The Condition of Probation

Wall of Change Celebration

By Michael Daly

It’s that time of year again! I want to invite all newsletter recipients to the 2018 Wall of Change event on December 12th starting at 2:30 at the Board of Supervisors chambers. I am pleased to let you know that the Wall of Change has caught on and we have been fielding calls from across the nation and throughout California on how to set this up in other probation departments. Michael Pritchard is back and we have the most nominees ever this year. Cindy Ayala will update you on our Restorative Justice programming and Presiding Judge Paul Haakenson will also be speaking, so I hope to see you there.

Here is last year’s 14 minute video, so you get a taste of what’s to come.

Wall of Change Video

Chief’s Corner

By Michael Daly

Bail Reform

Earlier this year, our legislators crafted a bill, Senate Bill 10, that would dramatically change how bail would be administered in California. All cash transactions as a means of securing your release from jail would cease to exist. A new model, one that would rely heavily on utilizing a risk-based assessment tool to recommend release, would be implemented. This major reform was supported by the Chief Justice of California and signed by the Governor earlier this year.

However, the system of democracy has checks and balances. Since this new law would essentially dismantle a highly lucrative field of bail bondsmen across California, their only choice was to start to gather signatures as part of a referendum to stop this new law. The bail lobby and other folks unhappy with this new bill set forth to gather three hundred sixty-six thousand signatures essentially asking to stop this historical piece of legislation. The deadline to collect all the signatures was November 26th. Shortly before the due date, over six hundred thousand signatures were collected and the Secretary of State now needs to certify those signatures as valid. Once certified, the new law signed by the Governor will be temporarily suspended. The people of California will then decide on whether they want to keep the signed bill into law or reject it. This will take place at the ballot box in November of 2020; a ballot time sure to get plenty of voter turnout.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Marin County Probation Department is to further justice and community safety, and to hold offenders accountable while promoting their rehabilitation.
On December 1, 2018, employees from the Probation Department attended the Northern California Special Olympics bowling event at Country Bowl in San Rafael. Deputy Probation Officers were accompanied by officers from Central Marin Police Authority, Novato Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Ross Valley Fire Department.

The event began with an opening ceremony and torch relay. The bowling alley was packed full of athletes, family members, volunteers, and members of the community. The role of volunteer was to cheer on and engage the participants. Our Department’s officers walked through the event handing out Marin County Probation Department “swag” and lots of high fives! However, it was the Ross Valley Fire Department who stole the show by handing out bright red firefighter hats.

After the athletes completed two rounds of bowling, the officers and firefighters handed out gold, silver, and bronze metals and every athlete left the competition a winner. The presence of local law enforcement and firefighters was an impactful experience for all.

Many members of the community and members of the Northern California Special Olympics Association approached officers and firefighters with gracious comments and expressed how much they enjoyed seeing us participating each year. This event is one we look forward to every year!
Farewell

After 22 years with the Marin County Probation Department, I have decided to retire and my last day in the office was September 14th, 2018. While I do not believe that the great success and enjoyment I experienced in my career was due to luck, I will agree that I was very fortunate. As with most things in life, it had to do with preparation, people and timing.

In preparation for my career with the Department, I learned Spanish, earned two master's degrees and spent five years "in jail" working at the San Francisco Own Recognizance Project. This set of skills and experience set a great foundation for my career in probation.

Equally important to that foundation, however, were the numerous people who helped me in my career. There are too many to list here in this short article, but among them are the present Department Chief Mike Daly and Chief Deputy Mariano Zamudio. Both of them trusted and supported me and made my time as Director a particularly rewarding experience.

The timing for my career could not have been better. I began working in the justice system at what was hopefully the highest crime rate we will see in our lifetime. As it tumbled over the nearly 30 years that I worked in the field, I was enthralled to see the fall happen right before my eyes. That timing also played on my strengths, including tracking data and developing ideas to support new directions for our Department's resources.

I am writing this newsletter article, my last of course, from Spain, my favorite travel destination. I am spending time here thinking of what to do next in my life. Whatever it ends up being, it will likely pale in comparison to what I have experienced with the Marin County Probation Department. Call me lucky, call me fortunate but I'm just going with happy.

Take care everyone,
Kevin Lynch
Appreciation Night for Juvenile Hall Staff!
Probation Department New Hires!

Danielle Knotts grew up in Livermore, CA, and has resided in Sonoma County for the past 13 years with her two daughters. After graduation from Santa Rosa Junior College with an Associate’s Degree in Administration of Justice, she transferred to Sonoma State University to earn her Bachelor’s Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies with a minor in Sociology. Danielle completed her internship at Restorative Resources in Santa Rosa where she gained experience in Restorative Justice practices. Danielle also enjoys volunteering at San Quentin State Prison for No More Tears, a crime- and violence-prevention program where she serves as a Workshop Facilitator and Executive Steering Committee Member. Danielle is very excited to be a new employee with the Marin County Probation Department and is enjoying working in such a supportive environment.

Lauren Fernandes was born and raised in the Central Valley of California. She graduated from California State University, Chico with her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice, as well as a double minor in Psychology and Ethics, Justice, and Policy. She previously worked as a Legal Process Assistant I for the Marin County District Attorney’s Office and then as a Sheriff’s Service Assistant with the Marin County Sheriff’s Office. Lauren enjoys traveling, spending time with friends and family, hiking, and cooking. She is looking forward to her career with the Marin County Probation Department.

Adam Ponce, Jr grew up in Vacaville, California. He graduated from Sacramento State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Shortly after graduating college, he started an internship with Marin County Probation in the Juvenile Services Division and after several months he also began working at the Juvenile Hall as an extra hire Juvenile Corrections Officer. In February of 2018, Adam began working as an extra hire probation officer for the Adult Division. Adam is excited to work for such a great department. In his spare time, Adam likes spending time with family.

Savanah Stafford was born and raised in Sonoma County. Savanah attended Casa Grande high school where she participated on varsity sports teams and took classes in the Justice Studies pathway. After graduating from Casa Grande High School, Savanah attended Arizona State University where she graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology. While attending Arizona State University, she interned with the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research and worked at an inpatient substance abuse treatment center. After graduating from Arizona State University she pursued employment back home in the Bay Area. Savanah is thrilled to be a new employee for the Marin County Probation Department. She loves to be active and outside in her free time, including hiking, practicing Yoga, and being with her family.

Continued on pg. 6
New Hires (continued from pg 5)

Desiree Johnson was born and raised in Sonoma County. She attended Sonoma State and graduated with a Bachelors in Women and Gender Studies and a minor in Early Childhood Education. During time in college internships at Juvenile Hall and time as a victim advocate she decided she wanted to pursue a career in probation. She is excited to start work with the Probation Department in Marin County. In her free time, Desiree enjoys cooking, traveling, exercising and spending time with family.

Jerad McCarthy was born and raised in Petaluma, California. After graduating Casa Grande High School, he moved to New York City to study criminology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. After college, Jerad enrolled in graduate school earning a master’s degree in legal studies. He then went on to earn his law degree from Empire College School of Law. Jerad was interested in a career in criminal justice, and probation was a perfect fit. After an internship with U.S. Probation in San Francisco, Jerad applied and was hired as an extra hire Juvenile Correctional Officer at Marin County Juvenile Hall. After a few months, Jerad began work as an extra hire Probation Officer with the Adult Division. Then, in September, he was hired as a permanent employee. In his spare time, Jerad enjoys playing basketball, trying new restaurants, working out and spending time with friends.

Buñuelos

In a large bowl, mix 2 cups of all-purpose flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 tablespoon of sugar, and 1/2 teaspoon of salt.

Form a well in the center and add 1 egg, 1 tablespoon of cooled melted butter, and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Mixture will be coarse. Slowly add ¾ cup of water (a tablespoon at a time), mixing and kneading until you have soft and smooth dough. This will take less than 5 minutes. Cover the dough with a kitchen towel and let it rest for 30 minutes. Divide the dough in 12 small balls and cover.

Place a ball of dough in your already floured working surface and stretch with your rolling pin. Roll out each ball to a circle as thin as possible without breaking the dough. (To give that extra stretching, place on an inverted bowl covered with a pastry towel. Pull on the edges very gently. It should be as thin as possible.

Heat ¾ inch of oil in a large frying pan. Fry each buñuelo in very hot oil until they are golden and crispy. This step will take a few seconds. Place the buñuelos on a plate covered with paper towels to drain the excess oil.

Serve warm or at room temperature and sprinkle with a mixture of sugar and cinnamon.

(thank you: https://www.mexicoinmykitchen.com/mexican-bunuelos/)

For some extra sweetness, you can serve with vanilla bean ice cream and/or your choice of syrup or fruit compote. ENJOY~
Probation Word Search

Word Bank

ADULT
COURT
OFFENDER
OFFICER
PAROLE
PLACEMENT
REALIGNMENT
RESTITUTION
SAFETY
SUPERVISION
WALLOFCHANGE

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Marin County Probation Department Newsletter
Editorial Policy

The Condition of Probation is published quarterly by the Marin County Probation Department. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum for communication and the sharing of information. The Condition of Probation publishes articles and information related to Mission and Departmental operations & activity. Articles submitted may be edited for content, clarity, or length.

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