

## County Notice of Proposed Operation and Description of Secure Youth Treatment Facility

*\*Submit this form to your assigned BSCC Field Representative\**

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 875, subdivision (g)(4) provides:

A county proposing to establish a secure youth treatment facility for wards described in subdivision (a)<sup>i</sup> shall notify the Board of State and Community Corrections of the operation of the facility and shall submit a description of the facility to the board in a format designated by the board.

Submission of this form serves as notice to the BSCC of the proposed operation and description of a Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF).

<b>Date:</b>	November 2, 2021
<b>County:</b>	San Diego
<b>Facility Name:</b>	Youth Development Academy
<b>Facility Address:</b>	446 Alta Rd. #6100, San Diego, CA 92158
<b>Intended Date of Operation:</b>	October 1, 2022
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Matthew Strickland
<b>Contact Person E-Mail:</b>	Matthew.Strickland@sdcounty.ca.gov

### REQUIRED INFORMATION:

*Fill in information on form or attach a separate document. If an operational program statement or other document addresses the required information, that document may be submitted as notice of proposed operation.*

Identify each facility that will operate as a SYTF.

Operating Agency (e.g., Probation Dept.)	Facility Name & Address	Facility Type (Juvenile Hall/Camp)	# of SYTF Beds
Probation Department	East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility	<b>Juvenile Hall</b>	Initially 24 + Flexible

*If existing beds will be converted to SYTF beds, please indicate by checking the box:*

Describe the juvenile population to be served by each SYTF facility in the county by factors including offense, age, gender and any special programming, such as sex offender or mental health treatment to which the facility may be dedicated.

San Diego County anticipates serving approximately 20 youths in secure youth treatment during the first 12 months. As of January 2021, there were 55 local youths from San Diego County in Division of Juvenile Justice custody. Most Common True Findings for the 24 San Diego youth committed to DJJ in CY 2020:

- 8 (33%) Assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury
- 5 (21%) Robbery
- 3 (13%) Murder
- 2 (8%) Assault with a deadly weapon other than firearm or GBI force
- 2 (8%) Voluntary manslaughter
- 2 (8%) Lewd act upon a child
- 1 (4%) Kidnapping for robbery, rape, spousal rape, etc.
- 1 (4%) Conspiracy to commit a crime

Demographics of all (24) youth transported to DJJ in Calendar Year 2020:

- Male (96%); Female (4%)
- Hispanic (54%), Black (25%), White (13%), Asian/Pacific Islander (8%)
- Youth transported to DJJ in CY 2020 ranged in age from 16 to 20 with an average age of 17.7
- All youth transported to DJJ in 2020 received True Findings for WIC 707 (b) offenses

**TO THE EXTENT KNOWN, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

<p>Describe the proposed or actual population capacity of the SYTF (ADP and maximum as applicable).</p> <p>If the county proposes or plans to accept commitments of SYTF youth from another county or counties, describe the capacity of the SYTF that will be dedicated or available to out-of-county commitments.</p>	<p>The County plans to dedicate two of the ten units at our East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility to the initial development of our local secure youth treatment program. If commitments continue at or near their current rate, we anticipate dedicating additional units to the program over the coming years. While each unit has a Board-rated capacity of 30, we intend to operate them as 12-bed units for this population. The resulting capacity would be 24 youths in the initial year, adjusted as necessary in the future based on the number of youth committed by the Juvenile Court.</p>
<p>If the SYTF is a unit of a facility that also houses detained or committed youth other than Section 875 committed wards, indicate which unit or part of the facility will be utilized as a SYTF.</p> <p>Indicate whether you intend to separate SYTF from non-SYTF youth in the facility, and if they will be separated, describe how they will be separately housed and programmed.</p>	<p>Units Golf and Juliet will be dedicated to this program in the first phase. However, other units may be utilized during the planned construction of upgrades to those units. The philosophy of our County is to house and program this population separately in dedicated units, each with its own education, meeting, and recreation space. However, we will be flexible during the initial period when there are very few youth committed and during construction.</p>
<p>Describe how the SYTF will be secure as required by WIC § 875 including any proposed modifications to achieve security.</p>	<p>The SYTF will be located within East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility, a maximum security juvenile detention facility which first opened in 2004. This facility currently houses youth awaiting transfer to DJJ and youth facing W&amp;I 707(b) charges. It is a highly secure facility as designed and will not require additional modifications to achieve security for this population.</p>
<p>Describe how the programming, treatment, and education offered and provided is appropriate to meet the treatment and security needs of the youth serving baseline and modified baseline terms under WIC § 875.</p>	<p>The County plans to use a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach to develop Individualized Treatment Plans with each youth. This MDT team will include the youth, their family, representatives of behavioral health, education, treatment providers, and probation. Treatment goals will be developed based upon the youth's assessed risks and needs (utilizing the San Diego Risk and Resiliency II, a validated assessment instrument) as well as the youth's own perceived strengths and input from their family. Prescribed services will include crisis intervention, evidence based and risk-targeted treatment, and pro-social development opportunities designed to build upon areas of strength and the youth's own interests. The goal of the treatment plan will be to enhance the youth's skills while reducing their criminogenic risk factors. Planned services include: Substance abuse education and counseling, Cognitive Behavioral Treatment and Moral Reasoning, Mental health support, Sex offender treatment, Anger management, Parenting, Education support, and Career and technical education and support.</p>
<p>Describe the staffing proposed for the SYTF, including staffing ratios.</p>	<p>We anticipate a ratio of one direct supervision officer for every six youths during waking hours, surpassing the national best practice standard of 1 to 8.</p>
<p>If the county will use or proposes to establish or utilize a less restrictive program to which SYTF-committed youth may be transferred by the juvenile court, describe the less restrictive program including whether it is operated by a community service provider.</p>	<p>The County and the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council are considering options for step-down and furlough of youth near the end of their term of commitment. These options may include the use of other existing facilities or options operated by a community service provider, subject to future procurement.</p>

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<sup>i</sup> Welfare and Institutions Code section 875, subdivision (a), provides:

- (a) In addition to the types of treatment specified in Sections 727 and 730, commencing July 1, 2021, the court may order that a ward who is 14 years of age or older, be committed to a secure youth treatment facility for a period of confinement described in subdivision (b) if the ward meets the following criteria:
- (1) The juvenile is adjudicated and found to be a ward of the court based on an offense listed in subdivision (b) of Section 707.
  - (2) The adjudication described in paragraph (1) is the most recent offense for which the juvenile has been adjudicated.
  - (3) The court has made a finding on the record that a less restrictive, alternative disposition for the ward is unsuitable. In determining this, the court shall consider all relevant and material evidence, including the recommendations of counsel, the probation department, and any other agency or individual designated by the court to advise on the appropriate disposition of the case. The court shall additionally make its determination based on all of the following criteria:
    - (A) The severity of the offense or offenses for which the ward has been most recently adjudicated, including the ward's role in the offense, the ward's behavior, and harm done to victims.
    - (B) The ward's previous delinquent history, including the adequacy and success of previous attempts by the juvenile court to rehabilitate the ward.
    - (C) Whether the programming, treatment, and education offered and provided in a secure youth treatment facility is appropriate to meet the treatment and security needs of the ward.
    - (D) Whether the goals of rehabilitation and community safety can be met by assigning the ward to an alternative, less restrictive disposition that is available to the court.
    - (E) The ward's age, developmental maturity, mental and emotional health, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and any disabilities or special needs affecting the safety or suitability of committing the ward to a term of confinement in a secure youth treatment facility.