



POLICY and ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Charter:

To develop and advocate for the implementation of legislative and administrative policies that reduce recidivism, improve public safety and social justice, safeguard the rights of victims, and decrease incarceration levels while providing accountability to taxpayers, protecting against costly liability, and reducing structural inequalities.¹

Policy Priorities 2012:

1. Develop Community Corrections System
2. Remove Barriers to Reentry
3. Reduce Incarceration Rates and Disproportionate Minority Contact

Along with the 3 central policy priorities, the Committee will continue to advocate for a greater community voice and role (includes community and faith-based organizations, ex-offenders, and other government departments in the Public Safety Realignment Team (PSRT), formerly the Community Corrections Partnership; and support adequate and continued funding from the state for reentry services.

¹ Based on ACLU Report, **Community Safety, Community Solutions** – Implementing AB 109: Enhancing Public Safety, Saving Money and Wisely Allocating Limited Jail Space, August 2011

Structure:

Chairs: Lynne Lyman, Geoff Henderson

Members: Brad Carson, Caneel Fraser, Cheryl Branch, Cherylynn Hoff, Emily Kugler, Greg Spiegel, Hanna Dershowitz, Jean Franklin, John Martin, Jorga Leap, Jose Rodriguez, Kimberly Wong, Maja Trochimczyk, Mark Faucette, Michael Castillo, Peggy Edwards, Susan Turner.

Meetings: Open, Monthly on 3rd Fridays at 11am at Amity

Activities:

Policy Positions – researches and determines support/oppose positions and related actions on federal, state, county and city legislation. Action Taken Includes:

- Federal: Sent a letter to Senator Feinstein regarding the FY2013 HUD Appropriations Act urging support for the Obama Administration's requested funding level of \$2.231 billion for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants in FY 2013
- City: Sent letters and policy alert regarding the Community Care Licensing Facility Ordinance.
- State: Reviewed over 50 state bills
 - Prioritized 25 for immediate action (will review separately)
 - Determined 16 to be of medium priority to take action on if possible
 - Determined 10 to be outside the scope of LARRP

Community Forums:

1. Sentencing Reform – cosponsoring the League of Women Voters Forum on Sentencing reform at Loyola Law School August 12th 9:30am-1:30pm.
2. DA Candidates Forum – cohosting a forum with ACLU (date TBD) for the two DA candidates that made it out of the June primary (Jackson and Lacey). The purpose of this event will be to both hear from the DA candidates about their perspectives on realignment and reentry, sentencing reform, alternatives to incarceration, etc. and for them to hear the community and provider perspective on these issues.