Stanford Executive Session on Public Safety Realignment: Front-End Issues

Project Overview

While Realignment affects every part of the criminal justice system, one of the most salient concerns is the effect on the front-end of the system. With support from the Public Welfare Foundation, the Stanford Criminal Justice Center (SCJC) is leading a project to explore in depth the major front-end issues created by Realignment, as the policies of the different officials at key decision points in the front-end phase merit careful examination and evaluation. Studying the front-end of the justice system is critical to understanding the ultimate costs, benefits, and impacts of Realignment. The key project components are:

- **Convene an Executive Session.** The centerpiece of the project is the convening of an Executive Session that is comprised of nine state leaders to inform the development of the project, including identifying the key issues facing the front-end of the system, proposing topics to be examined over the course of the project, and providing feedback on a final report.

- **Host four, full-day Executive Session meetings.** The Executive Sessions will take place at Stanford Law School and will be held over the course of 18 months. Four, full-day Executive Sessions will be convened to explore the impact of Realignment on the front-end of the criminal justice system in an effort to better understand the issues arising and to encourage collaborative criminal justice policy development. The exact topics selected for the full-day sessions will be decided upon jointly by the Executive Session members as the project progresses. Potential topics include the impact of Realignment on pretrial services and jail management, local law enforcement agencies, community supervision, or special populations such as individuals with mental health problems or histories of substance abuse. In addition to the Executive Session members, each session will include eight to ten subject experts of the topic being featured in that particular session.

- **Develop four background papers.** In preparation for each of the Executive Session meetings, four white papers will be developed to serve as background material on the particular topic being covered in the session. The papers will highlight the major legal and policy issues of the topic and will attempt to capture how the issue is playing out across California’s 58 counties through data analysis and collection.

- **Develop a final report.** The work of the Executive Session will culminate in a final report that summarizes the major front-end issues created by Realignment, identifies policy recommendations, and highlights best practices among California’s counties.

- **Disseminate findings and recommendations.** The findings and recommendations that result from the project will be shared with relevant stakeholders and professional associations across the state such as the Board of State and Community Corrections, California State Legislature, California Attorney General’s Office, Governor’s Office, California Sheriffs Association, California Police Chiefs Association, California State Association of Counties, California Mental Health Directors, California Chief Probation Officers Association, California Correctional Peace Officers Association, and League of California Cities. The research could inform future amendments to state legislation, training and technical assistance direction taken by these organizations, and funding and policy decisions adopted by counties and local jurisdictions.
Executive Session Members

**Sheriff Bill Brown**
Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Department

**Garry Herceg**
Director, County of Santa Clara, Office of Pretrial Services

**Jim Bueermann**
President, Police Foundation

**Sheriff Sandra Hutchens**
Orange County Sheriff’s Department

**Matthew Cate (Chair)**
Executive Director, California State Association of Counties & Law and Policy Fellow, SCJC

**Chief Jerry Powers**
Los Angeles County Probation Department

**Chief Jerry Dyer**
Fresno Police Department

**Chief Kim Raney**
Covina Police Department

**District Attorney George Gascón**
City and County of San Francisco District Attorney’s Office

**Bill Brown** was first elected as Santa Barbara County’s Sheriff-Coroner on November 7, 2006, and was re-elected to his second term after running unopposed in June 2010. Sheriff Brown is a past president of the California Police Chiefs’ Association. He currently is Chairman of the Santa Barbara County Law Enforcement Chiefs and Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Regional Narcotic Enforcement Team. He also serves on the Executive Board of the California State Sheriffs’ Association and as a Commissioner on the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission for the State of California.

**Jim Bueermann** is the President of the Police Foundation, a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting improvement in policing through research, technical assistance, and training. Jim Bueermann worked for the Redlands Police Department for 33 years and was appointed Chief of Police and Director of Housing, Recreation, and Senior Services in 1998. He retired in June 2011. He is on policing advisory boards at Cambridge University, George Mason University, John Jay College for Criminal Justice, and the Council for State Governments.

**Matthew Cate (Chair)** is currently the Executive Director of the California State Association of Counties and a Law and Policy Fellow with the Stanford Criminal Justice Center (SCJC). Previously, he served as the Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, overseeing a historic downsizing of the prison system. Cate served as chairman of both the Board of State and Community Corrections and the Prison Industry Authority. In 2010, Cate was elected regional president of the Association of State Correctional Administrators. Prior to his appointment as Secretary, Cate served for four years as the California Inspector General.

**Jerry Dyer** has served the Fresno Police Department for 32 years and became the Chief in August 2001. Dyer served as President of the California Police Chiefs’ Association and as an Advisory Board member on Governor Schwarzenegger’s California Gang Reduction Intervention Program. Chief Dyer was awarded the prestigious Joseph Malloy award from the California Police Chiefs’ Association.
George Gascón was elected as District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco in November 2011. Gascón began his career in the Los Angeles Police Department, working his way up the ranks from officer to Assistant Chief. Gascón became the Chief of Police in Mesa, Arizona in July 2006. In 2009, Gascón was hired as Chief of Police of San Francisco. District Attorney Gascón is a graduate of the FBI’s National Executive Institute, and is a member of the Harvard University/Kennedy School of Government’s Executive Session on Policing and Public Safety.

Garry Herceg has been Director of the Office of Pretrial Services for Santa Clara County since December 2010. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Herceg spent over 16 years in adult and juvenile probation services with Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. He served as Assistant Division Director of Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall from 2007 to 2010. He is a member of the California Association of Pretrial Services as well as the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies. He was honored in 2006 as Santa Cruz County’s Probation Officer of the Year.

Sandra Hutchens is the 12th Orange County Sheriff and the first woman to serve as the county’s top cop. She was named Sheriff by the Board of Supervisors in 2008 after a nationwide search which included a field of 48 candidates. She ran and won the 2010 for election for a full term. Her 30-year career includes counterterrorism training in Israel, FBI National Academy training, and participation in the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative Program at Harvard University.

Jerry Powers is the Chief of Probation for Los Angeles County and has served in that role since December 2011. In November 2002, Mr. Powers was appointed by the Court as Stanislaus County’s 13th Chief Probation Officer. He led the Department for 10 years. In 2006 and again in 2008, Chief Powers served as President of the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC). In 2007, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, appointed him to the California Sex Offender Management Board.

Kim Raney was appointed Chief of Police for the Covina Police Department in April 2001. He has served with the Covina Police Department for 33 years. He is an active member of several organizations, such as the International Association of Chiefs of Police and is the former President of the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association. He is currently the President of the California Police Chiefs’ Association.