

July 3, 2025

Sent VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Guillermo Viera Rosa Chief Probation Officer Los Angeles County Probation Department 9150 East Imperial Highway Downey, California 90242

Subject: REINSPECTION OF BARRY J NIDORF JUVENILE HALL FOR DETERMINATION OF SUITABILITY PURSUANT TO WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 209 (a) (4); NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE - TARGETED INSPECTION OF BARRY J NIDORF SECURE YOUTH TREATMENT FACILITY

Dear Chief Viera Rosa:

Between June 24 and July 1, 2025, Board of State and Community Corrections' (BSCC) staff conducted a reinspection of the Barry J Nidorf Juvenile Hall (BJN JH). This reinspection was requested by the Los Angeles County Probation Department on May 1, 2025. Reinspection is required because the BSCC Board noticed the Probation Department that BJN JH was determined to be unsuitable for the confinement of juveniles on May 24, 2023.

This request for reinspection of BJN JH was based upon Los Angeles County's depopulation plan for the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall (LPJH). The County's depopulation plan relies on moving pre-disposition youth from the LPJH, which is also currently unsuitable, into the BJN JH. Because the BJH JH is currently unsuitable, and unsuitable facilities cannot be used for the confinement of youth, the BSCC must determine if the conditions that rendered the facility unsuitable have been remedied, and the facility is a suitable place for confinement of juveniles. (See Welf. & Inst. Code, § 209, subd. (a)(4).) As you are aware, the BSCC determined the BJN JH was unsuitable because it did not comply with the following Title 15 regulations:

- 1. § 1321. Staffing.
- 2. § 1325. Fire Safety Plan.
- 3. § 1328. Safety Checks.
- 4. § 1354.5. Room Confinement.
- 5. § 1357. Use of Force.
- 6. § 1360. Searches.
- 7. § 1370. Education Program.
- 8. § 1371. Programs, Recreation, and Exercise.
- 9. § 1390. Discipline

Since the BJN JH is currently vacant, BSCC staff conducted a targeted inspection of the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF) to inform the determination as to whether the

conditions at the juvenile hall have been remedied. As such, an inspection for compliance with the above regulations at the SYTF was conducted.

During our targeted inspection, we found the following items of noncompliance at the SYTF:

- 1. § 1328. Safety Checks.
- 2. § 1354.5. Room Confinement.
- 3. § 1357. Use of Force.

Please see the attached PRO for detailed discussion.

Because the SYTF is currently noncompliant in the above areas, we are unable to find that "the conditions that rendered the facility unsuitable have been remedied." Consequently, BJN JH remains unsuitable for the confinement of juveniles. As such, the matter will **NOT** be calendared for a determination of suitability at the next BSCC Board meeting on July 17, 2025. Once the outstanding items of noncompliance at the SYTF have been remedied, the Probation Department can again request reinspection of BJN JH to determine if the facility has remedied the conditions and that the facility is suitable for the confinement of youth.

The attached report also serves as notice of noncompliance for the SYTF for the above noted items of noncompliance. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 209, subdivision (d), an approved corrective action plan (CAP) must be submitted to the BSCC no later than 60 days following this notice, **September 1, 2025.** The CAP must clearly outline how the items of noncompliance will be remedied within 90 days of CAP approval. Once the corrective action is complete, BSCC staff will conduct a reinspection of the facility to determine if the items of noncompliance have been remedied and the facility remains a suitable place for the confinement of juveniles. If an approved CAP is not received within 60 days of this notice, the SYTF will be unsuitable for the confinement of juveniles. If the SYTF does not remedy the items of noncompliance within 90 days of the approved CAP, the BSCC Board will make a determination of suitability at the next scheduled BSCC Board meeting at that time.

We understand that the unavailability of the juvenile hall at Barry J. Nidorf will impact the ability of the Department to comply with the depopulation plan for LPJH. However, we cannot approve the transfer of youth from one unsuitable facility to another, knowing that the facility is not complying with the BSCC's minimum standards. We remain available to provide assistance as you work to remedy the conditions at LPJH and BJN JH.

Sincerely,

LINDA PENNER

Chair

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cc: Aaron Broom, Executive Manager, Los Angeles County Probation Department Nicole Rommero, Deputy County Counsel, Office of the County Counsel, County of Los Angeles