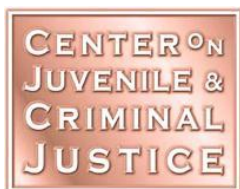


Realignment is upon us. How will you respond?



California Realignment News

San Francisco Probation Department Chief, Wendy Still, releases CJCJ publication on SF incarceration rates.

Probation Chief Wendy Still implores the legislature to reassess funding formula for realignment to incentivize best practices.

A publication authored by CJCJ was released by San Francisco's Probation Department this month demonstrating that [*San Francisco's Locally Self-Reliant Incarceration Polices are saving State Taxpayers Hundreds of Millions of Dollars a Year.*](#)

In fact, the publication finds that if San Francisco incarcerated adults at the same rate as the state average, it would have cost the state taxpayer **an additional \$150 million** in 2010. However, despite the diligent efforts of San Francisco agencies to serve offenders at the local level, San Franciscan residents continue to shoulder the taxpayer burden of other state-dependent counties at **a net loss of over \$100 million per year**, or \$120 per city resident.

Probation Chief Wendy Still is urging the state to support counties that have demonstrated willingness and an ability to provide effective criminal justice practices. In her [Press Release](#) she states that

“This investment would not only allow innovative counties to become model blueprints and hubs of technical assistance for other counties, it would also incentivize state-dependent counties to pursue more effective local criminal justice practices.”

Currently San Francisco County is being allotted \$5.7 million of the realignment funding; \$8.3 million short of what is needed.

How many youth do your prosecutors send to the adult system?

August 2011 publication finds huge disparities in prosecutorial practices resulting in a system of justice by geography, with no demonstrable effect on crime trends.

The *Juvenile Justice Realignment Series*, Part Four documents the prosecutorial practices of California's 58 counties since Proposition 21.

The publication, [*An Analysis of direct adult criminal court filing 2003-2009: What has been the effect of Proposition 21?*](#), reviews prosecutorial use of direct adult criminal court filing from 2003 to 2009 in California's 58 counties and finds major differences between county practices.

For example, did you know that a youth under 15-years-old is nearly 14 times more likely to be tried directly as an adult by the prosecutor in Ventura County than elsewhere in California?

The publication also shows that direct filing does not reduce crime.

In addition it finds a trend among high direct filing counties to target younger offenders who end up serving their confinement time in state youth correctional facilities, at no cost to the committing county. Thus, counties that use direct filing the most are imposing additional costs on counties that are self-reliant.

Today, there are approximately 250 youth serving time in state youth correctional facilities from adult court. California should be providing more oversight to counties to ensure a cohesive approach to juvenile justice practices. With only four state youth correctional facilities remaining, realignment of juveniles to the county level remains appropriate and fiscally responsible.

You can access the entire *Juvenile Justice Realignment Series* on our [Resource Center](#) and on our newest Facebook resource, the [California Juvenile Justice Reform](#) page.

Have you read CJCJ's new Blog series on CA policy?

[CA Policy: Three Strikes Reform: What happened last time?](#)

[CA Policy: Gimmicks versus Facts: the politics of marketing](#)

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