

# CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA



## PROBATION IN CALIFORNIA

### WHAT IS PROBATION?

As a criminal justice sanction, probation is a tool that holds people convicted of crimes accountable and helps oversee their rehabilitation using evidence-based rehabilitation strategies. Evidence-based practices are supported by scientific research to reduce recidivism.

The goal of Probation is to prevent crime and delinquency, reduce recidivism, restore victims and promote healthy families and communities by doing the following:

- Administering research-based juvenile and adult probation programs.
- Making recommendations to the courts and enforcing its orders in communities by providing supervision and treatment for juveniles and adults.
- Overseeing the management, operation, programming, and administration of juvenile detention and rehabilitation facilities that promote positive behavior change.

### ADULT PROBATION

Probation Departments are responsible for providing community-based supervision of adults convicted of felonies or misdemeanors either in lieu of incarceration or as a condition of release following incarceration. As a field of law enforcement, Probation in California is distinguished by its commitment to a research-based approach to public safety that promotes positive behavior change. Since 2011, Probation has the responsibility of supervising many offenders from the state prison and parole systems, categorized as individuals either on post-release community supervision (PRCS) or on Mandatory Supervision as part of their split sentences. Currently, felony probation accounts for about 85% of those on probation, 11% on PRCS and 4% on mandatory supervision.

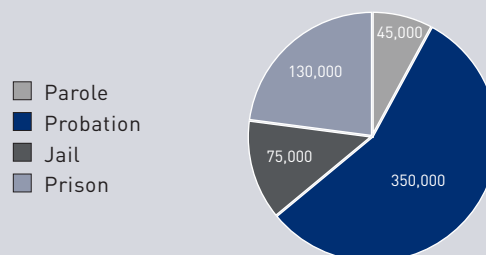
### JUVENILE PROBATION

Over the last decade, California has seen tremendous change and success with how it approaches youth in the juvenile justice system. In 2007, the passage of Juvenile Justice Realignment gave Probation Departments the resources necessary to expand investments into local rehabilitation services for youth and greatly enhanced evidence-based practices. This had a significant impact and led to a precipitous decline in juvenile detention rates and juvenile arrest rates. It also gave Probation the opportunity to decrease reliance on institutions and greatly enhance assessments to determine who can be safely treated in the community.

### ADULT PROBATION

# 350,000

Number of adult felons supervised by Probation - the most commonly used sanction in the criminal justice system



**80%** of probationers received evidence-based programs or services

### JUVENILE PROBATION

SINCE THE PASSAGE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT

**60%** decline in youth detention rates

**73%** decline in juvenile arrest rates

**74%** decline in DJJ institutional population

**90%** of Probation youth are supervised in the community

