



100 Years of Service 1909-2009  
**Santa Barbara County**  
**Probation Department**

# Probation Today

## CAMINO FLORAL STUDENTS FLOURISHING



Camino Floral Counseling and Education Center (CEC) students can apply to attend monthly field trips to the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in Lompoc and take advantage of the Start Taking Alternative Routes Today (START) program. Upon completion of the field trip, the students are required to write a paper on their thoughts and feelings regarding the program, which are forwarded back to the program and the inmates. The inmates are able to answer questions and respond, when appropriate, via staff at the prison. The prison then forwards the information in confidential and anonymous form back to the students at CEC. Several students have completed projects on the experience, written book reports, and completed oral presentations to other students at the school. One student wrote, "Wow, attending this program really opened my eyes to what I will look like in a few years if I don't change. It was scary and I don't want to end up that way. Thank you for the experience. Gang banging looks a lot less appealing to me and I realize they are not the kind of people I want to be with if I am going to have a good life."

START is another example of an agency collaborative having a positive impact on the youth in the community. Many thanks to Warden Linda Sanders and the staff of FCI for coordinating this valuable community resource.

*Submitted by: Senior JIO Larry Chavez and Senior DPO Kelly Santiago*

## SCHOOL BASED OFFICER POSITION ADDED



*DPO Ashley Guggia*

The Probation Department, in collaboration with Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley and the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District, has assigned a Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) to a new school based position. The DPO, funded by a federal grant made available through the Safe School/Healthy Students initiative, serves Ernest Righetti High School, Orcutt Junior High School, and Lakeview Middle School. This school based DPO position addresses delinquency, school safety, and truancy problems. DPO Ashley Guggia has been selected for this assignment and is looking forward to having a positive impact on the students and schools, while maintaining the Department's visible and proactive community presence. The expansion of school based officer assignments facilitates the Department's practice of focusing delinquency prevention efforts at the school level and will draw on the successes experienced on other campuses. In addition to supervising probation cases, DPO Guggia will act as a Department liaison, engage other students, participate in truancy prevention efforts, make educational presentations, and serve on a number of administrative panels to address specific truancy cases.

*Submitted by: Probation Manager Brian Swanson*

## JESUSITA FIRE

On Tuesday afternoon, May 5<sup>th</sup>, the Jesusita Fire broke out in the foothills of Santa Barbara. The Probation Department again offered immediate mutual aid assistance to the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department and deployed teams to help with evacuations and road blocks. Department personnel also volunteered at the Call Center and the Emergency Operations Center. Due to improved weather conditions and successful fire fighting efforts, Probation's last mutual aid field deployment was for the May 10th a.m. shift. The fire is not yet fully contained and sundowner winds remain a threat. The Probation Department remains poised to provide ongoing support during this time of emergency and shares our appreciation for the remarkable response of all fire and law enforcement personnel.



*Submitted by: Senior DPO Duane Erdman, Personnel & Training*

**PROBATION 101:** Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) was established in the summer of 1944 as a juvenile correctional facility serving the Juvenile Courts of both Santa Barbara County and Ventura County. Commitment orders were made for young men who needed to be removed from the community, but whose records were not serious enough to justify a commitment to the California Youth Authority. LPBC is to be commended for 65 years of service to the youth of Santa Barbara County and beyond!

*Submitted by: Fiscal Manager Carter Ray, Retired*

