



News Release

Superior Court of California

County of San Francisco

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SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF ADULT PROBATION CHIEF

Imminent Recruitment to Hire New Adult Probation Chief

SAN FRANCISCO -- Patrick J. Boyd, a longtime corrections leader who has served as San Francisco's Chief Adult Probation Officer since July 2008, is retiring in January 2010, San Francisco Superior Court Chief Executive Officer Gordon Park-Li announced today.

Boyd is retiring after 37 years of experience in the corrections field – a career that began in January 1973 when he first worked as a Riverside County Deputy Probation Officer. Boyd's extensive corrections experience includes adult and juvenile probation; adult parole; Law Enforcement Assistance Administration programs; administration of community and institutional correctional programs for adults and juveniles; business administration; and executive leadership.

"I would like to thank the San Francisco Bench, Mayor Gavin Newsom and the Board of Supervisors for the privilege of their support for my efforts to deliver effective and measurable public safety services to the people of San Francisco," Boyd said. "I am proud of the dedication shown by the staff. Their compassion and professionalism are making a positive difference in our community, as well as in the lives of probationers and crime victims. It has been an honor to lead the Adult Probation Department."

Presiding Judge James J. McBride thanked Boyd for his many years of service and for his commitment to evidence-based practices, which the department will continue to pursue

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under Boyd's successor.

"Under Pat Boyd's leadership, the San Francisco Adult Probation Department is embracing the promise of the most progressive advances in corrections on the national level," Judge McBride said. "The San Francisco Bench wishes Pat well in his retirement. The Court is now actively engaged in finding a successor who shares Pat's commitment to evidence-based practices."

The Department is responsible for monitoring probationers and returning to Court those probationers who violate the terms and conditions of their sentence. This supervision is tailored to reflect the public safety risks posed by each probationer and is modeled after nationally validated risk/needs assessments. Probation officers identify the offenders' root problems and match them with the right treatment programs, which helps to reduce and/or eliminate additional law violations.

Over the past two years, the Department has begun the transition from a paper-based supervision model to a community corrections model, which emphasizes field-based probation compliance checks, cooperation with community groups and addressing the individual's issues that lead to criminal behavior.

There are presently 6,675 adults on probation in San Francisco, more than 84 percent of whom are on probation for a felony. By comparison, the national average is that 47 percent of adults on probation were sentenced to probation for a felony conviction.

The Department prepares and submits pre-sentence reports to the San Francisco Superior Court for most individuals convicted of a felony. Under state law, the department also is required to notify all victims of a crime prior to "all sentencing proceedings concerning the person who committed the crime."

The Court is initiating a recruitment process to advertise the position nationally.

San Francisco Superior Court judges are responsible for the selection and hiring of the City and County of San Francisco's Adult Probation Chief.

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