

The Public Safety Realignment Act

AB 109

Implementation Plan 2015 – 5th Update

County of Fresno



Executive Committee of the Community Corrections Partnership

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AB 109
The Public Safety Realignment Act
Fifth Update to the 2011 Implementation Plan
County of Fresno
September 2017

Background

In the original legislation under AB 109 in 2011, Section 1230.1 of the California Penal Code was amended to read, “Each county local Community Corrections Partnership established pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1230 shall recommend a local plan to the County Board of Supervisors for the implementation of the 2011 public safety realignment. (b) The plan shall be voted on by an executive committee of each county’s Community Corrections Partnership consisting of the Chief Probation Officer of the county as chair, a Chief of Police, the Sheriff, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, Presiding Judge or their designee, and one department representative listed in either subparagraph (G) (H) or (J) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 1230 as designated by the County Board of Supervisors for related to the development and presentation of the plan. (c) The plan shall be deemed accepted by the County Board of Supervisors unless the Board rejects the plan by four – fifths of the Board, in which case the plan goes back to the Community Corrections Partnership for further consideration. (d) Consistent with local needs and resources the plan may include recommendations to maximize the effective investment of criminal justice resources in evidenced-based correctional sanctions and program including, but not limited to: day report centers, drug courts, residential multiservice centers, mental health treatment programs, electronic and GPS monitoring programs, victim restitutions programs, counseling programs, community service programs, educational programs and work training programs.

On August 19, 2011, the Fresno County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Executive Committee approved the Public Safety Realignment Act, Assembly Bill (AB) 109 Implementation Plan for 2011. On September 13, 2011, the CCP placed the Implementation Plan and associated Budget and Salary Resolutions on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors agenda for approval pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 117. On that date, the Implementation Plan and the associated budget and resolutions were approved. The Plan has been operational since that time.

Modifications to 2011 Plan

Due to the need for modifications of the original plan, in March 2013, the first amended plan was approved by the CCP and the updated plan and associated budget and salary resolutions were placed on the Board of Supervisors agenda and approved in April 2013. In October 2013, the second amended plan was approved by the CCP, placed on the Board of Supervisors agenda with the associated budget and salary resolutions, and approved in January 2014. The third amendment and associated budget and salary resolutions was approved by the CCP on November 14, 2014 and by the Board of Supervisors on December 2, 2014. The fourth amendment and the associated

budget and salary resolution were approved by the CCP on November 6, 2015 and by the Board of Supervisors on January 12, 2016.

Modifications to the plan will continue to be needed to increase and maximize the effective investment of criminal justice resources in evidence-based correctional sanctions and programs for public safety. In keeping with the legislation as to reporting changes in county CCP operational plans and services, this fifth update to the original plan increases positions to expand services and supplies.

Program Changes to 2011 Original Implementation Plan

Programs that were approved and funded in the original Implementation Plan of 2011 are ongoing and or expanded. Due to a modification that has occurred in the operation of AB 109 programming, a fifth update to the plan is required for the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) as well as the attendant budget and salary resolutions that will be reviewed by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors following CCP approval.

Based on a determination of needs as ascertained through the supervision of AB 109 offenders, the following modification is made to the 2011 approved plan.

Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner's Office
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Jail Response Patrol

Since the implementation of AB 109 the responsibility of holding inmates that normally would have moved on to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has become that of the Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner's Office. The population of those in jail that fall into this category has recently been over 800 inmates (840 on 7/7/17). This is 29% of the jail population. As a result, a more hardened criminal element is now being housed in the Fresno County Jail. There have been increased violence and calls for service for crime reports and investigations. These calls have resulted in misdemeanor and felony cases, which have included Three Strike cases. Several incidents in the downtown area have also required Deputy Sheriff response. Shootings and disturbances in Courthouse Park and the vicinity are occurring more often. When there is a need for a Deputy Sheriff to respond to these calls in the jail and Courthouse Park, that Deputy is pulled from the current complement of field patrol units. The nature of a call to the jail many times results in having numerous interviews, which removes that Deputy's availability to answer and fill other calls for service many times taking that Deputy out of the field for an entire shift.

The plan is to field a patrol shift whose responsibility will be to respond and investigate calls for service in the area of County responsibility in and around Courthouse Park including the jail.

The total full time equivalent is five (5) Deputy Sheriffs who will fill this patrol area 24/7 365 days a year.

Fresno County District Attorney-Public Administrator and Public Defender

Defender Misdemeanor Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Program

Establishes a Misdemeanor Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Program. In Fresno County, a majority of the criminal cases filed are misdemeanor cases. In 2016, 22,974 misdemeanor cases were filed, compared to 7,308 felony cases. Subsequent to Propositions (Prop) 47, which reclassified many nonviolent offenses from felonies to misdemeanors, and Prop 64 (Adult Use of Marijuana Act), a higher number of AB 109 offenders are now in the Misdemeanor Courts. Additional staff will allow both the District Attorney-Public Administrator and Public Defender to properly handle the cases and access the needs of the offenders. Additional staff will allow both Departments to spend more time on each case and with each offender. The Attorneys who deal with these offenders firsthand in court will be able to access what issues they may have and assist the Court to get them into appropriate services.

Public Defender

Social Worker Unit

To remain consistent with the goal of reducing crime and recidivism, the Public Defender is adding two full-time Social Workers to create a Social Worker Unit to provide complete and holistic client representation. The Social Worker Unit will support clients to effect change in their lives and environments in ways promoting self-responsibility and reducing recidivism.

Under the direction of a Defense Attorney, the Social Workers will conduct assessments and compile psychosocial histories to develop recommendations for appropriate pretrial release, detention, treatment options, conditions of probation or diversion and sentencing and post-sentencing options, if adjudicated. The collaboration between the Defense Attorney and Social Workers will help to better identify and assess the cultural, mental health, employment, educational, and social needs of the clients charged with criminal offenses. Because clients often are in need of health benefits, employment, housing, family counseling, drug and alcohol treatment and/or alternative placement, the Social Workers will provide valuable skills in helping clients access these services.

This Unit will work closely with the AB 109 population, arranging appropriate treatment and ensuring compliance with Pretrial obligations at all stages of the criminal proceeding, thereby reducing incarceration while the client's case is pending before the Courts. The Unit will also provide support for the Defense Attorneys to focus on the legal aspects while ensuring clients' social services needs are met. In addition, the Unit will support clients by contacting them directly to ensure they appear at court-ordered hearings; they will reinforce and provide the clients support to complete their court-ordered treatment programs thereby increasing the likelihood of successful completion of programs rather than serving jail time. The Social Workers in this Unit will also

support clients in finding housing/employment/education/training to successfully complete all probation and court-ordered terms/conditions.

Fresno Police Department

Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium (MAGEC) Expansion

As of May 30, 2017, there were 2,634 people on AB 109 or Mandatory Supervision and of that population, 80%, or 2,017 live in the City of Fresno according to Adult Compliance Team (ACT) Personnel. Approximately 1,685, 80% of the 2,017 people on AB 109 or Mandatory Supervision are gang members or have close gang ties according to the Probation Department. The approved expansion will add four full-time ACT Police Officers and one Crime Analyst to MAGEC. This will allow review of every 3455 (a) (Post Release Community Supervision) arrest that occurs in the City of Fresno and allow immediate follow-up on AB 109 cases. New Police Officers will be trained on cell phone forensics and social media analysis. In addition, gang related cases will be filed with the MAGEC, District Attorney-Public Administrator, and United States Attorney (USA) to maximize sentencing.

Pending Additional Actions/Requests for Proposals (RFP's)

The Community Corrections Partnership approved services including a parenting program and a job training / apprenticeship program for offenders. These programs expand community and agency resources for the AB 109 population. The selection of the contractor to provide these services will be in accordance with Fresno County Purchasing Guidelines.