

COUNTY OF TORRANCE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2010-05

CREATING THE TORRANCE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARD

WHEREAS, current academic and scientific programming targets at-risk behaviors and protective factors of children and youth to include: gang affiliation or involvement, suicide, homicide, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, poverty, violence and abuse against persons or property, school drop-out and truancy, lack of or low self-esteem, victims of abuse or neglect, family history of substance abuse and other social and economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, there were a reported 207 referrals to the Torrance County Juvenile Probation and Parole Office (JPPO) in the fiscal year 2009; and

WHEREAS, 58% OF REPORTED JUVENILE OFFENSES IN FISCAL YEAR 2009 WERE CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11 AND 15; AND

WHEREAS, Children, youth and families are faced with multiple challenges and/or pressures which may result in potential involvement in the Juvenile Justice System; and

WHEREAS, The County seeks inter-agency cooperation with Children, Youth & Families Department, local governments, school districts, youth service community and government organizations, and other entities whose purpose is to assist children and families; and

WHEREAS, local, state and federal and private funding resources exist for the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency which could be brought to bear on implementing new, different, effective and collaborative initiatives to prevent juvenile delinquency and pressure on youth or children to become involved in the Juvenile Justice System; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY OF TORRANCE, that the Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board is hereby formed:

NAME: The Committee shall be called the Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board and shall consist of two councils, the Leadership and Policy Council and the Youth Development Council.

PURPOSE: Both councils shall advise, plan and coordinate juvenile justice efforts through the development of a juvenile justice plan.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. The Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board shall:
 - a. Be charged with the prevention, treatment and crisis intervention of juvenile delinquency before children and youth engage in self-destructive behaviors which may lead to their arrest, detention and harm to themselves or to others.

- b. Examine strategies or graduated sanctions designed to address and encourage youth, parent, school and community involvement and interaction in reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors to develop a range of services that provide an alternative to detention.
- c. Work collaboratively with youth groups to ensure youth involvement and participation in planning, coordination and implementation of initiatives.
- d. Partner with Bernalillo and Santa Fe Counties to address metropolitan issues in juvenile justice that cross Bernalillo, Santa Fe and Tarrant Counties.
- e. Work with CYFD, local governments, school district, youth service community and government organizations and other entities whose purpose is to assist children and families.
- f. The Tarrant County Juvenile Justice Board's primary charge shall be to originate, coordinate, execute, and implement strategies and programs that seek out and obtain state, federal and other sources that fund and support initiatives, programs, services and activities that prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and gang affiliation and involvement of children and that increases the protective factors around children and youth. The second charge to the Tarrant County Juvenile Justice Board shall be to develop a juvenile justice plan that covers the spectrum of prevention, intervention, and treatment strategies designed to address and encourage youth, parent, school and community involvement and interaction in reducing at-risk behaviors and in increasing protective factors.

Section 1. The Tarrant County Juvenile Justice Board shall consist of no fewer than 11 and no more than 25 members from the community, from CYFD, local governments, school districts, youth service community and government organizations, the faith community, the business community and other entities whose purpose is to assist children and families.

Section 2. Membership shall be reflective of the community and shall be representative of, but is not limited to, education, mental or primary health care, juvenile justice, child welfare, employment, youth-oriented organizations, recreation, faith communities, and business community.

Section 3. Members shall be residents of Tarrant, Santa Fe and Bernalillo Counties and have demonstrated leadership, involvement or collaboration in juvenile delinquency prevention and gang prevention.

Section 4. The Chairman of the Tarrant County Commission, with the advice and consent of the Tarrant County Commission, shall appoint members to staggered terms of one, two and three years. At least 7 of the members of the Tarrant County Juvenile Justice Board shall be appointed by the Chairman from individuals representing the County, CYFD, local governments, school districts, youth service community and government organizations and other entities whose purpose is to assist children and families.

Section 5. The Tarrant County Juvenile Justice Board shall follow County Commission rules and procedures, to conduct meetings and functions in the capacity as set forth in

the County Commission rules and procedures. The co-chairpersons of the Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board will be the Representative Rhonda King, and Vanessa Chavez Gutierrez Commissioner, unless otherwise designated. The initial appointment of co-chairpersons shall be reviewed annually.

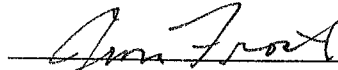
Section 6. The Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board shall report quarterly to the County Commission on efforts to accomplish the goals and objectives set forth to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and gang affiliation and involvement.

Section 7. The Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board Chairperson will designate a facilitator to manage Board activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY OF TORRANCE, that this Resolution, which by passage creates the Torrance County Juvenile Justice Board, shall automatically expire on _____ unless re-enacted by the Torrance County Commission before that date.

PASSED, AND APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10th day of February, 2010.

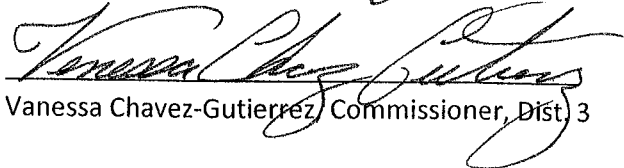
TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION



Jim Frost, Commission Chairman

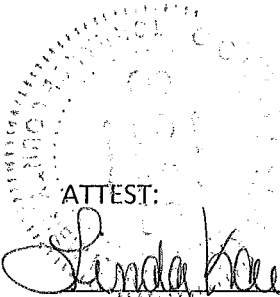
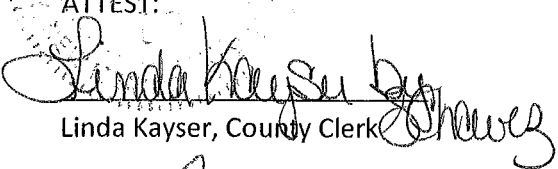


Paul M (Tito) Chavez, Commissioner, Dist. 2



Vanessa Chavez-Gutierrez, Commissioner, Dist. 3

ATTEST:



Linda Kayser, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Dennis Wallin

County Attorney