



AGENDA

IMPERIAL COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP (CCP)

Program and Development Subcommittee

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

Zoom

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Imperial County Probation Department located at 324 Applestill Road, El Centro, CA 92243 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact or call (442) 265-2402.

Zoom Meeting Information:

Meeting ID: 889 0233 1936

Passcode: 319428

Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833

Web Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88902331936?pwd=SnJOT2tubU9QZGI5UUJvVjJCN1dvQT09>

1. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call
- b. Discussion and approval for the continued use of telecommunication services based on current circumstances and local guidelines for a 30-day period.
- c. Approval of CCP Meeting Minutes from June 5, 2024

2. Discussion / Approval

- a. Discussion / Approval to fund the Imperial County Adult Summit 2024
- b. Discussion / Approval to fund two (2) District Attorney Investigator II positions for the Imperial County District Attorney's Office

3. Agency Updates

- a. Probation Department
 - i. Pretrial Services Update
 - ii. PRCS Update
- b. Imperial County Sheriff's Office
- c. Geo Group
- d. SMART Recovery
- e. ICOE Charter School
- f. New Creations
- g. Child Support Services
- h. Workforce Development
- i. Behavioral Health Services
- j. DRC Library Services

4. Informational Item(s) & Announcements

5. **Public Comment** – Limited to items that are not on the agenda. This is an opportunity for Members of the public to speak on any issues within the jurisdiction of the CCP Program & Development Subcommittee. *Public comments may also be submitted in writing and directed to joeramirez@co.imperial.ca.us to be read during this period.*

Meeting Convenes

At 2:00 p.m.

6. Adjournment / Next Meeting

Website:

www.co.imperial.ca.us

**Imperial County Community Corrections Partnership
Program & Development Subcommittee**

Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2024

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Zoom

The Imperial County CCP Program & Development Subcommittee met through the telecommunication service Zoom on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Everardo Rodriguez, Antonia Garcia, Maurillo Villegas, Monica Reyes, Roman Hernandez, Carlos Contreras, Don Gorham, Brian Melvin, Jose Garcia

Guest(s): Jose Luis Ramirez

Call to Order:

Mr. Everardo Rodriguez welcomed attending members and guests, and called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

a. Roll Call

Mr. Jose Ramirez conducted roll call over Zoom.

b. Discussion and approval for the continued use of telecommunication services based on current circumstances and local guidelines for a 30-day period.

Mr. Rodriguez went over the telecommunication resolution regarding the continued use of Zoom for future meetings; Mr. Brian Melvin motioned to approve the resolution; Mr. Carlos Contreras seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of CCP Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2024

After review of the May 1, 2024, minutes, Mr. Contreras motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Don Gorham seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items

There were no items for discussion / action this meeting.

Agency Updates:

a. Probation Department

Mr. Rodriguez stated at the last CCP Executive Board meeting the Probation Department reported that they were looking to remodel Wing Three of the Day Reporting Center due to the increasing caseloads of Probation clients and the need for more staff. Mr. Rodriguez added that the Department also met with the County IT Department to discuss their part of networking the expanded wing of the building.

Mr. Oswaldo Guerrero provided stats on the Pretrial Unit and stated that there are currently 323 clients being monitored under the Pretrial Unit and in the previous month, the unit completed 118 post-arraignment reports, 205 pre-arraignment reports, completed 87 Pretrial Assessments, submitted 19 Humphrey Assessments, and completed 11 Bail Reviews for the courts. Mr. Guerrero added that the caseload currently has 14 individuals on electronic monitoring through SCRAM and three of those individuals are on GPS Monitoring.

b. Imperial County Sheriff's Office

Sgt. Garcia stated that he had no major updates to provide at this time.

c. GEO Group

Mr. Contreras stated that the agency is in a recruiting session to bring in new people into the program due to the recent graduations they had last month and stated the agency has 62 participants in the program.

d. SMART Recovery

Mr. Gorham stated that SMART Recovery is doing well and the agency has been going around and providing presentations throughout the county regarding their program and services. Mr. Gorham noted that the agency is looking into possibly starting a SMART group in the Slabs area.

e. ICOE Charter School

Mr. Garcia stated that the program currently has 17 in attendance due to the recent graduations, but currently has 12 pending enrollments for the upcoming summer school session.

f. New Creations

Mr. Melvin stated that that DRC class is currently full with 17 participants and is looking to start a second group at the DRC in September for indigent individuals. Mr. Melvin noted that they are working to get more referrals for their Men's and Women's home programs.

g. Workforce Development

Mr. Roman Hernandez stated that they had a recent hiring event for the newly built hotel that went well. Mr. Hernandez added that they are still providing On the Job Training and the program has been very successful.

h. DRC Library Services

Mr. Maurillo Villegas stated that they got 8 candidates to start the literacy classes at the DRC, which will be held in the mornings on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Informational Item(s), and Announcements:

Public Comments

There were no public comments made at this meeting.

Adjournment:

Mr. Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m. The next CCP Program and Development Subcommittee meeting would be scheduled after the summer due to the CCP Committees going dark.

Imperial County Probation Department

To: CCP Program & Development; Budget & Fiscal; Executive Board

From: The Imperial County Probation Department

Re: The 7th Annual Adult Summit (2024)

Date: September 5, 2024

The Imperial County Probation Department is looking for support and funding for the 6th Annual Adult Summit, which is currently planned to be held on **Wednesday, November 20, 2024**, at the Imperial County Probation Department. The event will provide workshops and include vendors that will focus on informing adult probationers and incarcerated clients about medical, educational, and employment opportunities available within Imperial County and will include a guest speaker who can connect with attendees.

During the previous Summit event, the Probation Department collaborated with 50 local vendors and provided information to probationers, incarcerated individuals, parole clients and Federal Probation clients. This event will give probationers and justice involved individuals the opportunity to connect with local, private, and public agencies that can better assist them in their journey to rehabilitation and help reduce their chance of recidivating.

Attached you will find the breakdown of costs related to this item. We appreciate your continued support.

Thank you.

Cost Break Down

Items	Cost
Venue @ Probation Department	\$0.00
Speaker	\$6,000.00
Speaker - Lodging	\$450.00
Mileage for Speaker Travel	\$250.00
Food (Provided by GEO)	\$0.00
Drinks	\$600.00
Tables, Chairs, Canopies, etc.	\$1,600.00
Decorations	\$500.00
Misc. Costs	\$2,600.00
Podium	\$1,000.00
Total	\$13,000.00

2023 Attendees

Attendees	
Probationers/In-Custody Inmates	271
Federal Probationers / Parolees	14
Vendors	50
Community Partners	110
Total	445

*** GEO reported they served about 485 plates of food at the event**

The above mentioned total does not include Staff from Probation, Sheriff's Department, Geo Staff (DRC & El Centro Office), Board of Supervisor Members, County CEO, Department Heads from Various County Agencies and Management from ICOE

Imperial County District Attorney's Office Position Justification

Position Justification: (2) District Attorney Investigator II

Introduction: The District Attorney's Office recognizes the pressing need to address violent crimes within our communities. To effectively combat these offenses and ensure justice for victims, District Attorney George Marquez created the Violent Crime Unit (VCU) within the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations in 2023. The VCU has been dedicated to providing expertise to local law enforcement agencies and providing prosecutorial support for Deputy District Attorneys.

Through a partnership with CCP, the VCU would like to expand its posture from solely being a reactive unit to a proactive set focused on removing dangerous career criminals and guns from our communities, while working with every component of the criminal justice system and the entire community.

Rationale:

1. **Severity of Violent Crimes:** Homicides, assault with a deadly weapon, and domestic violence are among the most serious and impactful crimes in our society. These offenses not only result in direct harm to victims but also instill fear and insecurity within our communities. A dedicated focus on investigating and prosecuting violent crimes is essential to upholding public safety and restoring trust in our criminal justice system.

2. **Complexity of Investigations:** Cases involving violent crimes often require thorough and meticulous investigation to gather evidence, identify suspects, and build strong cases for prosecution. The complexity of these investigations necessitates the expertise of District Attorney Investigators who can provide strategic direction, coordinate efforts, and ensure that all investigative avenues are explored to their fullest extent.

3. **Victim-Centered Approach:** Victims of violent crimes, particularly those involving domestic violence, often face unique challenges and vulnerabilities. A District Attorney Investigator can ensure that investigations are conducted with sensitivity and compassion towards victims, prioritizing their safety, well-being, and access to support services throughout the legal process.

4. **Prevention and Deterrence:** By targeting violent career criminals offenders and holding them accountable for their actions, we can deter future acts of violence and prevent further harm to individuals and communities. A District Attorney Investigator can lead proactive initiatives to identify trends, target high-risk individuals, and implement strategies aimed at preventing violent crimes before they occur.

Community Corrections Partnership

Since January of 2022 the District Attorney has received 58 homicides cases for review. A stark increase from the four years prior to 2022.

FILED HOMICIDE CASES		HOMICIDE CASES 2022		HOMICIDE CASES 2023		HOMICIDE CASES 2024	
2018	13	Filed	20	Filed	14	Filed	5
2019	9	Rejected	6	Rejected	3	Rejected	0
2020	12	Pending	0	Pending	6	Pending	4
2021	13	Total	26	Total	23	Total	9

In addition, since February of 2022, 273 Assault with a Deadly Weapon cases (§245(a)(1) PC) and over 550 felony Domestic Violence (§273.5(a) PC) have been submitted for review.

§245(a)(1) PC

	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
Filed	63	93	42	198
Rejected	26	23	11	60
Pending	2	6	7	15
TOTAL	91	122	60	273

§273.5(a) PC

	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
Filed	158	137	76	371
Rejected	83	88	38	209
Pending	0	3	16	19
TOTAL	241	228	130	599

District Attorney Investigators have played a crucial role in following up on these violent crimes.

Key responsibilities of a District Attorney Investigator:

1. **Interview and Interrogations:** District Attorney Investigators conduct interviews and interrogations with witnesses, victims, and suspects to gather information, establish timelines, and corroborate evidence. They may also work closely with victim advocates to ensure that victims feel supported and comfortable during the interview process.

2. Surveillance and Monitoring: In cases where ongoing criminal activity is suspected, investigators may conduct surveillance and monitoring activities to gather evidence and track the movements of suspects. This can involve the use of specialized equipment and techniques to gather intelligence and build a case against violent offenders. This most often occurs in crimes involving the intimidation of victims and witnesses.

3. Author Search Warrants: District Attorney Investigators may author search warrants to further investigations. These search warrants have been used to identify suspects and secure physical and digital evidence.

4. Background Investigations: Investigators conduct thorough background investigations on suspects, including reviewing criminal history records, conducting interviews with associates, and gathering information about their personal and professional activities. This helps to establish motive, identify potential accomplices, and build a comprehensive profile of the suspect.

5. Collaboration with Law Enforcement: District Attorney Investigators collaborate closely with law enforcement agencies, including local police departments, sheriff's offices, and federal agencies, to share information, coordinate investigative efforts, and ensure that cases are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted.

6. Case Preparation: District Attorney Investigators assist prosecutors in preparing cases for trial by organizing evidence, preparing witness statements, and drafting reports summarizing investigative findings. They may also testify in court as expert witnesses to provide insights into the investigative process and the evidence collected.

7. Witness Protection and Relocation: District Attorney Investigators are often called upon to protect and relocate victims and witnesses on a temporary or permanent basis. This may involve providing security to and from court or assisting in the relocation of a witness and their family.

Overall, District Attorney Investigators play a critical role in conducting thorough and comprehensive investigations into violent crimes, gathering evidence, and supporting prosecutors in bringing perpetrators to justice.

The District Attorney firmly believes collaboration between the District Attorney's Office and the Probation Department is crucial for furthering the mission of the VCU. As a result of legislation which went into effect on Oct. 1, 2011, commonly known as Public Safety Realignment, or Assembly Bill 109, offenders convicted of non-serious, non-violent, and non-registerable sex crimes are now being incarcerated in local jails instead of in state prison.

The District Attorney's Office recognizes the critical need for additional investigative support to effectively handle cases involving individuals released from state prison under Assembly Bill 109 (AB 109). To no fault of the probation department, individuals under mandatory supervision and PRCS have been responsible for several of the violent crimes received by the District Attorney for review and prosecution.

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Below are PRCS cases that required investigative support from District Attorney Investigators.



Imperial County Sheriff's Jail
 QUINTERO, GEORGE ANTHONY
 Number: 233180
 07/27/1999 HT: 5'07" WT: 160
 George Quintero
 JCF004588 (DOI: 05/19/21)
 205 PC Aggravated Mayhem
 206 PC Torture
 236 PC False Imprisonment
 On Mandatory Supervision at
 time of the above incident



Daniel De Leon
 JCF004167 (DOI 03/03/21)
 §187(a) PC Murder
 PRCS Violations 2016 and 2017
 SPV011148/SPV00769



Ramon Ubence
 JCF006497
 §187(a) Murder (12/16/22)
 On PRCS at time of incident
 SPV001109



Christopher Plancarte
 JCF007622
 §245(a)(1) PC (02/22/24)
 *Led to an Officer Involved Shooting
 On PRCS at time of incident
 SPV001132



Steven Ambriz
 JCF005740 (DOI 12/15/21)
 §187 PC Murder
 Prior PRCS violations
 SPV01181
 SPV01073
 SPV000921
 SPV001022



Daniel Mungia
 JCF003526 (DOI 09/17/19)
 §187 PC Murder
 PRCS Violations prior to 187
 SPV01207
 SPV00821



Richard Lamarca
 JCF004354 (DOI 03/17/23)
 §422(a) PC Criminal Threats
 §236 False Imprisonment
 Numerous PRCS Violations



Nolberto Castro
 JCF003671 (DOI 10/12/20)
 §69 PC Felony Resisting
 §243(b) Battery on Peace Officer
 Numerous PRCS Violations

With the support of CCP, the District Attorney plans to expand the VCU with components involving firearms, major crimes and career criminals. Although focused on enhancing public safety for the Imperial Valley, this three-pronged approach to violent crime suppression may serve as a resource to the probation department in focusing on PRCS and Mandatory Supervision individuals.

The severity and complexity of violent crimes necessitate the establishment of a District Attorney Investigator position dedicated to supporting investigations in this area is essential to advancing public safety, promoting victim justice, and holding offenders accountable. By investing in this critical position, the District Attorney's Office reaffirms its commitment to combating violent crime and ensuring that our communities are safe, secure, and resilient.

The District Attorney plans to expand the VCU with the following components.

Initiatives within the Violent Crimes Unit

Firearm Violence Reduction Initiative (FVRI)

It's well known that Imperial County experiences high firearm and narcotics trafficking because Imperial County borders Mexico and Arizona. The District Attorney's Office aims to reduce firearm violence and remove guns from prohibited persons. The VCU will expand to include a Firearm Violence Reduction Initiative (FVRI) to reduce firearm violence and remove guns from prohibited persons. On the front end of the operations the (FVRI) involves intelligence gathering to identify people who possess firearms and fall into multiple categories of prohibition including: all types of civil restraining orders, felonies, misdemeanors that carry firearm prohibitions under PC 29805, and mental health related prohibitions. (Grant submitted to the State of California for position funding; April 2024)

Major Crime Response

The VCU will expand to provide personnel and specific resources for the effective investigation and prosecution of homicides. When a critical incident occurs, the police agency may contact the VCU to respond and serve as a force multiplier; providing resources and expertise to homicides, suspicious deaths, in-custody deaths, officer involved shootings, and heinous crimes in our community. (CCP Funded DAI- Proposed)

Career Criminals

Career criminals are individuals who have a pattern of committing serious and often violent offenses over an extended period. Through a partnership with CCP and local law enforcement agencies, the VCU will assume a proactive role in focusing investigative efforts on career criminals. By focusing on these high-risk individuals, the VCU will be able to prevent future offenses and future victimization of our community. (CCP Funded DAI-Proposed)

Conclusion

In conclusion, the expansion of the Violent Crimes Unit is paramount to our commitment to public safety and justice. By dedicating specialized resources, expertise, and focus to the investigation and prosecution of violent crimes such as homicide, assault with a deadly weapon, and domestic violence, we aim to enhance our ability to hold perpetrators accountable, support victims, and ensure the safety and well-being of our communities. Through strategic collaboration with law enforcement partners, engagement with the community, and a victim-centered approach our unit will work tirelessly to disrupt criminal networks, prevent future violence, and foster a safer and more resilient environment for all. To ensure that these are met, the District Attorney's Office is requesting to augment its workforce by recruiting two (2) District Attorney Investigators. Additionally, we are requesting two (s) vehicles to facilitate travel.

Community Corrections Partnership

Salary:

Position	Range/Step	Annual Salary	POST	Medicare	Retirement	Pension	Health	Group Medical	Uniform Allowance	Life Insurance	Dental Vision	Total Expenditure
DAI II	318/F	90,361.00	4,518.00	1,310.00	30,688.46	1,970.00	5,458.00	18,660.00	1,500.00	190.00	1187.00	155,842.46
DAI II	318/F	90,361.00	4518.00	1310.00	30688.46	1970.00	5458.00	18660.00	1500.00	190.00	1187.00	155,842.46
Total:												311,684.92

Vehicle(s):

2024 Chevrolet Silverado (w/safety equipment): \$68,363.30

2024 Chevrolet Traverse (w/safety equipment): \$47,962.35

Total: \$116,325.65

Year one:

Salaries and Equipment: **\$428,010.57**

Subsequent Years:

Salaries: **311,684.92**

Major Crime Response

The VCU will expand to provide personnel and specific resources for the effective investigation and prosecution of homicides. When a critical incident occurs, the police agency may contact the VCU to respond and serve as a force multiplier; providing resources and expertise to homicides, suspicious deaths, in-custody deaths, officer involved shootings, and heinous crimes in our community. (CCP Funded DAI- Proposed)

Job Duties:

Major Crime Response:

- Respond to critical incidents, including homicides, suspicious deaths, in-custody deaths, officer-involved shootings, and other heinous crimes.
- Serve as a force multiplier for local law enforcement agencies, providing expertise and resources during major crime investigations.
- Coordinate with local police agencies to ensure a comprehensive and strategic response to violent crime scenes.

Investigative Support for Violent Crimes:

- **Interview and Interrogations:** Conduct interviews with witnesses, victims, and suspects to gather critical information, establish timelines, and corroborate evidence. Work closely with victim advocates to ensure sensitive and compassionate treatment of victims.
- **Surveillance and Monitoring:** Carry out surveillance and monitoring activities to gather evidence and track suspects' movements. Utilize specialized equipment and techniques to support ongoing investigations.
- **Search Warrants:** Author search warrants to obtain physical and digital evidence crucial for violent crime investigations.
- **Case Preparation:** Assist prosecutors by organizing evidence, preparing witness statements, and drafting reports summarizing investigative findings. Testify in court as an expert witness when necessary.
- **Collaboration with Law Enforcement:** Work closely with law enforcement agencies, sharing information and coordinating efforts to ensure thorough investigations.
- **Victim and Witness Protection:** Provide protection and, if necessary, relocation services for victims and witnesses to ensure their safety throughout the legal process.

The Major Crime DAI will be responsible for reviewing all out of custody violent crimes submitted to the District Attorney for review.

This structure ensures that the Investigator is fully equipped to handle the complexities of violent crime investigations while also contributing to the broader goals of public safety and justice.

Career Criminals

Career criminals are individuals who have a pattern of committing serious and often violent offenses over an extended period. Through a partnership with CCP and local law enforcement agencies, the VCU will assume a proactive role in focusing investigative efforts on career criminals. By focusing on these high-risk individuals, the VCU will be able to prevent future offenses and future victimization of our community. (CCP Funded DAI-Proposed)

Job Duties:

1. **Targeting Career Criminals:**

- **Identification and Tracking:** Identify and monitor individuals with a history of repeated and serious criminal activity, focusing on those who pose the highest risk to community safety.
- **Collaboration and Intelligence Sharing:** Work closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and coordinate efforts in tracking and apprehending career criminals.
- **Proactive Surveillance:** Conduct surveillance operations to gather evidence on criminal activities, movements, and associations of career criminals.

2. **Adult Compliance (Sex Offenders):**

- **Compliance Checks:** Regularly conduct compliance checks on registered sex offenders to ensure they are adhering to court-mandated conditions, including residency restrictions, reporting requirements, and treatment obligations.
- **Investigating Violations:** Investigate instances of non-compliance, including failure to register, unauthorized contact with minors, and other violations, and coordinate with prosecutors to pursue legal action.
- **Collaboration with Probation:** Work closely with probation officers to monitor the activities of sex offenders and ensure compliance with all legal obligations.

3. **Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS):**

- **Supervision and Monitoring:** Work with the probation department on individuals released under PRCS, ensuring they comply with the conditions of their release.
- **Violation Response:** Investigate and respond to violations of PRCS conditions, working with the Probation Department, Prosecutors, and the Courts to impose appropriate sanctions, including revocation of community supervision.
- **Risk Assessment:** Regularly assess the risk level of PRCS individuals, adjusting monitoring and supervision strategies based on their compliance and behavior.

This outline ensures that the Investigator is equipped to handle the complex responsibilities of targeting career criminals while also managing compliance and supervision duties for sex offenders and those on post-release community supervision.

Firearm Violence Reduction Initiative (FVRI)

It's well known that Imperial County experiences high firearm and narcotics trafficking because Imperial County borders Mexico and Arizona. The District Attorney's Office aims to reduce firearm violence and remove guns from prohibited persons. The VCU will expand to include a Firearm Violence Reduction Initiative (FVRI) to reduce firearm violence and remove guns from prohibited persons. On the front end of the operations the (FVRI) involves intelligence gathering to identify people who possess firearms and fall into multiple categories of prohibition including: all types of civil restraining orders, felonies, misdemeanors that carry firearm prohibitions under PC 29805, and mental health related prohibitions. (Grant submitted to the State of California for position funding; April 2024)

Job Duties:

- **Firearm Relinquishment Enforcement:**

- **Conduct Investigations:** Lead investigations into individuals prohibited from possessing firearms due to restraining orders, convictions, or other legal restrictions.
- **Compliance Verification:** Carry out compliance checks on individuals ordered to relinquish firearms, ensuring they have surrendered all firearms in accordance with the law.
- **Surveillance and Monitoring:** Utilize surveillance techniques to monitor known offenders who may possess illegal firearms, gathering evidence for potential prosecution.

- **Warrant Execution and Searches:**

- **Search Warrants:** Draft and execute search warrants related to firearm relinquishment cases, ensuring the legal seizure of firearms from prohibited individuals.
- **Property Searches:** Conduct thorough searches of properties, vehicles, and other locations where firearms may be unlawfully retained by prohibited persons.

- **Collaboration with Law Enforcement Agencies:**

- **Interagency Coordination:** Work closely with local police departments, the Sheriff's Office, and state and federal agencies to share intelligence and coordinate efforts in firearm relinquishment cases.
- **Task Force Participation:** Participate in or lead multi-agency task forces specifically focused on reducing illegal firearm possession among prohibited individuals.

- **Court Proceedings and Documentation:**

- **Case Preparation:** Assist in preparing cases for prosecution for firearm related offenses by gathering and organizing evidence, preparing reports, and ensuring all investigative procedures are well-documented.
- **Court Testimony:** Provide expert testimony in court regarding the investigation, search warrant execution, and evidence collection related to firearm relinquishment cases.