

Subject: Message from Chief Leyva: COVID-19 Update
Date: Friday, March 20, 2020 at 4:50:52 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Marisa Ron
To: DDG-PROB_640
Attachments: image003.png

Sent on behalf of Chief Leyva

Yesterday, both Governor Gavin Newsom and Supervisor Kathryn Barqer announced orders to prevent further spread of COVID-19. Under both the State and County orders, first responders and those in the health care, government, food services, and other essential industries will still be on the job.

The work the Los Angeles County Probation Department performs is deemed critical, therefore we are expected to continue our work, prioritizing public safety by fully staffing our juvenile halls and camps. I also recognize we are in a health emergency and each one of you are extremely concerned about the well-being of yourselves and your loved ones.

I have directed Probation leadership to determine what job duties are essential to the Department's core public safety operations. If your particular job duties are not deemed essential, I am asking managers to work with you to determine what can be done so you are able to telework while still being productive and furthering the work of L.A. County Probation.

For our sworn peace officers who are essential to our core functions, we have a legal responsibility to public safety and are required to report for work and protect the community at large.

*We are doing everything possible to minimize your exposure to COVID-19. If you are currently working at a juvenile facility or are being temporarily reassigned to one during the COVID-19 crisis, **you will be able to travel to and from work, despite the restrictions that are in place. We will seek to ensure that you are relieved in a timely fashion and that holdovers are minimal, but this ultimately depends on the required staffing for each shift.** We will, over the course of the next few days, begin redeploying Field Probation Officers from field operations to the juvenile halls and camps to provide much needed assistance to better staff the facilities and avoid the need to hold staff over.*

You are also the ones taking care of the youth in our charge, most of whom share your anxiety. I thank you for showing up to work, not just because you are legally required to do so, but because it is the right thing to do. The sacrifices you are making on a daily basis are appreciated not just by me, but by all of Los Angeles County.

*It is very important that all of our staff understand that, regardless of what your job is, if you, or somebody with whom you live has a fever or is displaying other symptoms consistent with those of COVID-19, **Stay home.***

Collectively, we must do all we can to keep our workplaces as healthy as possible to prevent the spread of this debilitating virus through our offices and our facilities. Please review the material from Public Health posted on Probnet or at publichealth.lacounty.gov for further information on COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please consult with your immediate supervisor.

Thank you for your continued service in these difficult times.

Marisa Ron, Executive Secretary

Office of Ray Leyva, Interim Chief Probation Officer

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