment, inmates are frequently sentenced to terms of two years or more. The longest sentence currently being served in the Sheriff's jail is two years.

<u>The Challenges of the Post-AB 109 Incarcerated Population</u>

Beyond the increases in inmate numbers and sentence lengths, the characteristics of the current incarcerated population differ significantly from those seen prior to realignment. The more complex nature of the post Realignment jail population can be illustrated by comparing a snapshot of the current population to the data presented in the 2011 Jail Needs Assessment. Of the 1,815 individuals in custody on April 10, 2026:

- 0.93% were classified as high risk/staff assaultive, compared to 0.5% in 2010.
- Approximately 17% were in custody for murder or attempted murder.
- 0.77% were administratively separated (housed alone), compared to approximately 3% to 5% of inmates in 2010. In FY 2025/26, significant efforts were undertaken to reduce administrative separation housing to provide individuals with increased out of cell time.
- 50% were gang affiliated, compared to 33% in 2010. Of the gang affiliated inmates currently in custody, 20% were charged with violent crimes.
- 91% were felons, compared to 84% in 2010.
- Approximately 54% were receiving mental health services, compared to an estimated 15% in 2010.

In FY 2025/26, maximum security inmates accounted for approximately 27% of the current jail population.



As a result of AB 109 Realignment, a significant number of inmates are now serving longer sentences in county jails. Long term inmates typically present increased management challenges, as they often require more extensive services, including medical and mental health care. Over time, they also become familiar and comfortable with their environment, gaining knowledge that allows them to manipulate procedures and circumvent security measures. As their influence grows, they may also encourage shorter term inmates to engage in similar behaviors.

The rise in gang activity within the inmate population further contributes to substantial security challenges. Serious gang rivalries and gang related dynamics remain major drivers of inmate violence, which has increased notably since the implementation of AB 109 Realignment. Coordinated criminal gang operations such as the smuggling of narcotics, cell phones, and other contraband have also grown more prevalent.

Additionally, the increase in inmates requiring special housing has placed added strain on jail operations. Individuals who must be housed separately impact available bed space, holding cell capacity, and the time and staffing resources needed to effectively supervise and manage them. Collectively, these shifts in the inmate population have created significant security and operational challenges within the Sheriff's jails. AB 109 Realignment funding continues to be a critical resource in enabling the Sheriff's Office to meet and address these challenges.

Meeting the Challenge

The Kern Justice Facility has alleviated some of the previously noted challenges by offering more adaptable housing options that better meet the needs of the post realignment jail population. In addition, the Sheriff's Office has continued to enhance safety and security across other areas of its facilities. AB 109 Realignment funding has supported these improvements by financing projects such as the installation of enclosures to expand programming at the Pre Trial Facility and accommodating the relocation of the Inmate Reception Center (IRC). AB 109 Realignment funding also supports Bakersfield Adult School (BAS), which plays a vital role in delivering educational and vocational services to the incarcerated population.

While these facility and program improvements positively impact the overall safety and security of the jail system, they cannot replace the value of dedicated, well-trained staff. Staffing levels within the Sheriff's Office continue to improve; however, keeping pace with attrition remains a primary concern, even as academies and ongoing recruitment efforts work to address staffing needs. AB 109 Realignment funding continues to be essential in supporting facility staffing and in sustaining the various vocational and educational programs available to individuals in custody.

Programs and Services

The Sheriff's Office continues to deliver high quality inmate programming grounded in evidence-based practices. Program staff facilitate empirically validated curricula that emphasize cognitive behavioral therapy. Evidence based practices are designed to address the specific needs of inmates by incorporating clinical expertise, scientific research, and participant perspectives. Reducing recidivism remains the core mission of the Kern County Sheriff's Office Programs Unit.

Effective assessment is essential to ensuring inmates receive appropriate treatment, services, and supervision based on their needs and risk of recidivism. Sheriff's program staff are trained in evidence-based assessment techniques that enhance the ability to match participants with programs tailored to their criminogenic needs. These techniques also support the creation of individualized re-entry case plans and help link participants to community resources upon release. In FY 2025/26, 179 individuals participated in evidence based and rehabilitative classes while in custody. Examples of evidence-based classes offered within the Lerdo Detention facilities include:

- The Matrix Model, an intensive substance use disorder treatment program that educates inmates about addiction and helps them develop strategies to manage high risk situations that may lead to relapse.

- Aggression Replacement Training (ART), a multi-component cognitive behavioral program aimed at promoting pro social behavior by addressing factors that contribute to aggressive conduct.

- Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), a cognitive-behavioral intervention designed specifically for correctional populations. MRT focuses on developing higher levels of moral reasoning, fostering positive behavioral change, and helping participants understand the impact of their actions on others.

- The Residential Substance Abuse Program (RSAT), a 100 day in custody residential treatment program followed by an aftercare phase upon release.

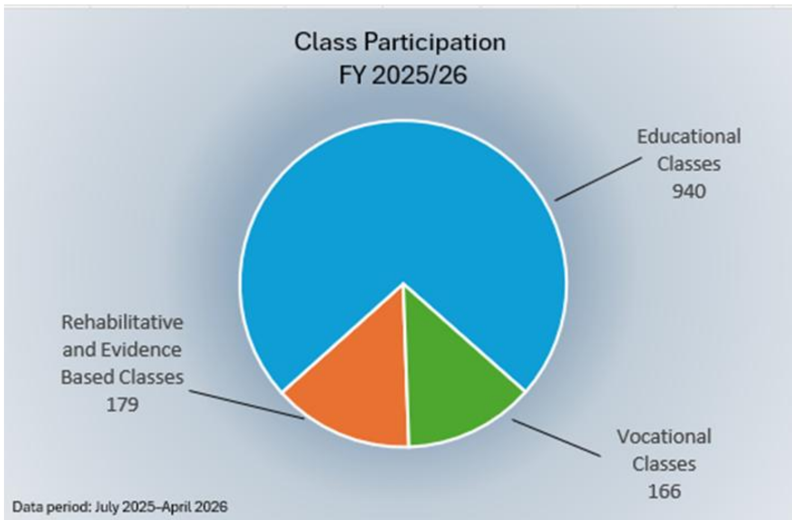
This comprehensive program strengthens participants' cognitive, behavioral, social, and vocational skills while addressing substance use and related issues. RSAT integrates multiple evidence-based curricula, including the Matrix Model, Aggression Replacement Training, and Moral Reconation Therapy, along with a Jobs class to support vocational readiness. Participants reside together in a dedicated program unit to encourage recovery-focused thinking and behavior. Upon successful completion, participants enter a 3- to 6-month aftercare phase that includes discharge planning and referrals to community-based services.

RSAT has successfully completed two cohorts and is scheduled to complete another in FY 2025/26. The program continues to utilize its modified curriculum to better serve Spanish-speaking inmates and has increased the minimum class size to twenty participants per cohort. Kern County is also one of five counties awarded the RSAT Grant and is currently in the second year of a three-year grant cycle.

With the support of the assigned RSAT Program Deputy, access for exclusively Spanish speaking inmates continues to expand, reducing language barriers and allowing the program to serve a larger portion of the jail population.

Educational and Vocational Services

Bakersfield Adult School (BAS), part of the Kern High School District, has partnered with the Kern County Sheriff's Office for more than three decades. BAS remains one of the largest partner agencies currently working with the Sheriff's Office. In FY 2025/26, approximately 1,106 inmates participated in educational and vocational courses during their incarceration. The strong correlation between educational programming and reduced recidivism continues to be well-supported.



Bakersfield Adult School offers a variety of courses, including Substance Abuse Prevention, Anger Management, Parenting, GED Preparation and Testing as needed, and Batterer Intervention. Many of these classes are approved by the courts, the Department of Human Services, Child Protective Services, Probation, and State Parole.

The Lerdo staff dining facility is operated by in custody program participants who receive instruction in basic food service skills and training on industry standard equipment. As of April 7, 2026, 58 cafeteria certificates have been awarded through the program in partnership with Bakersfield Adult School. Participants also have the opportunity to earn a ServSafe certificate, which enhances their employability upon release. During FY 2025/26, 14 students earned ServSafe certificates.

For FY 2025/26, the Kern County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the community-based organization Garden Pathways, reintroduced the Parents on a Mission (POM) program to the Lerdo Detention Facilities for the first time since before the COVID 19 pandemic. POM provides participants with parenting tools designed to strengthen and rebuild family relationships. Since its reinstatement, 38 individuals have participated, and 20 have earned certificates.

With support from Employers' Training Resource, JOB Readiness workshops were provided for participants at the Lerdo Detention Facilities. A total of 76 individuals received job readiness training, and 37 participants earned certificates after completing the six-week workshop in FY 2025/26. These workshops have strengthened participants' employment prospects and equipped them with valuable skills to support successful reentry into the workforce and the community.

For FY 2025/26, program offerings will expand to include two new vocational education courses for the incarcerated population.

The first is a graphics course that introduces participants to the operation and maintenance of large format printers, along with training in various design software applications. Individuals who complete the course will receive certificates documenting their skill level and competencies.

The second is a horticulture course that provides hands-on experience in plant care and cultivation. This program helps participants develop practical skills and reinforces attributes such as teamwork, responsibility, and patience. These competencies can enhance future employment opportunities and support a successful transition back into the community upon release.

Partner Services

The Sheriff's Office partners with numerous governmental agencies and community-based organizations to enhance service delivery and address barriers that impede successful community reentry for the incarcerated population. For example, the Sheriff's Office continues its long-standing partnership with the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to help inmates resolve child support matters.

The Sheriff's Office also maintains a strong working relationship with America's Job Center (AJC). AJC staff assigned to the Lerdo Facilities provide employment services to in custody participants, along with referrals for continued services upon release. AJC is also collaborating with the Sheriff's Office to develop a "small bites" curriculum designed to better assist participants with short jail stays who may be unable to complete longer courses before release. This model allows inmates to participate in one or more short term classes as an alternative to committing to longer duration programs, increasing access to meaningful skill building opportunities.

Court Services Section

The Virtual Jail program, managed under the Court Services Section, enables the Sheriff's Office to maintain varying levels of oversight and compliance monitoring for participants who have been released from custody. Many Virtual Jail participants engage in mental health services, substance use treatment programs, and educational or vocational classes. The Virtual Jail program includes two components: the Electronic Monitoring Program (EMP) and the Work Release Program. Both programs share the overarching goal of reducing recidivism while helping participants reconnect with their families and work toward becoming gainfully employed, law-abiding citizens.

In FY 2025/26, as of April 14, 2026, the EMP program served a total of 361 participants. Of these, 216 successfully completed the program, and 48 violated program terms and were returned to custody. As of March 31, 2026, the Work Release Program had 1,617 participants for the fiscal year. Among them, 1,177 successfully completed the program, while 206 were disqualified and removed.

The Court Services Section continues to place a strong emphasis on drug testing to ensure participant compliance. EMP staff administered 86 drug tests, with 70 percent returning negative results. Responses to positive tests included admonishment, disciplinary action, arrest for violation of supervision terms, or referral to community-based organizations offering substance abuse and mentoring services to support rehabilitation.

As of April 14, 2026, more than 82 remote alcohol detection devices had been deployed among released inmates with driving-under-the-influence convictions. These devices require participants to complete random tests at least five times per day and utilize facial recognition software to verify user identity.

In FY 2025/26, the devices conducted a total of 34,740 breath tests. Results included 30,733 passed tests, 14 failed tests, and 3,993 missed or incomplete tests—an overall compliance rate of 88 percent. Participants who missed scheduled tests were contacted and required to submit to immediate testing. Those who tested positive were admonished, disciplined, or arrested for violating the terms of their supervision.

Moving Forward

Proposed AB 109 Base Allocation Funding for FY 2026/27

The Sheriff's Office proposes allocating its FY 2026/27 base funding of $25,346,557 in accordance with the established 39.27 percent share of the overall base allocation. Funding will be directed toward the following purposes:

- Supporting the cost of electronic monitoring devices.
- Purchasing mattresses for incarcerated individuals.
- Providing training for personnel assigned to the newly established ADA unit.
- Acquiring patrol vehicles for the transportation of incarcerated individuals.
- Covering increased salary and benefits costs associated with rising personnel expenses, including recent salary adjustments and escalating benefit obligations such as healthcare and retirement.

The chart below shows the recommended Sheriff's Office AB 109 Budget for FY 2026/27 including updated staffing costs.

Sheriff's Office Proposed FY 2026/27 AB 109 Allocation

POSITION / ITEM	QTY	COST PER UNIT	ANNUAL COST
Detention Deputy	42	$191,511.33	$8,043,475.86
Deputy Sheriff II CA	19	$217,784.94	$4,137,913.86
Deputy Sheriff II C	5	$208,011.03	$1,040,055.15
Program Specialist	8	$113,593.44	$908,747.52
Sheriff's Support Technician	7	$90,144.29	$631,010.03
Detention Senior Deputy	2	$215,738.66	$431,477.32
Senior Deputy Sheriff	2	$253,592.71	$507,185.42
Sheriff's Lieutenant	1	$359,569.13	$359,569.13
Detentions Lieutenant	1	$282,412.31	$282,412.31
Sheriff Sergeant	1	$281,016.34	$281,016.34
Program Technician	3	$100,597.55	$301,792.65
Sheriff's Aide	4	$114,971.12	$459,884.48
Detentions Sergeant	1	$238,733.91	$238,733.91
Technical Support Specialist II	2	$125,786.96	$251,573.92
Administrative Coordinator	2	$140,731.65	$281,463.30
Senior Maintenance Worker	1	$111,625.31	$111,625.31
Sheriff's Support Specialist	1	$102,684.85	$102,684.85
Light Vehicle Driver	2	$94,593.32	$189,186.64
Total Salaries & Benefits	**104**		**$18,559,808**
Uniform allowance for LE/Detentions/Sheriffs Aides	**78**		**$98,000**
Total Services and Supplies			**$6,688,749**
Total Proposed FY 2026/27 AB109 Allocation			**$25,346,557**

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.

Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Department

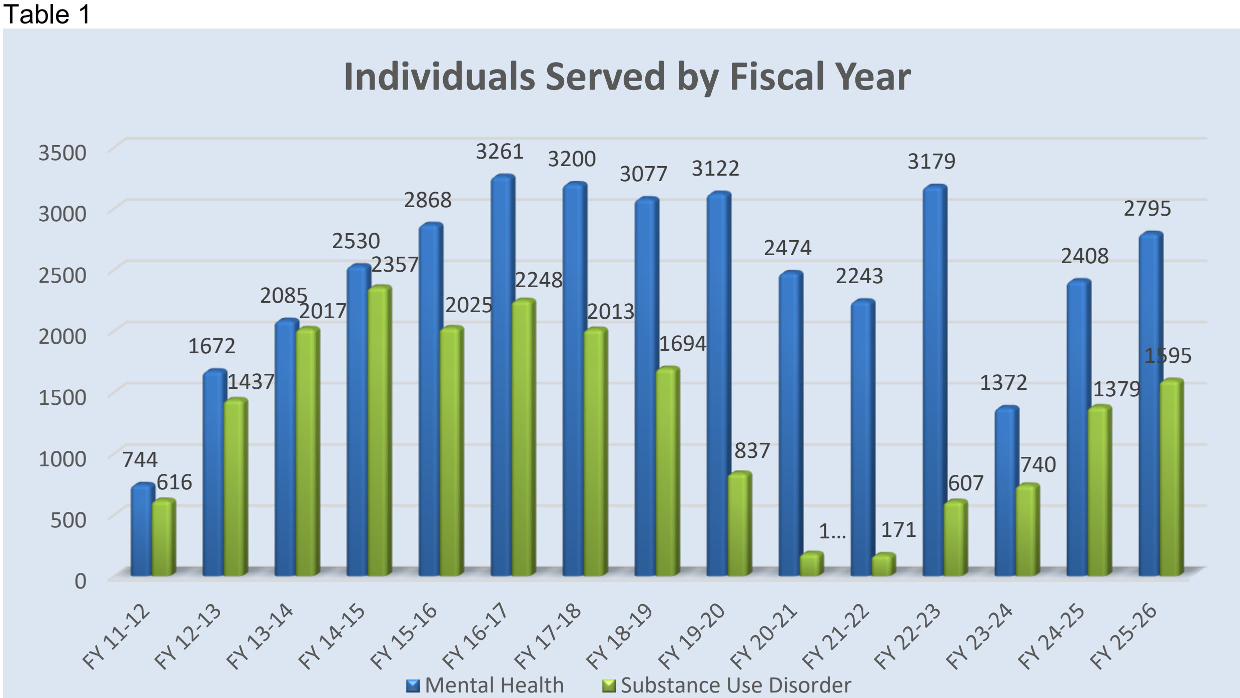
Building on the foundation of AB109 Public Safety Realignment, Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KernBHRS) continues to strengthen services for justice-involved individuals in Kern County. Through the strategic use of AB109 funding, KernBHRS prioritizes the treatment of mental health and substance use disorders with the overarching goals of reducing hospitalization, incarceration, and homelessness.

The department remains committed to strong collaboration with community partners to ensure the delivery of high-quality, accessible care for individuals, regardless of legal status, substance use history, or behavioral health needs. The department's approach to treatment emphasizes life skills development, trauma-informed care, and the identification and restructuring of criminogenic thinking patterns. Services are delivered using evidence-based and best practice models that address both mental health and substance use conditions. The System of Care is designed to be inclusive, culturally responsive, and grounded in a "meet clients where they are" philosophy.

Between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026 (with April–June 2026 data prorated), KernBHRS provided services to 4,390 individuals assigned to AB109. Of these, 859 individuals received services in both the Mental Health (MH) and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) systems. Table 1 below illustrates the number of AB 109–assigned individuals who have received mental health and/or substance use disorder services through KernBHRS since 2011.

.

Table 1



FY 2025/2026 (April, May & June 2026 data are pro-rated) - July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026

Programs and Services

Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder In-Custody Services

At the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Lerdo Detention Facilities (Justice and Pre-Trial), the KernBHRS Correctional Behavioral Health (CBH) team operates onsite to provide mental health (MH) and substance use disorder (SUD) services to incarcerated individuals. In partnership with KCSO and Kern Medical (KM), CBH delivers integrated, whole-person care focused on stabilization, treatment, and continuity of care. Services address behavioral and physical health needs during incarceration while supporting successful community reintegration through linkage to aftercare programs and services.

During this reporting year, KernBHRS partnered with the Sheriff's Office to establish the Correctional Integrated Care (CIC) Program, partially funded through AB109 allocations to support expanded service delivery within the Lerdo facilities. The CIC team works in collaboration with the Inmate Stabilization Team (ISAT) to deliver MH and SUD group programming across eight behavioral health units. The program expands access to structured therapeutic services while enhancing coordination of care for incarcerated individuals.

Together, CIC and CBH offer a comprehensive continuum of services within the Lerdo facilities, including individual and group therapy, psychiatric evaluation, medication management, and crisis response. This includes after-hours coverage and in-custody 5150 evaluations, helping reduce unnecessary hospital transport. In FY 2025–2026 (April–June 2026 data prorated), 44,549 services were delivered to justice-involved individuals, including court-ordered treatment, psychiatric care, and substance use disorder (SUD) interventions through CBH. During that same period, CIC delivered 1,177 group services (April–June 2026 data prorated), providing multiple daily groups focused on life skills, mental health, and substance use needs.

Discharge planning is a core component of this system of care. Programs coordinate bridge medications, arrange timely follow-up appointments, and ensure warm handoffs to KernBHRS outpatient teams, contracted providers, and community-based organizations. Since the launch of the CalAIM Justice-Involved (JI) initiative in Kern County in January 2026, post-release care coordination has further expanded. CalAIM now allows the CIC team to bill Medi-Cal for behavioral health linkage services, strengthening continuity of care and reducing service gaps that can contribute to recidivism.

The in-custody SUD program, staffed by certified specialists, supports engagement both inside the jail and during community reentry. Through the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program, 80 participants were served across three cohorts, with 31 graduates and 50 individuals linked to ongoing outpatient care through the integrated SUD Access Line. Graduates may qualify for early release and placement in Sober Living Environments or other supportive housing options

Behavioral Health Outpatient Services

KernBHRS contracts with community-based providers to supplement and extend behavioral health and substance use disorder services for justice-involved individuals. These contracted services support continuity of care, expand treatment capacity, and ensure access to a full continuum of support during incarceration and upon community reentry. Services include pharmacy support to ensure individuals receive necessary psychiatric medications, as well as short-term housing assistance to promote stabilization following release. Providers also deliver evidence-based interventions, care coordination, and linkage to ongoing services to support recovery and reduce recidivism

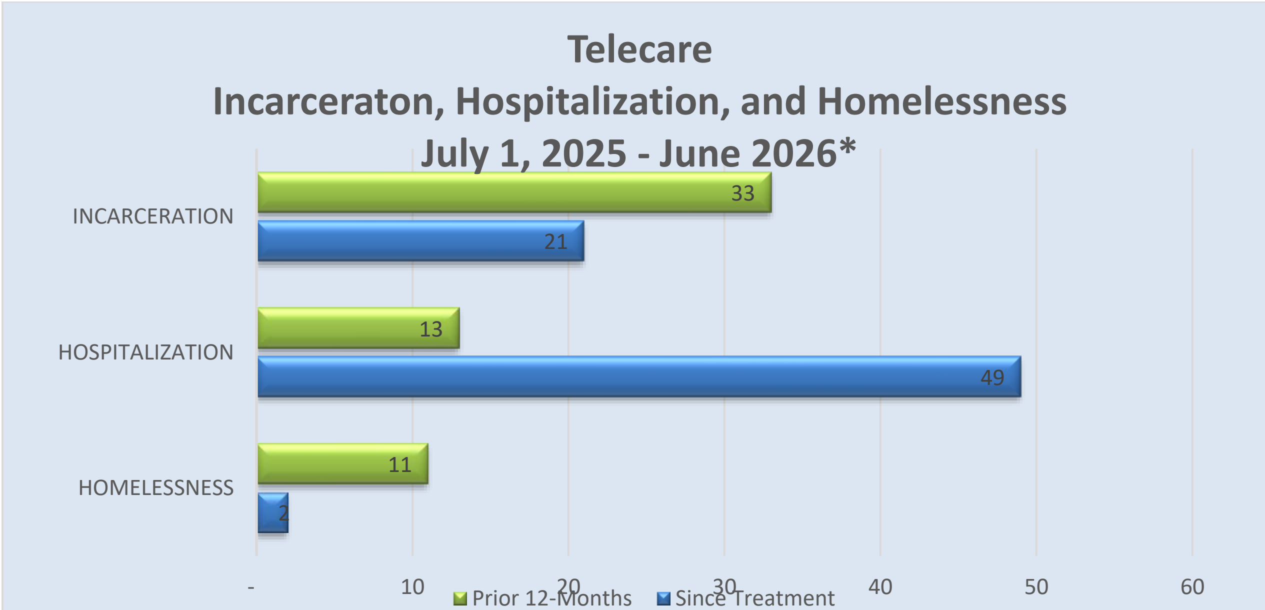
Telecare Full-Service Partnership

Telecare FSP, contracted with KernBHRS, provides intensive outpatient treatment to AB109 individuals with severe and persistent mental illness who have not responded to traditional outpatient services. Utilizing the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model, the program supports individuals with significant functional impairments across multiple life domains, including involvement in the criminal justice system. As an established component of the System of Care, Telecare continues to focus on reducing psychiatric hospitalization, incarceration, and homelessness while promoting recovery and community reintegration.

Telecare staff provide individualized, recovery-oriented services through both field-based and office-based engagement. Services include skills-building, self-empowerment support, psychoeducation, medication management, and coordinated linkage to community resources such as housing and benefits. Strong collaboration with justice system and behavioral health partners remains central to supporting stabilization and continuity of care. From July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026 (April–June 2026 data prorated), the program served 44 AB109 individuals and delivered 144 individual therapy and rehabilitation sessions, 515 medication management visits, and 1,632 targeted case management services. During this period, there were 45 psychiatric hospitalizations, including 13 individuals with two or more admissions, along with 29 incarcerations and 344 crisis-related contacts, including MET, PEC, and CWIC interventions.

The increase in hospitalizations reflects the high acuity and clinical complexity of individuals served, including a small number of high-utilizer clients experiencing repeated acute psychiatric episodes. In these cases, hospitalization serves as an alternative to incarceration or prolonged community crisis and potential adverse events. Moving forward, KernBHRS and Telecare are focused on intensified engagement with high-utilizer individuals, enhanced crisis planning, improved continuity between inpatient and community-based services, and strengthened collaboration with justice and emergency response partners to stabilize individuals earlier in the crisis continuum and reduce repeated acute episodes.

Table 2



*FY 2025/2026 (April, May & June 2026 data are pro-rated)

Housing Support Services and Contracted Facilities

The Kern Linkage Division (KLD) partners with long term care facilities and community-based housing providers to serve individuals with complex behavioral health needs, including those under conservatorship and within the forensic population. Through specialized residential placements, KLD provides intensive psychiatric care in structured settings providing both treatment and housing, helping reduce incarceration, homelessness, and hospitalization. Within the Kern Linkage Division, The Long-Term Care team supports individuals with severe mental illness transitioning from custody connecting them to enhanced residential care that promotes stability and reduces recidivism.

In FY 2025 to 2026, KLD placed nine AB109 supervised individuals across five facilities, totaling 1,686 bed days at a cost of about 684,863 dollars. As clients stabilize, KLD transitions them to community-based housing such as sober living and residential treatment, where services like medication management, transportation, and independent living support continue recovery. Monthly meetings with housing providers and routine site visits through a Quality Standards Program help address issues, share resources, and strengthen partnerships, resulting in fewer complaints and improve provider service quality.

Table 3

Specialty Transitional Housing	AB109 Totals		Housing Services Team-Short Term Funding	AB109 Totals	
Fiscal Year	**FY 2024-25**	**FY 2025-26**	**Fiscal Year**	**FY 2024-25**	**FY 2025-26**
Client Vouchers Processed	15	15	**Claims Processed**	11	5
Unique Client Count	7	8	**Unique Client Count**	8	3
Amount Spent	$13,024	$13,703	**Amount Spent**	$7,547	$3,491.99

AB109 Adjunct Services

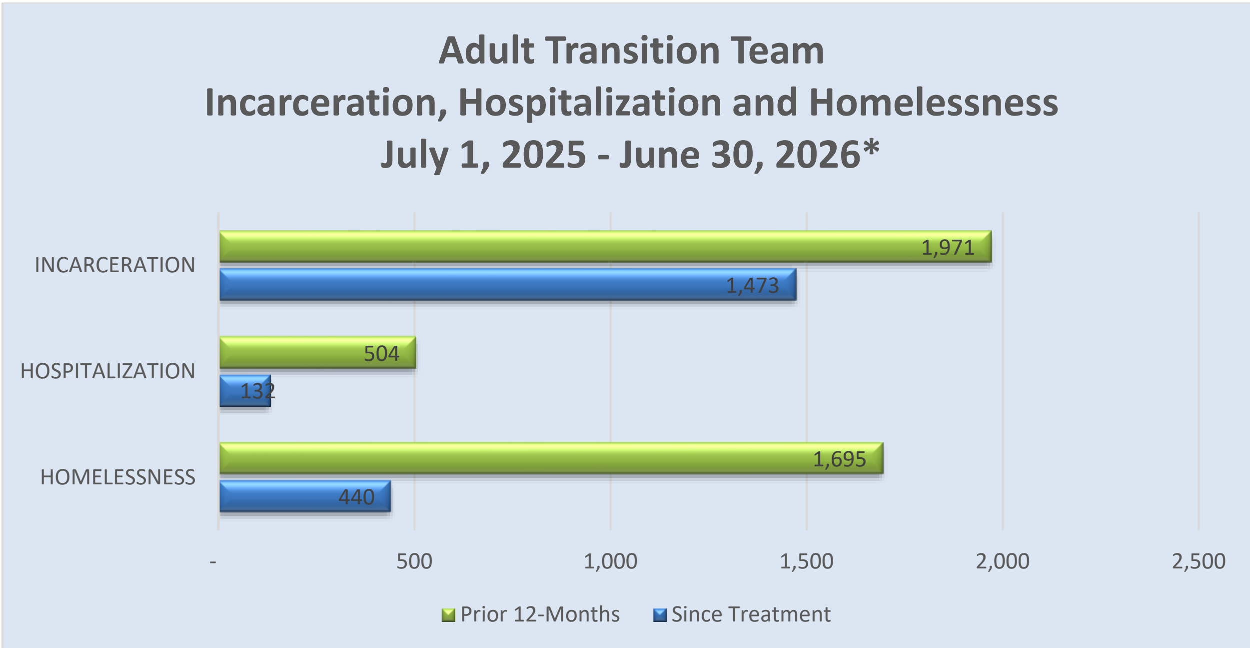
The following programs represent a critical component of KernBHRS' broader service continuum for justice-involved individuals. They are designed to complement and align closely with AB109-funded services, operating in coordination across the system of care to ensure a cohesive approach to treatment and support. Collectively, they strengthen service capacity, promote continuity of care, support stabilization and successful community reintegration for high-need individuals. Several of these programs were initially funded through AB109 Realignment funding and have since transitioned to alternative funding streams as additional resources have become available.

Adult Transition Team

The Adult Transition Team (ATT) supports individuals with serious mental illness and significant legal involvement, including those returning from State Hospitals following competency restoration. In collaboration with CBH, an ATT liaison conducts in-custody assessments to connect eligible individuals to outpatient services prior to release. Referrals are received from detention staff, attorneys, family members, and probation or parole officers. A central component of the program is the Diversion Program, which provides court-ordered evaluations to determine the presence of a mental illness, with an emphasis on stabilization through housing and recovery. For individuals with co-occurring substance use disorders, ATT coordinates placement in residential treatment or the most appropriate level of care. This year, improved collaboration contributed to several participants achieving sobriety, stability, and dismissal of charges. ATT promotes independence among its participants through linkage to financial support, housing, and employment preparation through the Individual Placement Services (IPS) program for job development and coaching opportunities. The team provides daily case management, bilingual groups, and field-based support to promote reintegration and recovery, with after-hours and weekend support available through partnerships with housing providers, the Conservator's Office, and justice system agencies.

ATT measures AB109 recidivism outcomes by comparing the number of days individuals spend in-custody, in inpatient psychiatric settings, or homeless during the 12 months prior to service initiation to the number of days in these categories while in treatment following release. The target goal is to reduce the number of days in these categories by 30%. From July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026 (April, May & June 2026 are pro-rated), ATT served 87 unduplicated individuals with severe mental illness, many of whom had a secondary diagnosis of a substance use disorder and were homeless. In aggregate, the number of days incarcerated decreased by 25%, psychiatric inpatient setting reduced by 74%, and homeless days decreased by 74% (Table 4). KernBHRS staff continues to work together with the Homeless Collaborative and partner agencies to coordinate efforts and action plans to address housing needs.

Table 4:



*FY 2025/2026 (April, May & June 2026 data are pro-rated)

Mobile Evaluation Co-Response

The KernBHRS Mobile Evaluation Team MET partners with law enforcement to deliver community-based crisis response, with referrals initiated by law enforcement. This program, initially funded through AB109, has expanded since the launch of the Co-Response Team in 2015, with MET working alongside the Kern County Sheriff's Office and Bakersfield Police Department to reduce crises, unnecessary hospitalizations, and recidivism among high utilizing individuals. Since April 2022, a co response model pairing an officer with a senior MET clinician has strengthened real time assessment, de-escalation, and linkage to care for individuals at risk of incarceration or hospitalization.

In addition to co-response, MET provides countywide field-based crisis services, including evaluations and coordination of involuntary holds and transport when needed. Between July 2025 and June 2026, with partial year data prorated, teams engaged 71 new AB109 and high utilizer individuals, maintained a caseload of 55, and delivered 565 services, while MET and Virtual MET responded to 5,418 adults, including 89 virtual contacts. Ongoing Crisis Intervention Team CIT training and cross system collaboration continue to strengthen crisis response, improve recognition of behavioral health needs, and enhance connections to appropriate care.

Telecare Recovery Station

The Recovery Station is a 24/7 crisis stabilization center in Bakersfield providing voluntary support for adults experiencing substance use or alcohol-related crises, often with co-occurring behavioral health conditions. It offers a safe sobering environment to stabilize individuals before returning to the community. Referrals come from law enforcement, community partners, and other agencies, with a focus on AB109 and justice-involved populations. Services include substance use screening, brief clinical interventions, resource referrals, and linkage to ongoing treatment. Staffed by licensed clinicians, substance use specialists, and peer support workers, the program supports de-escalation, continuity of care, and reduced recidivism.

Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) works in coordination with law enforcement to support community response and is typically dispatched through law enforcement channels. Since the launch of the AB109 Co-Response Team in June 2015, MET, working alongside KCSO and the Bakersfield Police Department (BPD), has adopted a more proactive approach to reducing crises and

The Recovery Station averages about 365 admissions monthly, with stays of 4–10 hours. In FY 2025–2026 (April–June data prorated), 883 individuals were served, including 185 AB109 participants. About 40% were reconnected to treatment, while others were discharged to housing or higher levels of care. This program was previously funded through growth funds; the program is transitioning to alternative funding to ensure long-term sustainability.

Moving Forward

Moving forward, KernBHRS will continue strengthening the continuum of care for justice-involved individuals, with an emphasis on expanding specialized in-custody services. Building on efforts such as the CCP Strategic Plan, the Stepping Up Initiative, and CalAIM implementation, KernBHRS is prioritizing seamless transitions from custody to community-based care through stronger partnerships with Probation, the Sheriff's Office, managed care providers, and community agencies. Focus areas include expanding the Correctional Integrated Care (CIC) model at Lerdo, stabilizing high-acuity individuals in outpatient settings, and improving discharge planning to reduce gaps at release.

KernBHRS remains committed to coordinated reentry strategies that connect individuals to appropriate care prior to release, including outpatient treatment, supportive services, diversion pathways, and conservatorship when clinically indicated. These efforts aim to reduce crises, improve continuity of care, and support long-term recovery, ultimately enhancing public safety, improving health outcomes, and ensuring timely, integrated care across behavioral health and justice systems.

Fiscal Year 2026/27 Spending Plan

In FY 2026/27, KernBHRS has been designated to receive $8,752,210.00 in Public Safety Realignment funding to support mental health and substance use disorder programming and administration. Over the past year, the department has experienced changes in personnel and contracts, making it necessary for funding shifts to support costs associated with in-custody mental health and crisis services. For the next year, KernBHRS proposes allocating costs as outlined in the chart below. KernBHRS will continue to identify ways to improve upon the programs established for the AB109 population. Additionally, KernBHRS will continue to develop, implement, and monitor data collection methodologies to maximize resources and funding available.

Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
AB109 Budget Justifications / Spending Plan FY 2026/27

Salaries and Benefits			
Service	Position	FTE	Annual Cost
Correctional Behavioral Health-Jail Personnel	BH Recovery Specialist	9.8	$1,157,854.60
	BH Therapist	10	$1,527,388.67
	BH Health Unit Supervisor	1.5	$313,676.00
	Office Services Technician	3	$312,650.00
	Licensed Vocational Nurse	6	$959,851.00
	Subtotal	**30.3**	$4,271,420.27
	Physicians		$2,449,445.41
	Total Salaries & Benefits		$6,720,865.68
Contracted Services			
Adult SOC Contractors			$962,855.00
KLD SOC Contractors			$750,000.00
Pharmacy Contractors			$30,000.00
Total Contractor Cost			$1,742,855.00
Administration			
System of Care Oversight			$500,000.00
Total Projected Expenditures for FY 2026/27			**$8,963,720.68**
CCP Base Allocations to KernBHRS for FY 2026/27			**$8,752,210.00**
Total Projected Expenditures Exceeding Allocation for FY 2026/27 (*KernBHRS to absorb this projected expenditure cost)			**($211,510.68)**

Employers' Training Resource

Employers' Training Resource (ETR) has seen a decrease in both referrals and enrollments through the 3rd Quarter of Program Year (PY) 2025-26. A year over year comparison shows referrals through the 3rd Quarter have decreased 31% resulting in a 43.6% decrease in the number of enrollments. This is partially due to the AB 109 team being relocated to the Oildale office, a change in leadership over the program, and our partner agencies and clients having to adjust to these changes.

Believing that change can act as a catalyst for improvement, the AB 109 team developed a plan to transform challenges, improve communication and strengthen our connection to our partners. For Program Year 2026-27, ETR will pilot a program workshop that mirrors the class the Re-Entry Services Representative teaches at the Lerdo Correctional Facility to assist participants in navigating the changes in labor laws. One component of the curriculum is "Ban the Box" where the Re-Entry Services Representative teaches how to interview, address criminal records constructively, and how to navigate legal disclosure as it relates to this law. Another component to be added this year is Fair Chance Licensing. Fair Chance Licensing was passed into law in 2020 and was designed to reduce barriers for individuals with criminal records seeking an occupational license. Our aim in this endeavor is to encourage more participants to take training as training can move a person from minimum wage to a sustainable living wage. Approximately 75 out of 102 moderate-income occupations require a license and for Kern County, moderate income is defined as earning between $60,000 and $100,000 annually. The workshop will be offered once a month, and if the class is well attended, more often to meet the needs of our clients.

With new leadership for the AB 109 Team one of PY 2026-27 goals is to improve the referrals made to our program. As such, ETR will offer an informational workshop to our partner agencies as well as the community-based organizations that contract with the Probation Department to promote the offerings of our programs and increase the number of individuals enrolled. ETR will also revisit the work done at the Kern County libraries in Program Year 2022-23. At that time staff made presentations and provided informational materials for distribution to the library staff at five branch locations in order that the library staff could better assist the justice-involved and direct those individuals to ETR for services. In further preparation to address the specific needs of, and better serve, each justice-involved participant for PY 2026-27 an additional staff member has been added.

The budget for Program Year 2026-27 Base Funds reflects the activities and strategies ETR plans to follow over the course of program year 2026-27.

Proposed Budget for Employers' Training Resource

FY 2025/26 AB 109 Plan

PROGRAM STAFF POSITION	NUMBER	FTE	YEARLY COST
Assistant Director - Program	1	0.013	$3,572
Job Developer 1	1	0.500	$59,875
Job Developer 2	1	1.000	$128,481
Marketing & Promotions Associate 2	1	0.013	$1,571
Office Services Specialist	1	0.025	$2,403
Office Services Technician	2	0.063	$5,183
Program Supports Supervisor	1	0.500	$65,267
Program Specialist 1	1	0.013	$1,353
Program Specialist 2	4	2.213	$284,146
System Analyst 2	1	0.013	$2,549
Workforce Development Program Manager	2	0.145	$24,252
Total Program FTE		**4.495**	**$578,651**

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF POSITION	NUMBER	FTE	YEARLY COST
Assistant Director - Admin	1	0.013	$3,297
Human Resources	1	0.013	$1,489
Contract Administrator	1	0.013	$1,579
Administrative Services Officer	1	0.025	$4,489
Senior Workforce Development Analyst	1	0.013	$2,045
Senior Accountant	4	0.145	$21,843
Administrative Coordinator	1	0.013	$1,794
Fiscal Support Specialist	3	0.065	$7,376
Fiscal Support Technician	1	0.013	$1,249
Office Services Technician	2	0.038	$3,409
Departmental Analyst	1	0.600	$79,658
Chief Workforce Development Officer	1	0.013	$3,788
		0.96	**$132,016**
TOTAL FTE		**5.455**	**$710,667**

Program Staff Salaries & Benefits	$578,651
Administrative Staff Salaries & Benefits	$132,016
Overhead	$52,032
Participant Training/OJTs/PWEX	$101,308
Supportive Services	$24,205
Supplies/Travel	$2,500
TOTAL	**$890,712**

District Attorney's Office

The District Attorney's Office has seen increased workload responsibilities that have added to the workload increases attributed to AB109 and Proposition 47. The increased responsibilities have been the result of advances made in the investigative process, new legislation that reopens cases for further litigation, and changes to parole and custody credit calculations that have resulted in more prison inmates being released and subsequently reoffending.

The advent and increasingly widespread use of police body-camera units has resulted in a large amount of evidence on even the simplest criminal offense that must be downloaded, reviewed, and transcribed in order to effectively analyze cases and prepare for trial. While such evidence is a welcome boost to transparency and public safety, it places additional workloads on attorneys on both sides of the criminal justice system. The increased workload required to prosecute cases applies not only to the most serious crimes, but also crimes that have been converted to local custody qualifying sentences or reduced to misdemeanors pursuant to realignment.

The proliferation of police body-camera evidence has resulted in a drastic increase in the creation, storage, editing, discovery, and retention of digital evidence on all trial types, including the varied crimes impacted by realignment. The District Attorney has utilized CCP funds to cover not only staffing needs to address the increased workload associated with the advent of digital evidence, but also to help obtain and maintain the equipment required to store, manage, and deliver large quantities of digital files across all case types.

State legislation continues to impact the District Attorney's Office, which, in combination with increased caseloads attributed to realignment, has resulted in additional need for qualified attorneys and staff to effectively represent the public safety interest involved in ensuring that validly obtained convictions are not dismissed or vacated without opposition when the facts warrant it. The passage of Proposition 36 in 2024 has also increased felony caseloads by making previously misdemeanor-only offenses eligible for felony prosecution in the case of repeat offenders. Proposition 36 has also resulted in additional needs to manage the mandatory treatment aspect of the new law

The District Attorney has made adjustments to counterbalance increased workloads, including the introduction of diversionary opportunities for many first-time low level misdemeanor offenses, and worked in partnership with the Public Defender, the Superior Court, and Behavioral Health to open an avenue of mental health diversion and diversion opportunities for incompetent defendants or in circumstances where treatable mental health factors played a substantial role in criminality in appropriate cases. Additionally, the District Attorney continues to refine efforts to provide avenues for diversion for misdemeanor cases involving minimal charges against less-criminally justice involved defendants.

The total request from the Community Corrections Partnership for FY 2026/27 is $2,762,497. The District Attorney's proposal is to receive the same percentage of funding that was received in previous years. As staffing and costs have gone up faster than the available appropriations, the

District Attorney’s Office does request that when/if additional funds become available, they are considered for additional funding. This request represents the minimum amount necessary to maintain the existing level of service within the District Attorney's Office and the Kern Regional Crime Laboratory, in order to ensure the public safety needs of the citizens of Kern County are met.

Position/Item	#	Salary	Benefits	Total
Deputy District Attorney V	8	$186,084	$122,676	$2,470,080
Criminalist III	1	$119,380	$93,544	$212,924
Total Personnel	9			$2,683,004
Recurring costs, phones, computers, licensing, Internet access, cell phones, vehicles, office furniture, training, Bar dues, MCLE, office supplies, etc.				$79,493
Total				$2,762,497

Public Defender's Office

Realignment has Profoundly Impacted Public Defender Workload

The overwhelming majority of criminal defendants are indigent, and the Public Defender represents a significant portion of these persons. Our mandate is Constitutional and statutory. Under the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution, persons accused of committing crimes, who cannot afford to hire private counsel, are entitled to appointed counsel. Pursuant to California Government Code § 27706, the Public Defender is charged with representation of persons qualifying for appointed counsel.

The Public Defender's approved FY 2026/27 allocation equals $1,381,249 or 50% of the amount appropriated to the prosecution. The amount is intended to help our department keep comparative pace with the tenacious, aggressive, determined and professional efforts of our counterparts in the criminal justice system, the District Attorney.

Guiding Principles of Fairness Support the Department's Allocation

Fairness and a "balanced allocation of resources" within the criminal justice system are recognized and operate as the controlling moral imperatives. Kern County Strategic Plan (2008), Section I, p. 5, Keeping Our Communities Safe; ABA Ten Principles of a Defense Delivery System (2002), p.3: "There should be parity of workload, salaries, and other resources (such as benefits, technology, facilities, legal research, support staff, paralegals, investigators, and access to forensic services and experts) between prosecution and public defense."

The Public Defender and the defense roles are reactive. Consequently, the impact of Realignment on the department reflects and is directly traceable to the District Attorney's work. Specifically, with the exception of dependency, mental health and conservatorship work, the Public Defender's workload is a function of law enforcement activity in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting suspected offenders. As noted, while the Public Defender does not defend all cases the District Attorney prosecutes,[1] the Public Defender represents the significant majority of alleged offenders.

Moreover, while the District Attorney's office performs certain functions with no analog to the defense (e.g., review and filing of complaints), so too the Public Defender performs work not visited on our prosecutorial counterparts. For example, lawyers with the Public Defender's office must investigate their own cases, while law enforcement often provides a completed investigation for the prosecutor. Separately, deputy public defenders are expected to and spend substantial time and energy interviewing and advising every client, including those housed at pretrial and correctional holding facilities.

---

[1] Some criminal defendants possess sufficient resources to hire their own counsel and, in other cases including co-defendant cases, the Public Defender has a conflict of interest which compels appointment of alternate counsel.

Implementation Plan

It is not possible to precisely align or attribute a particular defendant or crime to Realignment. Consequently, the department utilizes the AB 109 allocation to meet – as effectively as we can – the department's significant Realignment driven caseload. Graphical depiction of the approximate/equivalent funding capacity provided by the department's allocation is as follows:

Position Title	Number	Salary	Benefits	Total
Deputy Public Defender IV - Step 3	2	$306,436	$181,886	$488,322
Deputy Public Defender IV - Step 3	1.5	$229,827	$136,415	$366,242
Deputy Public Defender III - Step 10	1	$142,027	$85,368	$227,395
Sr. Investigator - Step 10	1.1	$116,404	$74,063	$190,467
Legal Secretary - Step 10	1	$56,730	$42,872	$99,602
Office expenses, experts, licensing, computers, vehicles, phones, copiers, paper, etc.				$9,221
Total				$1,381,249

Material Disclosures - Consistent with Prior Years

1) Use of Funds: Pen. Code §1230(b)(3) provides in relevant part that AB 109 funds shall be used to provide supervision and rehabilitative services for adult felony offenders. As in prior years, the department's intended use of the funds relies on the understanding that legal advocacy and representation of indigent individuals in criminal proceedings may be appropriately characterized as involving rehabilitative efforts and services.

2) Supplemental versus Supplanting: Pen. Code §1233.7 provides that AB 109 monies shall be used to supplement, not supplant, any other state or county appropriation. The department is informed and believes the CAO's recommended Net General Fund Contributions are calculated without regard to whether or not departments receive an AB 109 allocation. Consequently, the department's allocation request reflects supplemental rather than supplanting funding. (Compare to a situation where the recommended contribution was reduced dollar-for-dollar based on any subsequently obtained allocation).

3) Accounting of Funds: If approved, the department intends to again apply the AB 109 funds on a pro-rata (i.e., quarterly) basis. As noted, while the department recognizes a significant caseload is attributable to Realignment, it is impossible to identify all cases or alleged crimes caused by Realignment.

Street Interdiction Team

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. Even though SIT was previously functional through the advent of AB 109, it was reactivated to address street- level crime. Financial funds were made available on behalf of the CCP and have greatly influenced the process of current and future SIT operations.

SIT operates in Kern County cities such as Arvin, Bakersfield, Bear Valley Springs, California City, Delano, Inyokern, Lamont, McFarland, Mettler, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Taft, Tehachapi, and Wasco. In order to effectively address street- level crime, SIT proceeds with the following:

- Improves collaboration with law enforcement agencies throughout Kern County
- Establishes front-line operations in cities and towns throughout Kern County
- Meets monthly to discuss current AB 109 activities and impacts

In FY 2025/26, SIT completed a total of four (4) operations with a timespan total of 18 days and 189 hours in Kern County as of April 27, 2026. The participating agencies consisted of Bakersfield Police Department, Delano Police Department, Kern County District Attorney's Office, Kern County Sheriff's Office, McFarland Police Department, Ridgecrest Police Department, Shafter Police Department, Stallion Springs Police Department, Taft Police Department, and Wasco Police Department. All agencies worked with the Kern County Probation Department as part of the Memorandum of Understanding with the County and were reimbursed for overtime in relation to AB 109 SIT operations.

This fiscal year, SIT Operations were significantly lower due to financial constraints. SIT funding was expended early on, and as a result operations were halted during the second quarter (October 2025 – December 2025). SIT Operations will resume in the next fiscal year 2026/27. The data below are the results of operations that occurred during the fiscal year:

- 269 planned targets
- 65 total arrests
- Methamphetamine seized: 171.4g
- Confiscated items: 14 vehicle impounds, 11 methamphetamine pipes, 1 stun gun

The total request for FY 2026/27 is $438,901.

Community-Based Organizations Program

The CCP Public Safety Realignment Act Plan includes funds for organizations to provide services to AB 109 individuals, with the goals of decreasing recidivism, enabling persons to reconnect with their family members, and contribute to their communities. Recidivism, in this context, is defined as the tendency to relapse into a previous negative condition or mode of behavior resulting in conviction of a new criminal offense.

The Community-Based Organizations (CBO) Program provides flexibility to support the needs of the community and respond under the direction of the Executive Committee. The CBOs have assisted the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, and KernBHRS in creating and improving a continuum of care, allowing offenders to receive necessary services. Since the implementation of the CBO program in FY 2012/13, the CCP has allocated $34,974,499 to CBOs through Request for Proposals (RFP), Request for Applications (RFA) and, Personal/Professional Services Agreement (PPSA).

The CCP allocated a total of $8,500,000 through a competitive RFP process, issued in May 2025 for Calendar Years 2026 through 2028, to assist in the overall success of Realignment in Kern County. This process focuses on reentry services such as residential/transitional housing, employment and educational programs, case management services and other evidence-based programs, proven practices, and/or best practices aimed at reducing recidivism. Residential/transitional housing programs create a structured living environment for individuals reentering the community. Employment and educational programs provide individuals with valuable tools to succeed in the workplace. Case management services develop and maintain case plans for individuals.

With the CCP's recommendation, the County awarded contracts to the following organizations to provide community-based services for AB 109 male and female offenders reentering the community for a three-year period, January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2028:

1) Bakersfield Recovery Services
2) Cottage of Hope and Gratitude
3) Freedom House Recovery Homes
4) Garden Pathways
5) The Brown Family Home
6) Third Tradition
7) STEPS

The new RFP included provisions to mitigate the need for emergency agreements or PPSAs. The length of stay was reduced from 180 days to 150 to allow more individuals to be served. Additionally, the RFP required that a minimum of one housing provider accept individuals with unique needs of various kinds, and individuals that are on medication-assisted treatments (MAT participants).

To ensure the CBO's success in providing streamlined services, the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department, and KernBHRS continue collaborating by doing the following:

- Monthly collaborative meetings
- Bi-Annual individual CBO meetings
- Annual individual CBO meetings
- Monitoring data tracker elements and quarterly reporting
- CBO provider trainings
- Exchange of key information for improved offender services
- Tracking drug testing
- Encouraging CBO representatives to interview potential candidates at the Lerdo Detention Facility
- Fostering an open line of communication and addressing provider's questions, concerns, and requests as they arise
- Monthly and/or quarterly site visits to CBOs in order to monitor contracts

The CCP continues to focus on utilizing CBOs to help offenders gain access to the services and tools they need to become productive individuals of the community. The CCP is committed to the partnership with the CBOs and the collaborative work that makes Kern County a safer place to live. The request for FY 2026/27 is $1,762,060.

Veterans Service Department

The Kern County Veterans Service Department (KCVSD) has historically had a dedicated Veterans Service Representative (VSR) designated to provide benefit advocacy and case management to veterans (and their families) at any stage in the criminal justice system. The initiative provides access to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, California Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, as well as referrals to other service providers in an effort to eliminate barriers to successful reintegration into the community and reduce the recidivism rate of veteran offenders. Since this employee was hired, she has learned to navigate and successfully negotiate any challenge(s) that have arisen while assisting this veteran population and is now responsible for departmental training of all new and current employees. In an effort to further reduce barriers to benefits, the department has implemented CCP specific training as part of its onboard training for all new employees.

Having VSRs trained and experienced specifically in this area of advocacy has not only allowed for a smooth transition to benefits for the veteran once released from custody, but also increased accessibility to benefits for their dependents while the veteran is incarcerated. Moreover, having multiple points of contact for justice-involved veterans has allowed for a more robust relationship between our VSRs and the other service providers in the veteran community.

The VSRs work with VA medical staff to enroll veterans in VA healthcare and arranges transportation to the VA domiciliary on the VA Medical Center’s West Los Angeles campus, as well as connect veterans with the Vernon Valenzuela Veterans Justice Program operated out of the VA Bakersfield Outpatient Clinic in collaboration with the public defender’s office. Our VSRs work closely with California Veterans Assistance Foundation to secure housing for those veterans who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless. Additionally, our VSR works with spouses of veterans to request apportionments of the veteran’s monthly benefits to ensure those funds are distributed to the veteran’s family while the veteran is incarcerated.

Since the implementation of the program, we have assisted 1,234 local veterans and family members with 598 veterans assisted by the end of FY 2024/25. Our SVSR assisted 50 veterans via virtual conferences while assisting with their VA compensation or pension benefits. Furthermore, our SVSR continues to receive numerous correspondence and replies with valuable information for veterans regarding potential benefits as they prepare for release.

The KCVSD is excited by our continued success and looks forward to continuing to assist veterans and their families as they navigate the criminal justice system and move forward on life’s journey. Based on our continued success and increased advocacy in the form of additional trained CCP staff, the total request from the Community Corrections Partnership for FY 2026/27 is $174,270, which will be used to provide funding for the multiple CCP-qualified VSRs, 1 Supervising Veterans Service Representative, and updated mobile data devices, as well as video-conferencing licensing to work with justice-involved veterans and their families.

Position/Item	Total
Supervising Veterans Service Representative (FTE: 1.0)	$113,472
County Veterans Services Officer (FTE: 0.25)	$37,626
Business Manager (FTE 0.1)	$15,379
Equipment & Supplies	$7,793
Total	**$174,270**

Contingency Funds

The plan calls for the unallocated money, in the amount of $83,908, to be placed in the contingency fund for unexpected expenses and/or additional items the CCP chooses to fund.

Allocation of Realignment Funds

The CCP has spent numerous hours developing a plan that addresses the pressing issues of Realignment in Kern County. In order to achieve the goals, the allocation of AB 109 funds is based on the CCP's plan as described herein utilizing the FY 2026/27 allocation from the State of California.

The base allocation amounts for FY 2026/27 totals $64,544,326.

Department/Entity	Base Allocation%	FY 2025/26 Base Allocation
Sheriff's Office	39.27%	$ 25,346,557
Probation Department	35.56%	$ 22,951,962
Behavioral Health & Recovery Services	13.56%	$ 8,752,210
District Attorney's Office	4.28%	$ 2,762,497
CBO Program	2.73%	$ 1,762,060
Public Defender's Office	2.14%	$ 1,381,249
Employers' Training Resource	1.38%	$ 890,712
Street Interdiction Team	0.68%	$ 438,901
Veterans Service	0.27%	$ 174,270
Contingency	0.13%	$ 83,908
Total Base Allocation	**100%**	**$ 64,544,326**