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September 12, 2011

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2011 Public Safety Realignment

The cornerstone of California's solution to reduce overcrowding, costs, and recidivism

Earlier this year, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed Assembly Bill (AB) 109 and AB 117, historic legislation that will enable California to close the revolving door of low-level inmates cycling in and out of state prisons. It is the cornerstone of California's solution for reducing the number of inmates in the state's 33 prisons to 137.5 percent design capacity by May 24, 2013, as ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court.

All provisions of AB 109 and AB 117 are prospective and implementation of the 2011 Realignment Legislation will begin October 1, 2011. **No inmates currently in state prison will be transferred to county jails or released early.**

Governor Brown also signed multiple trailer bills to ensure the 2011 Realignment secured proper funding before implementation could go into effect.

The 2011 Realignment is funded with a dedicated portion of state sales tax revenue and Vehicle License Fees (VLF) outlined in trailer bills AB 118 and SB 89. The latter provides revenue to counties for local public safety programs and the former establishes the Local Revenue Fund 2011 (Fund) for counties to receive the revenues and appropriate funding for 2011 Public Safety Realignment.

Funding of Realignment

The following trailer bills were signed to secure sufficient funding for counties:

- AB 111
 - Gives counties additional flexibility to access funding to increase local jail capacity for the purpose of implementing Realignment.
- AB 94 (2011 Realignment Legislation Addressing Public Safety)
 - Comes into effect upon the passage of AB 111.
 - Authorizes counties who have received a conditional award under a specified jail facilities financing program to relinquish that award and reapply for a conditional award under a separate financing program.
 - Lowers the county's required contribution from 25 percent to 10 percent and additionally requires CDCR and the Corrections Standard Authority to give funding preference to those counties that relinquish local jail construction conditional awards and agree to continue to assist the state in siting re-entry facilities.
- AB 118
 - Outlines the financial structure for allocating funds to a variety of accounts for realignment.
 - Establishes the Local Revenue Fund 2011 for receiving revenue and appropriates from that account to the counties.
 - Directs the deposit of revenues associated with 1.0625 percent of the state sales tax rate to be deposited in the Fund.

- Establishes a reserve account should revenues come in higher than anticipated.
- The reallocation formulas will be developed more permanently using appropriate data and information for the 2012-'13 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter.
- Implements sufficient protections to provide ongoing funding and mandated protection for the state and local government.
- The smallest of counties that benefit from the minimum grant will each receive approximately \$77,000 in 2011-'12.
- SB 89
 - Dedicates a portion (\$12) of the Vehicle License Fee to the Fund.
 - Revenue comes from two sources; freed up VLF previously dedicated to DMV administration and VLF that was previously dedicated to cities for general purpose use.
 - Estimated total amount of VLF revenue now dedicated to realignment is \$354.3 million in 2010-2011.
- SB 87
 - Provides counties with a one-time appropriation of \$25 million to cover costs associated with hiring, retention, training, data improvements, contracting costs, and capacity planning pursuant to each county's AB 109 implementation plan.

Local Planning Process

The Community Corrections Partnership (CCP), which was previously established in Penal Code § 1230, will develop and recommend to the county Board of Supervisors an implementation plan for 2011 Public Safety Realignment. An Executive Committee from the CCP members will be comprised of the following:

- Chief probation officer
- Chief of police
- Sheriff
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Presiding judge of the superior court (or his/her designee)
- A representative from either the County Department of Social Services, Mental Health, or Alcohol and Substance Abuse Programs, as appointed by the County Board of Supervisors.

The Executive Committee plan is deemed accepted by the county Board of Supervisors unless the Board rejects the plan by a four-fifths vote.

Community, Local Custody

AB 109 allows non-violent, non-serious, and non sex offenders to serve their sentence in county jails instead of state prisons. However, counties can contract back with the State to house local offenders.

Under AB 109:

- No inmates currently in state prison will be transferred to county jails.
- No inmates currently in state prison will be released early.
- All felons sent to state prison will continue to serve their entire sentence in state prison.
- All felons convicted of current or prior serious or violent offenses, sex offenses, and sex offenses against children will go to state prison.

- There are nearly 60 additional crimes that are not defined in Penal Code as serious or violent offenses but at the request of law enforcement were added as offenses that would be served in state prison rather than in local custody.

Please see the document “AB 109: Final Crime Exclusion List” for a complete listing of those crimes.

Community Correctional Facilities

CDCR will terminate eight of its nine contracts with community correctional facilities across the state as the department will no longer maintain the level of inmate typically housed at these facilities. The effective dates of termination are as follows:

- Lassen Community Correctional Facility (LCCF) in Lassen County
Expired on July 7, 2011.
- Claremont Custody Center (CCC) in Fresno County
Expired on August 7, 2011.
- Delano Community Correctional Facility (DCCF) in Kern County
Expired on August 21, 2011.
- Leo Chesney Female Community Correctional Facility (LCCCF) in Sutter County
September 30, 2011.
- Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility (CVMCCF) in Kern County
October 12, 2011.
- Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility (DVMCCF) in San Bernardino County
November 30, 2011.
- Shafter Community Correctional Facility (SCCF) in Kern County
November 30, 2011.
- Taft Community Correctional Facility (TCCF) in Kern County
November 30, 2011.

CDCR will maintain its contract with Golden State Modified Community Correctional Facility (GSMCCF) in Kern County. The facility will house Level I/II adult male inmates.

CDCR’s Community Correctional Facilities Administration will be deactivated effective December 1. Oversight of the remaining community correctional facility, GSMCCF, will be maintained under CDCR’s Contract Bed Unit which oversees California’s Out-of-State Correctional Facilities contracts.

At the counties’ discretion, they may contract with one or more of the community correctional facilities to house low-level offenders as an option to ease the population within county jails.

Post-Release (County-Level) Community Supervision

CDCR continues to have jurisdiction over all offenders who are on state parole prior to the implementation date of October 1, 2011. Prospectively, county-level supervision for offenders upon release from prison will include current non-violent, current non-serious (irrespective of priors), and some sex offenders. County-level supervision will not include:

- Inmates paroled from life terms to include third-strike offenders;

- Offenders whose current commitment offense is violent or serious, as defined by California's Penal Code §§ 667.5(c) and 1192.7(c);
- High-risk sex offenders, as defined by CDCR;
- Mentally Disordered Offenders; nor
- Offenders on parole prior to October 1, 2011.

Offenders who meet the above-stated conditions will continue to be under state parole supervision.

Each county Board of Supervisors was required to designate a county agency to be responsible for post-release supervision and provide that information to CDCR by August 1, 2011. In turn, CDCR must notify counties of an individual's release at least one month prior. Once the individual has been released, CDCR will no longer have jurisdiction over any person who is under post-release community supervision. No person shall be returned to prison on a parole revocation except for those life-term offenders who paroled pursuant to Penal Code § 3000.1 (Penal Code § 3056 states that only these offenders may be returned to state prison).

Parole Revocations

Starting October 1, 2011, all parole revocations will be served in county jail instead of state prison and can only be up to 180 days.

The responsibility of parole revocations will continue under the Board of Parole Hearings until July 1, 2013, at which time the parole revocation process will become a local court-based process. Local courts, rather than the Board of Parole Hearings, will be the designated authority for determining revocations. Contracting back to the state for offenders to complete a custody parole revocation is not an option. Only offenders previously sentenced to a term of life can be revoked to prison.

After July, 1, 2013 The Board of Parole Hearings will continue to conduct

- Parole consideration for lifers;
- Medical parole hearings;
- Mentally disordered offender cases; and
- Sexually Violent Predator cases.

AB 109 also provides the following under parole:

- Allows local parole revocations up to 180 days
- Authorizes flash incarceration at the local level for up to 10 days

Inmates released to parole after serving a life term (e.g., murderers, violent sex offenders, and third-strikers) will be eligible for parole revocation back to state prison if ordered by the Board.

The Division of Juvenile Justice

AB 109 limited the future juvenile court commitments to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). However, AB 117 removes this provision. As such, there will be no changes to DJJ during the 2011 realignment.

CDCR Adult Programs

As CDCR's population changes due to Realignment, the Division of Adult Programs will utilize projection information to review appropriate programming to address offender needs. While exact dates for program adjustments are still under evaluation, Adult Programs is dedicated to serving as many offenders as possible by maximizing existing resources.