

EX-OFFENDERS IN OUR COMMUNITY UNDER LOCAL SUPERVISION SINCE REALIGNMENT

As part of public safety realignment (AB 109), the responsibility for supervising offenders convicted of non-serious, non-violent crimes after release from prison was transferred from state parole to local probation departments. This CJ Fax, prepared in cooperation with the San Diego County Probation Department, provides information about the changing probation population and the number of Post-Release Offenders (PROs) who have returned to San Diego County between October 2011 and August 2012. Together with last month's CJ Fax (Volume 14, Issue 9) that described how jail populations have been affected since the implementation of AB 109, the following updates information presented last year prior to the implementation of realignment and provides a fuller picture of the impact of the legislation.

AB 109: Fact Versus Fiction

- As part of AB 109, PROs are being released early from prison. **FICTION**
- PROs may have a prior violent or serious offense history, even if the most recent was non-serious and non-violent. **FACT**
- PROs in our community would have returned to San Diego County regardless of AB 109. **FACT**

How Did the Probation Population Change Between Calendar Years 2010 and 2011? In 2010, the San Diego County Probation Department supervised a total of 22,660 adults, with 16,417 under supervision on December 31, 2010. One year later, these numbers had decreased to 21,768 and 14,393 respectively. This change can be partially attributed to lower crime and arrest rates reported across the region.

Were Estimates Exceeded Regarding How Many PROs Would be Released? Yes. While the State estimated that 2,000 PROs (about 167 a month) would return during the first year of implementation, a total of 2,228 offenders were being supervised locally during the first ten months alone, representing about 223 a month, 34 percent higher than the original estimate.

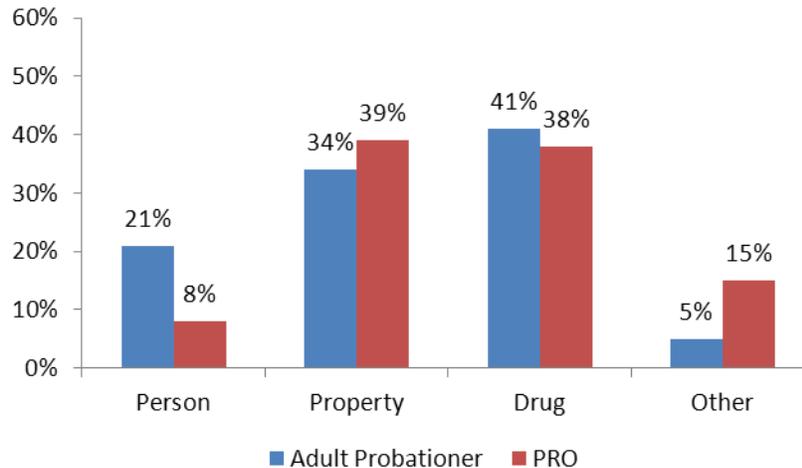
Where Are PROs Living? According to statistics for September 2012, PROs live in all parts of the County, with the greatest proportion (24%) residing in San Diego County District 4 (Central), 20 percent in District 1 (South Bay), 19 percent in District 2 (East), 16 percent in District 5 (North Inland), and 6 percent in District 3 (North Coastal). In addition, 15 percent are described as transient/not having a fixed address.

How Does the Regular Adult Probationer Differ From a PRO? At the end of 2011, the PRO population represented just five percent of all adults under the supervision of the Probation Department, although this proportion continued to grow each month as more individuals were released from prison. As Table 1 shows, based on statistics through the end of 2011, the average PRO was slightly older, less likely to be female, more likely to be an ethnic minority, and more likely to be rated as high-risk for recidivism (65% versus 26% for the average adult probationer). In addition, not surprisingly given the legislative limitations on who could be included in this population, the average PRO was less likely to be under supervision for a crime against a person (i.e., violent offense) (Figure 1).

Have Sanctions and Incentives Been Used as Planned? A key component of the Community Corrections Partnership’s (CCP) AB 109 Implementation Plan was the use of evidence-based practice (EBP), including the use of sanctions and incentives. During the first ten months following implementation, 1,495 arrests¹ of PROs were made for violating terms of their supervision and Probation used the intermediate sanction of flash incarceration 1,186 times. Flash incarceration allows Probation to book an individual into jail for up to ten days for noncompliance with the terms of supervision without having to return to court. It is also worth noting that the incentive of early discharge was used. Specifically, 204 PROs were proactively discharged from supervision early based on having at least six months of supervision without an arrest or violation, no dirty drug tests, and being employed or enrolled in school.

	Adult Probationer	PRO
Number Supervised on Dec 31	14,393	786
Average Age	35.7	38.0
Percent Male	77%	89%
Percent White	40%	33%
Percent High Risk	26%	65%

**Figure 1
HIGHEST CRIME TYPE LEADING TO CURRENT SUPERVISION, 2011**



Where Can I Learn More About Realignment? Information about the CCP’s Implementation Plan and updated statistics can be found at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation/ccp.html. In addition, information from counties across the state is being compiled by the Chief Probation Officers of California and can be found at www.c poc.org/php/realign/ab109home.php.

¹ It is important to note that this number reflects arrests and not individuals and that one individual could be arrested more than once during the period of supervision.