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TO: Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Members

FROM: Scott DeuPree, Chief Probation Officer

DATE: March 26, 2007

RE: 2007 Local Action Plan

A draft of the current Local Action Plan is being routed to you electronically. It was prepared based on the plans submitted by the Local Action Plan work group and discussed at our February 2nd JJCC meeting. However, as lead agency, I feel compelled to request that the work group develop an alternative plan for consideration by the JJCC at our April 6th meeting. Recent developments **in all areas of the county** clearly demonstrate an increasing level of gang violence that cannot be ignored. While efforts have been made to incorporate a gang focus to some strategies in the current draft proposal, I am concerned that our current plan does not adequately address this issue nor remediate the impact of gangs in our communities.

The primary purpose of the Local Action Plan is to ensure that the proper stakeholders are actively reviewing the juvenile justice continuum of responses and emerging trends and developing a response to them. In reviewing our draft Local Action Plan, it appears appropriate to ask ourselves whether our current plan has done that or not. With rising gang incidents within our county, I suspect that others will be asking the same question and feel it would be wise to have an alternative plan for the JJCC to consider before we take this item to a vote. I have asked the work group to consider this critical issue and propose an alternative for us to consider at our April 6th meeting.

Probation Manager Tanja Heitman has sent out notice of this request to the work group members and has scheduled a work group meeting in the community room at the Santa Barbara Bank and Trust Solvang Branch for 2:00 pm, March 29th. Probation staff will be working diligently to prepare an alternative based on the work group's discussion and will be making every effort to get additional information out electronically for your review by April 2nd. Please contact Mrs. Heitman or Deputy Chief Martin Conoley if you would like to be involved in that meeting or are able to provide assistance in any way.

To meet our May 1 deadline with the Corrections Standards Authority for filing of our plan and budget, please review the draft Local Action Plan and proposed FY 07-08 JJCPA budget, agenda, minutes, and supporting documents. Ultimately the JJCC voting members will need to determine on April 6th how to best utilize our limited Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funds to address the myriad of issues that affect the youth of this county for FY 07-08 and beyond.