

**MEETING DATE:** April 9, 2020

**AGENDA ITEM:** G

**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members

**FROM:** Kasey Warmuth, Chief of Research, [kasey.warmuth@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:kasey.warmuth@bscc.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Jail Profile Survey: Status Update on the Addition of Late-night Release Information and Plans for a Future Comprehensive Update: **Information Only**

---

## Summary

This agenda item provides:

- a status update regarding the collection of late-night release information through the Jail Profile Survey (JPS),
- an overview of the AB 109 Jail Profile Survey,
- a status update on JPS system improvements, and
- a brief description of plans for a future comprehensive JPS update.

## Background

Since the early 1980s the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) and its predecessor entities<sup>1</sup> have administered the JPS to collect county jail population data from local jurisdictions. Over the years, the data have provided counties a means of tracking changes in their jail populations and projecting program and facility needs. It has also provided a means to inform stakeholders, researchers, policymakers, and other interested parties about local detention populations.

The current version of the JPS was developed in 2001. Some data elements are collected monthly (Attachment G-1) and others are collected quarterly (Attachment G-2). The data are reported to the BSCC quarterly. Combined, these forms are used to collect data about:

- The average daily population (ADP), including a breakdown of the ADP by gender, sentenced and nonsentenced population, and felony and misdemeanor population.
- Inmates that require medical attention.
- Inmates that require mental health attention.
- Inmates housed under contract.
- The number of early releases due to a lack of housing capacity.
- The number of inmate assaults on staff.
- The amount spent on medications and psychotropic medications.

On February 13, 2020, the Board authorized the modification of the JPS to collect information about late-night releases, after consultation with reporting jurisdictions and subject-matter experts. During this meeting BSCC staff also highlighted near-term JPS system improvements.

---

<sup>1</sup> Formerly the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) and Board of Corrections (BOC).

## **Status Update on the Addition of Late-Night Release Information**

BSCC staff is working on a draft recommendation for the collection of information related to late-night releases from county jails. The draft recommendation will take into consideration existing California law, California's recent legislative efforts, legislative changes in other states, and the concerns associated with late-night releases.

Once the draft recommendation is developed, the BSCC will solicit comments and suggestions from reporting jurisdictions, subject-matter experts, and interested stakeholders. Solicitations seeking comments will indicate that the comments should address one or more of the following points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information will have practical utility.
- Evaluate whether the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be improved. If so, specify how.
- Evaluate the burden of the proposed collection of information for the responding agencies.

Comments will be accepted by email or can be provided during a videoconference meeting (see below).

Prior to the current coronavirus emergency and California's stay-at-home order, the BSCC planned on completing the public comment period by June 1, 2020, completing JPS system updates and data reporter training by December 31, 2020, and begin collecting late-night release information in January 2021. We are working out necessary modifications given the current coronavirus-related impacts across the state. If the initial plan remains feasible, implementation will occur in January 2021. However, a shift in the timeline may be necessary. A public comment period will begin as soon as practical following this Board meeting and the completion of the draft recommendation. Status updates will be provided during future Board meetings.

The following steps will be taken to solicit comments and suggestions regarding the draft recommendation:

- The Safe Release of Inmates/Transportation and Discipline Workgroup of the Adult Titles 15 and 24 Regulations Revisions Executive Steering Committee will be provided with the draft recommendation in advance of their next meeting for discussion and comment.
- The BSCC will solicit input from California sheriffs through the California State Sheriff's Association (CSSA).
- The BSCC will distribute the draft recommendation to the JPS data reporters and seek input in advance of their next quarterly videoconference meeting.
- The draft recommendation and information about the opportunities to provide comments will be posted to the BSCC website. Opportunities to provide comments will include two videoconference meetings, the JPS email box, and written correspondence.

After the public comment period, the BSCC will modify the draft recommendation, as necessary, to address the comments received. This modified recommendation for the collection of information related to late-night releases from jails will be presented to the BSCC Board for approval. The presentation will also include the tentative timeline for

implementation and information about technical assistance that will be provided to JPS data reporters regarding the new data elements.

### **Overview of the AB 109 Jail Profile Survey**

Since 2011, the BSCC has administered the AB 109 Jail Profile Survey (Attachment G-3) to collect data from local detention facilities related to the impact of realignment. The survey collects information about the:

- Total number of Penal Code (PC) section 1170(h) offenders who were sentenced to the county jail as a new commitment, placed into alternative custody programs (e.g., electronic monitoring, work furlough), and returned to custody from an alternative custody program.
- Total number of Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) offenders booked on a flash incarceration only (PC section 3454(c)), booked during the month (PC section 3455(a)), booked with a new local charge, and received jail time as the result of a revocation hearing.
- Total number of state parolees booked on a parole violation only (PC section 3056), who received jail time as a result of a revocation hearing, booked with new local charges, and who received a local sentence (including 1170(h) sentences).

A goal during survey development was to incorporate the new realignment-related data elements into the existing JPS. However, BSCC did not have the resources or staff IT expertise to do so at the time. Thus, the administration of the survey is manual through an excel form that data reporters complete on a monthly basis and email to BSCC staff. Each reporting quarter, BSCC staff track submissions, screen the data, compile the data into a single file, and publish the complete file to the BSCC website. Combining this survey with the JPS would provide an efficiency for BSCC staff. It will likely provide an efficiency for data reporters as well since 50 percent of the AB 109 data reporters are the same individuals who report data for the JPS.

### **Status Update on JPS System Improvements**

Several JPS system improvements are in progress to make the system more flexible to better accommodate future modifications or requirements, and gain efficiencies for staff managing the survey. The improvements include:

- Modifications to the application used by data reporters to submit data for the monthly and quarterly JPS surveys. Specifically:
  - Adding reporting fields for the collection of late-night release information.
  - Adding reporting fields for the collection of AB109 Jail Profile Survey information.
  - Integrating additional data validation checks at the point of data entry.
- Database modifications to accommodate the additional data elements (i.e., late-night releases and AB 109).
- Development of an application for BSCC staff to manage the survey (i.e., tracking submissions, screening data, approving submitted reports, and pushing data for publication to the online query system). This will replace the current process, which is outdated, requires many manual work arounds for known problems, and will no longer function once the new data elements are added.

- Modifications to the online query system to ensure the new data elements are publicly accessible.

Prior to the current coronavirus-related impacts, these systems improvements were to be completed by December 31, 2020. A shift in this timeline may be necessary and status updates will be provided during future Board meetings.

### **Plans for a Future Comprehensive JPS Update**

---

In the longer term, the BSCC is planning for a larger scale IT project that will modernize the JPS and, to the extent feasible, provide an interface between the JPS and the numerous other data collection tools within the BSCC. Our goal is to have a web-based and consolidated data collection system with built in validation that will reduce data errors and duplicate data collection efforts. By linking BSCC's numerous data collection systems, we will also be able to provide additional information.

The current version of the JPS was developed in 2001. Because of its age, the information it gathers may not reflect current needs or interests given the changes in the justice system over the years. In the near term, the BSCC will initiate a process to complete a comprehensive update of the information that is gathered through the JPS. The comprehensive update will ensure the resources dedicated to the longer-term IT project, described above, are in support of an updated version of the JPS that has been redesigned to collect information reflective of the various current needs or interests of the local jurisdictions and stakeholders, researchers, policymakers, and other interested parties. This process was anticipated to begin in January 2021 after the late-night release information and current system updates are complete.

### **Attachments**

---

- G-1: Monthly Jail Profile Survey Form
- G-2: Quarterly Jail Profile Survey Form
- G-3: AB 109 Jail Profile Survey Form