



Santa Barbara County Probation Department

Probation Today

Youthful Offender Block Grant Team Attends 17th Annual National Gang Conference

Deputy Probation Officer, Seniors Jose Macedo, Amber Flores and Harry Wright, along with Juvenile Institutions Officer, Senior Edwin Robinson and Juvenile Institutions Officers Patrick Kiesling and William Krantz attended the 17th Annual National Gang Violence conference in Anaheim from July 29 - August 1, 2008.

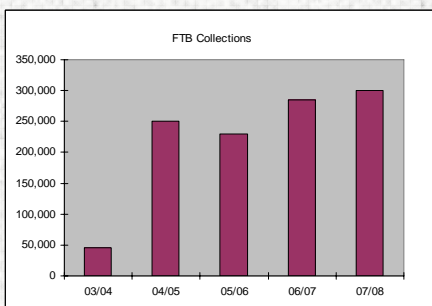
The event was sponsored by the California Gang Investigators Association and the U.S Department of Justice Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The training provided a forum for local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to meet and share the latest gang trends, investigation and information gathering techniques and training on gang prosecution and injunctions, high tech gang investigations and expert testimony was provided. Information regarding prison, motorcycle and ethnic gangs was also reviewed.

This years conference had an estimated 1,300 participants, representing 310 agencies, 36 states, as well as Canada, Australia, England and France. The conference provided an opportunity to network and share techniques in dealing with offenders with a gang mentality and history. Participants are now able to relay current information regarding gangs to their departments and the community that regularly come in contact with gang members and youth at risk for gang membership.

Submitted by William Krantz, Juvenile Institutions Officer

PROBATION SUPERVISION FEES-UPDATE

The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) collection of unpaid Probation supervision fees has exceeded \$1 million since the program began in FY 03-04. With Board approval and Treasurer Tax Collector (TTC) assent, Probation began referring uncollected debt to the FTB in January 2004. Probation began hand searching the TTC's CUBS system for ex-probationers with accounts 90 days or more over due. In that first partial year Probation received \$45,461. FY 07-08 is on target to be the largest year to date and should bring in close to \$300,000 in previously uncollected debt from probation clients. A process improvement project sponsored by former Assistant CEO Ron Cortez resulted in the TTC providing reports of overdue Probation debtors. Probation also increased the staff time



it spends to verify and correct the information in CUBS. The FTB actively pursues the collection of accounts referred to them with demand letters, wage garnishments and bank levies.

Submitted by Jean Silva, Administrative Deputy Director

• GANG SWEEP IN LOMPOC •

The Lompoc Police Department received a grant for gang suppression efforts and included Juvenile and Adult Probation Officers in the multi-agency compliance checks. The goal is to target specific high risk individuals with gang terms and monitor their compliance with court orders. This is a proactive effort which has resulted in approximately 56 probationer and parolee contacts, with nine arrests made for warrants, drug activity, and other issues of non-compliance. This cooperative effort demonstrates that local law enforcement is working together to improve the safety of the Lompoc community.

Submitted by Matt Maxwell, Deputy Probation Officer, Lompoc

County Employees Making A Difference, ✂ One Ponytail At A Time ✂

On August 1st, several County employees joined one another in the Santa Ynez Valley to make a unique contribution to a very worthwhile cause. In partnership with Rosemary Wolf, owner of Dé Cut Hair Design, twelve women took their turns in the barber chair and contributed 8 to 13 inches of their own hair in the name of charity. The group consisted of SMJH staff Sonia Alcantar-Lie, Lorene Alvarado, Shawna Coleman, Ana Martinez, Aimy Mendiola, and Danielle Strother. Representing the Los Prietos Boys Camp were Nancy Taylor-Farrah and Elisabeth Mathews. Crissy Kuehl and Amanda Blake, both Human Resource Department employees, also joined the group to donate their locks, as did two family members of the employees, one of which traveled all the way from Portland, OR to contribute to the cause. Probation Adult Manager Lee Bethel and Administrative Deputy Director Jean Silva were unable to attend the cut-a-thon but did their part beforehand by snipping their locks and sending them in with the others. All haircuts by Dé Cut stylists were given free of charge in honor of this event. Ponytails donated by the 14 women (totaling over 12 ½ feet in length) were sent to the Pantene Beautiful Lengths and Locks of Love organizations where they will be used to construct hairpieces for those encountering hair loss as a result of Alopecia or treatment relating to Cancer or Leukemia. The event caught the interest of local media outlets and was featured on KCOY/KFFX's evening and late night broadcasts. It also received attention in the Valley Living section of the Santa Barbara News Press.

For more information on these non-profit organizations, go to www.beautifullengths.com and/or www.locksoflove.com.



Top (L-R): From Probation: Nancy Taylor-Farrah, Ana Martinez, Sonia Alcantar-Lie, Danielle Strother, Lorene Alvarado and Elisabeth Mathews. And, Bottom (L-R): From Human Resources: Crissy Kuehl and Amanda Blake, and from Probation: Aimy Mendiola and Shawna Coleman.

*Submitted by Nancy Taylor-Farrah
Supervising Probation Officer, Los Prietos Boys Camp*