



**RICHARD L. AINSA**  
REFEREE  
JUVENILE COURT I

**MARIA T. LEYVA-LIGON**  
REFEREE  
JUVENILE COURT II

**ROSIE MEDINA**  
CHIEF  
JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

**JUDGE ENRIQUE H. PEÑA**  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER**

**YAHARA LISA GUTIERREZ**  
JUDGE  
65TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**MARC MARQUEZ**  
DEPUTY CHIEF  
JUVENILE SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

**ALBERT MENDEZ**  
DEPUTY CHIEF  
FINANCE AND SUPPORT

**LINDA Y. GARCIA**  
DEPUTY CHIEF  
JUVENILE FACILITIES

**Chief's Report**  
**October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**Administration Updates**

- Detention Officer, Rito Salcido and Challenge Officer, Julio Hinojos were chosen to win statewide recognitions at the JJAT Fall conference.
- Former Director of Intake, Linda Garcia was promoted to Deputy Chief of Juvenile Facilities.
- JPD was awarded a TJJD grant in the amount of \$1,095,456 for FY24 to allocate 8 beds for the region and support program enhancement initiatives.
- Due to extensive rain damage in the Challenge Academy and gymnasium, the program has been downsized to a capacity of 12 youth and relocated to the Detention Facility. Repairs to the exterior and interior of the facility are being coordinated through Public Works and an estimated time of completion is not yet available. As a result pre-adjudication detention capacity is limited to 50 youth.
- The Annie E Casey Foundation and the National Institute of Criminal Justice Reform visited our jurisdiction to engage approximately 100 staff and stakeholders in meaningful dialogue and activities surrounding our Transforming Juvenile Justice Initiative. We will be providing an update on our goals and strategies in the upcoming Board Meeting.

**Personnel Changes**

- Mr. Eleazar Varela, Lead Cook was appointed as Interim Culinary Supervisor as a result of Mr. Manuel Frausto's resignation of employment with JPD.
- Mr. Sal Leos, Juvenile Probation Manager was appointed as Interim Director of Intake Services as a result of Director Linda Garcia's promotion.
- Mr. Anthony Morrow, Challenge Unit Manager was appointed Interim Director of Detention.
- A reclassification from Clinical Therapist 1 to a clinical therapist 2 for Whittina McLilly.
- A reclassification from Clinical Therapist 1 to a clinical therapist 2 for a new hire.

**Accounting Unit**

- The Department's financial records were audited by the County's Auditor's Internal Audit division. The Department was in compliance with all aspects of the audit and there were no errors or irregularities.
- Submitted the Department's FY 2024 State Financial Assistance Contract budget to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

- Submitted and finalized the Department's FY 2023 year end Texas Juvenile Justice Department expenditures.

### **Intake Unit**

- Ramon Hernandez presented at the Truancy Summit sponsored by County Court at Law Judge Josh Herrera in late September. He spoke about prevention programming and encouraged ISD partnerships on the THC vape offenses.
- JPD collaborated with Paso Del Norte and County Attorney's Office on an educational video that will be shown to explain Felony THC Vaping consequences to parents of youth caught vaping at school.
- Judith Alaniz was dually certified as a Juvenile supervision Officer by TJJD in September 2023.
- JPD Prevention collaborated with the EPSO's office, Ft Bliss Military, and several Catholic church members to receive 3 days of transformational training on Restorative Justice Circles.
- JPO's Reeda Blanco and Emilio Magdaleno kicked off a front-end pilot regarding electronic appointment schedules. Will capture data on which schedule time slots have less missed appointments by families. Will then modify appointment schedules to minimize backlog for next calendar year.
- TJJD JJAEP Audit received a score of 100% and the auditor provided great feedback on our process and on the school campus.

### **Probation Services Unit**

- Level 3 JPO's provided an awesome Opportunity Based Probation (incentives-based model) "Down with OBP" presentation at Strategic Planning Quarterly Meeting to win 1<sup>st</sup> place.
- The CIP Unit & Aliviane worked with Creative Kids and the Olo Gallery to provide PYD, health and wellness opportunities for youth.
- Level 3 JPO, Marcos Soto, [as result of Level 3 movie outing] organized for Center of HOPE to provide a four-hour Human Trafficking training at JPD on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Special Programs Unit**

- Project Hope awarded \$93,613.60 in grant funding and Juvenile Drug Treatment Court awarded \$83,344.24 in grant funding.
- Alejandra Corondo and Carilu Martinez were both promoted to Level 4 Officer.
- SHOCAP Officers attended the International Latino Gang Investigation Association Conference. Conference attendance was paid for by our local TAG.

### **Clinical Unit**

- Francisco Torres was a guest speaker on the County's Podcast, he recorded a session on the impact of trauma on substance misuse and strategies for addressing both.
- Leslie Pina was recognized by a parent for her empathy and compassion while assisting a youth cope with grief. Sarah also worked collaboratively with detention and Probation to ensure a youth in detention was able to grieve the loss of his father who passed while he was detained.
- Francisco Torres also received his Supervisory license from the TBHEC, he is now a LPC-S.

### **Detention Unit**

- Ended the quarter at 91 percent fully staffed.
- Compared to last year, we dropped 46 percent by having more staff hired and 2 staff members in the unit.
- Ended the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter with our sister unit Challenge joining us. This will help the budget; Detention is working 40-hour work weeks not 48.

### **Challenge Academy**

- The TJJD DSA Grant approved.
- Ombudsman quarterly site visit was successful.
- 3 Challenge employees graduated from the county leadership course.

### **Maintenance Unit**

- Installed a new A/C for Challenge Juliet unit.
- Installed new gas heated ovens and a food serving table in the Kitchen.
- Installed a new Laundry Washing machine for Detention.

### **Training Unit**

- Training Plans completed for all employees in TM2. (Admin, JPO, JSO, & other non-certified staff).
- Offered Human Trafficking training with great staff turn out.
- Certified 3 new Probation Officers, 10 Juvenile Supervision Officers, and 1 dual certification.

### **Culinary Unit**

- All equipment that was approved to purchase with Texas Department of Agriculture grant money has finally all arrived and been installed.
- Freezer #2 was fixed and successfully up and running after 8 months of issues.
- Outside storage was purchased and installed. This has helped keep clutter out of kitchen.

### **Information Systems and Records Unit**

- **Documents Translated into Spanish:** Ms. Giron has translated the following court and department documents.
  - Article 39.14 Disclosure Form And Discovery Acknowledgment
  - Clinical Services Consent For The Release of Confidential Clinical Treatment Information Judicial Consent Form
  - Exhibit A [**Available in JMIS**]
  - Exhibit B [**Available in JMIS**]
  - JDTC - Directive regarding Technological Devices/Equipment
  - 8-10 Exhibit B PHASE I
  - 8-10 Exhibit C PHASE II
  - 8-10 Exhibit D PHASE III
  - 8-10 Exhibit E PHASE IV

- **Computer Wallpaper:** Mr. Saul Gonzalez updated the wallpaper for all computers at JPD, including the new Mission, Vision, Values, and Cultural Statement.
- **Admin Dashboard:** Mr. Omar Carrasco, Data Functional/Analyst Intermediate, completed the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the Admin Dashboard, displaying a quick snapshot of the following items collected by the department: Referrals, Offenses, Historical Trends, Detention records, Average Daily Population, Dispositions, Supervisions, Programs, Placements, Services, Treatments, Timelines, and Commitments.
- **Training Hours and Certification Reports:** Mr. Isaac Moriel and Mr. Gerardo Prieto helped the Training Unit to develop a report to track mandatory training and certifications by unit and employee.
- **Inaugural El Paso County Truancy Summit: Youth's at Presentation:** Mr. Omar Carrasco, Data Functional/Analyst Intermediate, presented Department statistics on referrals, violent arrests, and arrests involving firearms, grouped by school districts in the Truancy Summit presented by Judge Josh Herrera.

Respectfully submitted,



Rosie Medina  
Chief Probation Officer  
Public Servant  
El Paso County Juvenile Justice Center