



# AB 109: PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT IN KERN COUNTY



October 2011 to June 2012

## Annual Summary Report



**First Annual Report of the impacts of  
AB 109/Realignment in Kern County  
and statistical data.**

**Contact:**

**Kern County Probation Department  
2005 Ridge Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93305  
661/868-4100**

**Website: [www.kernprobation.com](http://www.kernprobation.com)**

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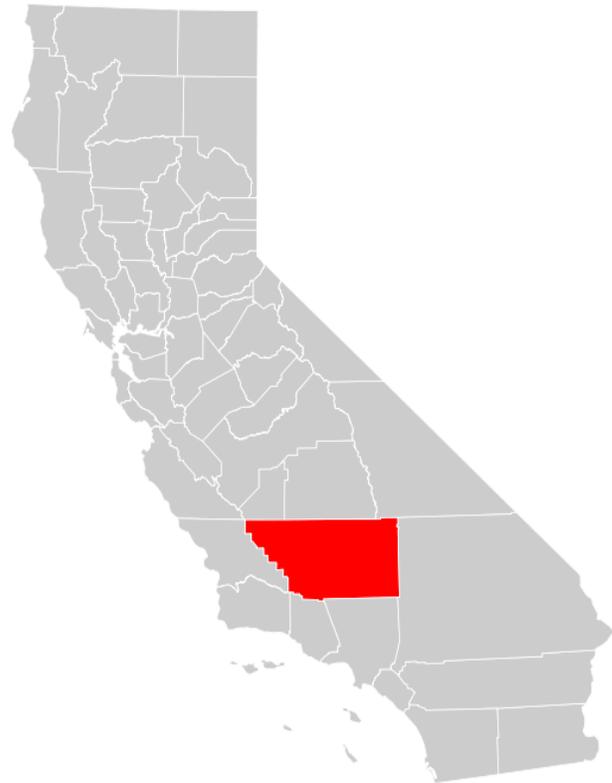
# AB 109: PUBLIC SAFETY REALIGNMENT IN KERN COUNTY

## ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT

### Preface

The following is the first annual report on the overall process, implementation, and outcomes of AB 109 Realignment in Kern County. As the realignment process is only in its first stages of implementation (beginning in California in October of 2011), this report centers on implementation activities more than outcomes. In addition, preliminary outcomes connecting to recidivism should be viewed with caution. Outcomes and impact will be much more of a focus in future reports. This report is intended to be used as a learning and reflection document and one that can assist in further AB 109 planning, procedures, and on-going implementation.

It is important to note that the report includes data that was available during the evaluation timeframe, but should not be viewed as encompassing all variables and all AB 109 perspectives. Future reports will include data and feedback from other critical vantage points such as the District Attorney, victims' impact, community-based organizations and AB 109 clients themselves. It should be added that some descriptive text on the overall AB 109 process was adopted from the County of Kern Public Safety Realignment Act of 2011 Implementation Plan as it provides well detailed information.



*"AB 109 embodies one of the most ambitious reforms of a state criminal justice system since incarceration rates began their steep increase in the late 1970s. If all goes well, California will serve as an example to the rest of the nation on how to reduce the prison population in a manner that maintains public safety."*

*Public Policy Institute of California, Evaluating the Effects of California's Corrections Realignment on Public Safety, August 2012*

## Introduction – What is AB 109?

### Public Safety Realignment Act

In an effort to address overcrowding in California's prisons and assist in alleviating the State's financial crisis, the Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bill 109) was signed into law on April 4, 2011. AB 109 transfers responsibility for supervising specified lower level inmates and parolees from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to the 58 counties in California. Implementation of the Public Safety Realignment Act began October 1, 2011.

There are three main reasons Realignment was passed by the State. The first was to help address a significant overcrowding of inmates at state prisons. There is currently a federal mandate on California to significantly reduce its prison population. Another reason realignment was passed was due to budgetary considerations. California has the largest and most expensive prison system in the nation. Lastly, Realignment hoped to correct the California prison system's woeful recidivism rate of approximately 70%.

In the process leading up to AB 109 and since October 2011, the Kern County Board of Supervisors, the Kern County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and Executive Committee, and CCP member departments have engaged in an intense and fully focused response to legislation that dramatically changed corrections in the State of California.

As part of AB 109, each county in California was mandated to form an executive committee of the CCP and to construct an AB 109 plan; this plan was to be reviewed and approved by the County Board of Supervisors. The Executive Committee of the CCP is comprised of the chief probation officer as chair, a chief of police, the sheriff, the district attorney, the public defender, the presiding judge of the superior court, and the director of mental health services. In addition to the seven on the Executive Committee, the full CCP also includes department directors from the Department of Human Services, Employers' Training Resource, Substance Abuse Division of Mental Health, Kern County Superintendent of Schools, a county board of supervisor, a community-

based organization representative and a victims' interest representative. Kern County's original AB 109 Plan was completed and approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 25, 2011 for FY 11/12. A subsequent plan for FY 12/13 was approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 31, 2012.

This plan serves as the governing document to AB 109 in Kern County including the roles of the various departments as well as the allocation of the AB 109 funds. Though the Plan provides valuable information, this Annual Report serves as a recap of AB 109 activities over the prior year and overall assessment of the progress of AB 109 in Kern County. Eventually, this report will be more inclusive of progress reports and other information which may be useful for the reader.



## Overall Scope of AB 109

Some significant changes include the following:

### Non-Violent/Non-Serious/Non-Sex Offenders or "non-non-nons":

AB 109 revises the definition of felony to include specified lower-level crimes that would be punishable by these offenders serving sentences in jail in lieu of prison or another local sentencing option for more than one year. This population are considered non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenders (for non-registerable offenses pursuant to Penal Code Section 290). Some offenses, including serious, violent, and sex offenses are excluded and sentences will continue to be served in State Prison. Also, a prior serious, violent or sex offense will make an offender prison-eligible. There are numerous non-violent, non-serious, non sex-offenses that have been excluded where offenders may continue to be sentenced to State Prison.

### Post Release Community Supervision:

Offenders released from State Prison for a current non-violent or non-serious offense (irrespective of priors) are now placed on Post Release Community Supervision, instead of State Parole. On August 2, 2011, the Kern County Board of Supervisors designated the Probation Department as the agency responsible for Post Release Community Supervision. The Sheriff's Office continues to be responsible for jails and inmates and was appointed to run an electronic monitoring (EMP)/home detention program.

County level supervision does not include:

- 3rd Strikers
- Individuals with a serious commitment offense
- Individuals with a violent commitment offense
- High risk sex offenders as defined by the CDCR
- Mentally Disordered Offenders (MDO)

### Parole Revocations:

Parole revocation hearings will continue to be heard by the Board of Parole Hearings until July 2013. However, parole revocations are now served in the County Jail (as of October 1, 2011) and may not exceed 180 days. Only those offenders previously sentenced to a term of life can be revoked to prison. Beginning July 2013, parole revocations hearings will be heard by the local Superior Court.

### Changes to Custody Credits:

Jail inmates will be able to earn four days of credit for every two days served. Time spent on home detention (i.e., electronic monitoring) is credited as time spent in jail custody.

### Alternative Custody:

Penal Code Section 1203.018 authorizes electronic monitoring for inmates being held in the County Jail in lieu of bail. Eligible inmates must first be held in custody for 60 days post-arraignment, or 30 days for those charged with misdemeanor offenses (Pretrial Supervision).

### Community Based Punishment:

Authorizes counties to use a range of community-based punishment and intermediate sanctions other than jail incarceration alone or traditional routine probation supervision.

### Contracting Back:

Counties are permitted to contract back with the State to send local offenders to State Prison. Counties are also permitted to contract with public community correctional facilities. Contracting back does not extend to parole revocations.



## AB 109 in Kern County

### The Plan

As noted in the introduction, each county in California was to respond to the AB 109 legislation with the creation of an AB 109 implementation plan. The local plan in Kern County has a sweeping set of components that have created the framework for what has brought about significant changes in the way the County addresses crime and incarceration. The original plan for FY 11/12 outlines the following:

- The projected numbers of inmates that Kern County could expect starting October 1, 2011
- The structure of the Community Corrections Partnership
- Impact on Kern County
- An assessment of system needs
- Department plans for implementation
- Department/entity allocations
- Contingency
- Other items considered, not funded
- Data collection, research and future plans

The plan's major components and the county's response to, arguably, the most sweeping change in corrections in California's history included a framework of evidence-based and comprehensive protocols and programming. The plan details the use of:

- Static Risk and Offender Needs Guide (STRONG), an evidence-based risk assessment tool
- Alternatives to incarceration, Virtual Jail and Sheriff's Parole
- Specialized case management to address individual needs including mental health
- Substance abuse in-/out-custody (MATRIX) program

- Employment services including job search and assistance
- Front-line AB 109 law-enforcement/street-level activities for ensuring immediate public safety
- Referrals to appropriate agencies and intervention strategies.

### Funding

The formula establishing statewide funding allotments for AB 109 implementation in FY 11/12 was developed by the State Department of Finance and agreed to by the County Administrative Officers (CAO) and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). The funding available through AB 109 is based on a weighted formula containing three elements:

- 60% based on the estimated average daily population (ADP) of offenders meeting AB 109 eligibility criteria
- 30% based on U.S. Census Data pertaining to the total population of adults (18-64) in the County as a percentage of the statewide population; and,
- 10% based on the SB 678 distribution formula

Based on this formula, Kern County received \$10,834,289 from the State to implement AB 109 in FY 11/12 to serve a projected 1,040 Post Community Release Supervision (PRCS) offenders and an additional 1,019 local sentence offenders no longer eligible for State prison. This projection of offenders was based on an average daily population (ADP) once realignment had been fully implemented, most likely several years into the process.

The following departments were allocated AB 109 funds for FY 11/12:

The Realignment legislation also provided two sums

<u>Department/Entity</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff's Office	43.35%	\$4,696,665
Probation Department	39.79%	\$4,310,964
Mental Health Department	14.21%	\$1,539,553
Employer's Training Resource	1.07%	\$115,927
Street Interdiction Team	0.71%	\$76,924
Contingency	0.87%	\$94,256
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$10,834,289</b>

of one time "start-up" funding which the CCP approved to be allocated in the following manner:

<u>Department/Entity</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff's Office	48.5%	\$467,737.50
Probation Department	48.5%	\$467,737.50
Mental Health Department	3%	\$29,000
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 964,475</b>

In spring 2012, CSAC developed a new funding formula due to concerns by some northern and Bay counties that Year 1 (FY 11/12) funding allocation relied too heavily on caseload and negatively impacted those counties with lower prison commitment rates. On May 14, 2012, CSAC announced their funding formula recommendation for FYs 12/13 and 13/14 which significantly changed future funding allocations for many central valley counties especially Kern County who will see an amount that is less than what would have been under the first year formula. However, since the State has allocated nearly \$1 billion (three times more than year one) state-wide in FY 12/13, Kern County's share is more than twice the funding from FY 11/12.

In weighing the new responsibilities placed on Kern County against the amount of money allocated, it

was a complicated and difficult task to determine how to best allocate our resources. There was and is simply not enough money to do everything the CCP and the Executive Committee felt was necessary to address all of the issues that Realignment presents. However, after much deliberation the CCP approved a plan that included a mixture of increased bed space, alternatives to incarceration, intense supervision of offenders, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, job training and a wide range of evidence based practices which will address offenders' criminogenic needs and reduce recidivism.

All money allocated to individual departments or entities must show the funds are spent on the specific areas related to Realignment as provided for in the Plan. However, the departments and entities have the discretion on how to best implement specific steps associated with those areas. The CCP Executive Committee has oversight to ensure allocations are properly used. During the first year, departments and entities were unable to expend all their AB 109 funds due to hiring delays and the time to establish programs and services to best serve the AB 109 population. Due to the delays, departments, particularly the Sheriff and Probation had large carryover balances that were later approved by the CCP to be used as one-time costs in FY 12/13 on such items as infrastructure, vehicles, equipment and training.

### Implementation

The CCP and an Executive Committee of the CCP began meeting in June 2011 and again over the first nine months for a total of 12 times. These meetings were open to the public and minutes were recorded in accordance with the Brown Act.

Overall collaboration and partnership was an important aspect of implementation. The CCP established processes and discussed complex issues in a comprehensive and extensive manner. While there were, at times, legitimate disagreements, the CCP worked through these to develop a plan to move forward with AB 109.

During the first nine months of AB 109 implementation, county departments needed to make a massive shift. Those included the following:

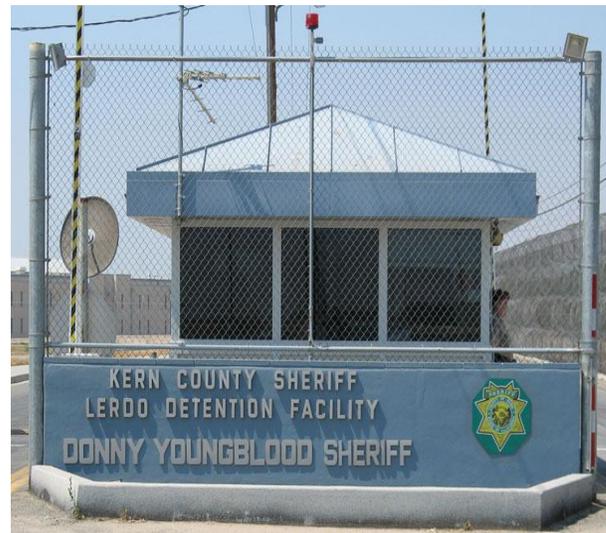
**Probation:** As the County designated supervision agency, Probation's orchestrated and structural/systematic changes included:

- Utilization of the Static Risk Assessment Tool
- Expansion of the Day Reporting Center
- Opened the Southeast Center (SEC) office located in a high service area
- Establishment of the PRCS and High Risk Units to handle increased supervision.
- Initial development of data collection, analysis and reporting



**Sheriff's Office:** As the County's chief law enforcement officer, major changes took place on local jail population management and programming including:

- Increased jail capacity by 414 beds
- Establishment of the Virtual Jail (conditional release programs), Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Program, and expansion of Sheriff's Parole program



- Developed collaborative partnership with Kern County Mental Health for an in-custody substance abuse treatment program
- Expanded educational and vocational opportunities for inmates

**Mental Health/Substance Abuse:** The Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services Department already provides services to the inmate population. Through AB 109, they continued their dedication for services and programming including:

- Extending or expanding contracts with local providers to increase residential beds, pharmacy, community-based mental health and substance abuse treatment
- Served an increased number of inmates through correctional mental health services
- Reduction in incarceration and hospitalization days through the Adult Transition Team (ATT) program serving individuals being released from county jail
- Expansion of Matrix Model program for in-custody and community-based treatment

**Employers' Training Resource (ETR):** Working through the Career Services Center, ETR now provides services to the AB 109 population:

- Established a comprehensive program for AB 109 offenders
- Program services include addressing reemployment (job search assistance), GED, job/vocational training, career counseling, case management and follow-up

**Street Interdiction Team (SIT):** SIT is a multi-departmental law enforcement task force comprised of agencies throughout Kern County. Though SIT was previously functional, with the advent of AB 109 and funding, SIT was reactivated to address street-level crime including:

- Improved collaboration and synergy with law enforcement agencies throughout Kern County
- Establishing front-line operations in cities and towns throughout Kern County
- Meeting on a regular basis to discuss current AB 109 activities and impacts

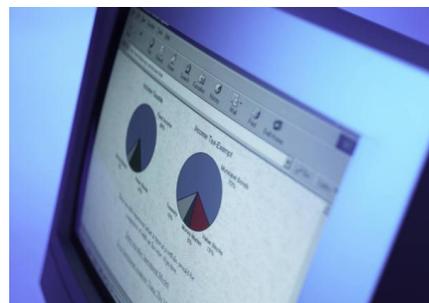
### Data

One of the consequences of AB 109 is that it compelled departments to take a look at how they were interacting with each other and sharing data and information. Department heads were diligent about wanting to understand the impact AB 109 would have on the county and assigned key knowledgeable staff to work together who are innovative, could formulate ideas, make decisions quickly, and produce results.

In October 2011, a Departmental Analyst was hired to work specifically on data collection, research and reporting. In that period of time, the following has been accomplished by coordinating with direct input and dedicated assistance of key program and IT staff in each of the departments:

- Development of extensive list of data tracker elements
- Development of data tracker definitions such as recidivism for common understanding among all stakeholders
- Development of AB 109/CCP/Realignment web page for CCP information, Implementation Plan, and AB 109 resources ([www.kernprobation.com](http://www.kernprobation.com))
- Development of AB 109 financial report
- Development of departmental data dashboard reports with key statistical information
- Contacts with other counties for determination and uniform state-wide data practices and programs
- Assignment of Chief Probation Officer on CPOC state-wide data research committee to assist in development of the State's key data trackers
- Attendance at three AB 109 data development, research, collection, and reporting conference/trainings and five related webinars for up-to-date information, networking and state-wide data consistency
- Beginning discussions of possible development of a data mart - a centralized repository of different data systems from any and all sources for comprehensive reporting

It is still early in the AB 109 implementation process and trends will only be seen over an extended period of time. Therefore, it is imperative that consistency remains within the data collection and tracking to ensure comparatives from year to year.



## Dashboard Reports

Of all the data collected during the realignment process, the most important connects with the Kern County AB 109 Data Dashboard. This data offers a critically important look into the key data elements and allows the reader to see specific totals and provides context over time. The origin of this connects with the hiring of a Departmental Analyst through the Probation Department. Through assistance from the various departments, the Analyst designed the Dashboard and systematically collected and analyzed the core data elements in order to present these to the CCP and the wider community (information is available at [www.kernprobation.com](http://www.kernprobation.com)). Listed below are key data from the dashboard reports for each of the funded departments from October 2011 to June 2012:

### Probation Department:

- 1,614 PRCS packets were received from CDCR, 86% higher than CDCR's original projections and 25% higher than CDCR's revised projections
- Active caseload of PRCS at June 30, 2012 was 1,444 under Probation supervision
- There were 58 offenders under Mandatory Supervision
- There were 264 additional offenders under Felony Probation
- The Day Reporting Center expanded from 50 to 100 participants under AB 109
- Of the active PRCS caseload, 536 individuals were convicted of a new felony law violation (NLV) which equates to a 22.8% recidivism rate for PRCS offenders
- Of the 536, 490 (91%) were male and 46 (9%) were female
- Of the total number of PRCS, the Static Risk Assessment tool showed the following risk to recidivate: 4.1%-Low, 20.1%-Moderate, 22%-High-Drug, 30.6%-High-Property, and 23.2%

High-Violent; analysis of recidivism reinforces the Static Risk Assessment tool

- The Probation Officer caseload ratio, which is tied directly reduction in recidivism, improved from 90:1 in March 2012 to 87:1 in June 2012; more staff will be hired in FY 12/13 which will reduce this number further to provide more evidence-based programming per offender

### Sheriff's Office:

- Increased jail beds by 414 to accommodate the AB 109 population
- Average daily population of the jail was 2,567 inmates with a total county jail bed capacity of 2,862
- 1,009 inmates were released to programs from jail with the majority (480) released on Sheriff's Parole, Rehab (270) and Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Program (121)
- Of the 4,608 AB 109 offender arrests, 2,915 (63%) were parole violators, 1,227 were non-non-nons, 375 were PRCS and 91 were for Flash Incarceration
- Jail incidents increased overall by 40% with the highest for safety cell placement (104%), under the influence of drugs (75%), crimes in jail (45%), and suicide watch (39%)
- The County reported crimes through the Sheriff's Office decreased by 12.5% for homicide and 3.7% for rape but increased for burglary by 12.9%, grand theft auto (GTA) by 16.3%, and 15.7% for robbery
- Educational participants at the Lerdo detention facility increased by 22%
- 85% of released Matrix inmates continued aftercare

### Mental Health Department/Substance Abuse:

- Provided mental health services to 93 PRCS offenders, 251 felony probationers, 3 mandatory supervision offenders, 74 non-non-nons offenders, and 8 in-custody/Matrix inmates
- For those receiving mental health services, 87% of participants resided in the Bakersfield area
- 77.1% were between the ages of 18-44
- 70% were male and 30% were female
- 3.4% of those receiving mental health services identify themselves as veterans
- The majority (70.2%) had no means to pay for services or was not funded by other means such as grants, state funding, etc. 23.7% received Medi-Cal
- Provided substance abuse services to 69 PRCS offenders, 218 felony probationers, 5 mandatory supervision offenders, 60 non-non-nons offenders, and 117 in-custody/Matrix inmates
- 75.7% of participants resided in Bakersfield
- 80% were male and 20% were female
- 3.8% of those receiving substance abuse services identify themselves as veterans
- For those receiving substance abuse services, 51.3% had no means to pay for services or were not funded by other means, 25.6% were funded under SAPT, and 18.3% received Medi-Cal

### Employers' Training Resource (ETR):

- 105 participants were referred by Probation
- 38 enrolled in the AB 109 comprehensive job program
- Of the 38 enrolled, 29 were male and 9 were female

- Of the 38, five were employed which equals 13.2% of enrolled who became employed
- One enrollee was receiving food stamps
- Of the 38, the majority were PRCS offenders (64%)
- The greatest barriers to employment of the 105 who were referred by Probation, were low-income status, poor work history, and no unemployment insurance



### Street Interdiction Team (SIT):

- Conducted five AB 109 operations including Arvin/Lamont, Delano/McFarland, Bakersfield (twice), and Shafter
- A total of twelve law enforcement agencies participated in the operations
- The total number of AB 109 targets attempted was 312
- 56 arrests were made
- Four guns were seized, \$1,700 in asset forfeiture, various amounts of methamphetamine and marijuana were confiscated

Chief Probation Officers Association of California (CPOC) Data

In a comprehensive and uniform approach, the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) are leading an effort to collect a set of comparable AB 109 data across counties. The State of California (via the Board of Standards and Community Corrections formerly the Corrections Standards Authority) may also be requesting and collecting standardized measures, but CPOC was the first formal entity in the State to begin this process. The table below offers data collected by the AB 109 data team within the Probation Department and submitted to CPOC.

- The PRCS count increased from the end of December 2011 to the end of June 2012 January from 730 to 1,614, an increase of 121%.
- There were a total of 1,344 sentences; 1,208 were jail only or straight sentences and 136 split sentences.
- There were no PC 1170(h) sentences that resulted in no jail time.
- Compared with Southern California, Sacramento, Northern California and the Bay Area, Kern County is one of several counties who had the lowest count of split sentences.
- PRCS releases absconding before reporting to Probation was 9.3% compared with the State-wide rate of 7.1%.

**Table 1. CPOC Data Reported for Kern County**  
(<http://www.cpoc.org/realignment>)

For Quarters:	October - December	January - March	April - June
<b><u>Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS)</u></b>			
PRCS offenders released	730	519	365
PRCS absconded before reporting	55	61	24
<b><u>1170h (Split Sentencing)</u></b>			
1170h(a) jail only sentences	389	409	410
1170h(b) split sentences	55	44	37
1170h(b) no jail sentences	0	0	0
<b><u>Felony Probationers</u></b>			
New felony probation grants	1,091	551	747

## Preliminary Outcomes and Impacts

What we do know for sure is that AB 109 is still in its infancy. Nine months of activity is just not enough time to make assumptions, correlations, long-term impacts, major changes, or in-depth analysis. However, we can show there has been progress in addressing the changes that AB 109 placed upon the counties.

- a. Kern County has received the highest percentage of PRCS offenders throughout the State, 86% more than the original CDCR projections and 25% more than the revised CDCR projections.
- b. Kern County responded to the most sweeping change in corrections in State history with tremendous leadership, collaboration, and systems wide changes.
- c. Community supervision practices have been dramatically enhanced through AB 109 with system wide and structural changes.
- d. Increased use of the Day Reporting Center, which is a structured program producing pivotal changes in anti-social behaviors of offenders, has been proven to reduce recidivism.
- e. Alternatives to incarceration in conjunction with evidence-based programs were developed which will hopefully result in reduced costs, reduced recidivism, and increased public safety.
- f. Establishing Sheriff's Virtual Jail and Sheriff's Parole to allow and monitor conditional releases can save millions of dollars compared to incarceration.
- g. Expanding Sheriff's in-custody educational and vocational programs to provide the necessary tools to reduce recidivism.
- h. In-custody and out-custody mental health and substance abuse programs (MATRIX and Adult Transition Team-ATT) have been developed or expanded to serve the serious and severe issues faced by this new population of offender.
- i. Continuing to address street-level crime will assist in ensuring public safety and addressing community concerns.
- j. Clients receiving employment services, particularly employment, can greatly reduce recidivism
- k. Kern County has improved interdepartmental cooperation in addressing specific issues and goals to improve communication, form partnerships, and expand services.
- l. Affected county departments have reorganized department workloads and units for maximization of efficiency related to implementation of AB 109 program.



## Other Impacts

### Kern Medical Center:

On October 25, 2011, the Kern County Board of Supervisors expressed concern for the potential increase or impacts to Kern Medical Center (KMC) in relation to health care costs associated with the AB 109 inmate population. On April 25, 2012, KMC reported projected costs of \$796,500 for AB 109 inmate health care costs for FY 11/12. As of June 30, 2012, actual expenditures came in at \$710,408.16 for 182 inmates. KMC arrived at this number by flagging all inmates as identified by the Sheriff's Office as "AB 109" and tallying their associated medical costs while incarcerated. However, it is important to note that this number may not necessarily represent an increased cost to KMC. Due to the complexities of AB 109 implementation, a further discussion of associated costs is needed.

Prior to AB 109 defendants who were previously sentenced to State prison still served a significant amount of time in local custody pending court proceedings. Any medical costs associated with these defendants were covered by KMC. Post realignment, KMC is now responsible for post sentence medical costs for local sentences; however, pre-sentence costs would not be an increase as compared to pre-realignment. The average pre-sentence stay is approximately two months. KMC's numbers do not account for pre-sentence stays.

In addition, it is noted that with AB 109 funding the Sheriff's Office increased the jail bed capacity by 214. Every additional AB 109 above 214 would displace an existing inmate. Any associated medical costs with these displaced inmates would be a savings to KMC. This exact number is not known; however, it should be considered in the overall impact to AB 109 KMC in-custody medical costs.

### Department of Human Services:

In addition, the Department of Human Services (DHS) reported a small increase in the number of CalFresh applications by those who identify themselves as an "AB 109 parolee." During the application process, these individuals are asked if their release from prison was based on AB 109. Because this designation is determined based on self-certification of AB 109 status and the applicant may not have a complete understanding of AB 109, the increase is most likely less than what's reported. DHS and Probation are working together to develop an improved application process to more accurately identify those on affected by AB 109 or their actual status. Regardless, the financial impact to DHS appears to be minimal.

Though increases in costs are anticipated with any new legislation that has a tremendous impact such as AB 109, it is imprudent to assume that any and all increases are the cause.

Therefore, upon completion of the first fiscal year of AB 109 implementation, we need to be cautious to assume what is cause and correlation to AB 109 until there is enough appropriate data to make the determination.



## Moving Forward

Though nine months have occurred since the beginning of AB 109 implementation, it is still very early on in the process to determine if it has been successful. However, given the information provided in this report, departments have been able to accomplish a tremendous amount of work by developing policies and procedures, collaborating with and developing partnerships with other departments and outside organizations, expanding the programs and developing new ones such as the Day Reporting Center and Sheriff's Virtual Jail, all within a very short period of time.

As the county progresses through the AB 109 process, questions will arise as to the effectiveness of the programs and "success" of AB 109 in reducing recidivism. The difficulty may be in determining how to measure those outcomes. Some preliminary questions to consider as we move into FY 12/13 are those centered on the success of the Plan's implementation:

- Was there success in the preliminary implementation of the Public Safety Realignment Plan and corresponding processes during the first nine months?
- If yes, how efficiently was this plan (and corresponding processes) implemented?

As Kern County moves into FY 12/13 and beyond, long-term questions could center on:

- Process evaluation: On-going evaluation of the implementation of AB 109.
- Evaluation efforts will center on a much closer review of the AB 109 Plan (both the original and any revised plan) with respect to specific implementation efforts.
- Outcomes evaluation: On-going evaluation work including a much more detailed review of recidivism data, evidence based programming, and community services.
- Impact evaluation: Evaluation of the overall impact of AB 109 in Kern County.

- Cost-effectiveness: An evaluation and study of the costs of AB 109 and how these costs connect with system operations.

The CCP and Board of Supervisors are committed to successful implementation of AB 109 and improving the lives and safety for all residents. Plans include further development of data tracker definitions, development of a centralized data collection system, expanded or improved capacity for data collection, measurement and evaluation training, visiting or directly interacting with other counties for networking and ideas, and developing a program for AB 109 general information and awareness.

County staff remain active on the State level to ensure Kern County is receiving all crucial and available resources, accurate and useful information, and being heard as an important and significant central valley community.

Each year, the annual report will be prepared with a more comprehensive assessment of AB 109 implementation and realignment activities.

