

**Dawn Roberson**

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**From:** Julie Fullingim on behalf of Sunset  
**Sent:** Monday, December 01, 2008 9:18 AM  
**To:** Dawn Roberson  
**Subject:** FW: Response to staff recommendation report TJPC/TYC

**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 26, 2008 2:27 PM  
**To:** Sunset  
**Subject:** Response to staff recommendation report TJPC/TYC

I am the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Randall County. I have been employed for 34 years as a juvenile probation professional. Please accept my comments on the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report issued on November 11, 2008 regarding the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and The Texas Youth Commission:

## Issue 1

## Recommendation 1.1 – Oppose

The Juvenile Probation system is not broken; TJPC works well with the local departments. Local governments put the lion share of resources into the system and local control is important. The adult probation system was not enhanced when a mega bureaucracy was created, in fact they feel they have been virtually overlooked in the operation of TDCJ. The newly appointed Executive Director of TYC has the experience, intelligence, skills and passion to turn TYC around. I believe that coordination and cooperation between TYC and TJPC will be greatly enhanced with her appointment.

## Recommendation 1.2 – Oppose

TJPC should remain as a stand-alone agency so a newly created board is not necessary. It would be appropriate for a Chief Juvenile Probation Officer to set on the TJPC Board.

## Recommendation 1.3 – Support with modifications

TJPC as a stand-alone agency should be responsible for this pilot project; however, the majority of counties are already providing services for the majority of TYC eligible youth.

## Recommendation 1.4 – Support with modifications

New money should be allocated to TJPC as a stand-alone agency to fund new pilot projects for expanded community corrections.

## Recommendation 1.5 – Support with modifications

TJPC as a stand-alone agency should be able to consolidate the funding passed through to local juvenile probation departments; the local departments should be able to decide how to spend these resources to achieve the maximum results for their community.

## Recommendation 1.6 – Support with modifications

TJPC as a stand-alone agency should help local departments develop strategies to determine program effectiveness; we all need to know how to improve our services and should be concerned with the results of our services. Technical assistance to improve programs that are not effective should be the first response.

## Recommendation 1.7 – Oppose

TJPC already seeks input from the field and that is sufficient for establishing funding formulas.

## Recommendation 1.8 – Support with modification

TYC as a stand-alone agency should provide more comprehensive information to the committing court; these youth will return to the community and information should be freely shared. At present juvenile probation departments provide much information to TYC, but receive little from TYC.

## Recommendation 1.9 – Support with modification

Randall County currently operates a TCCOOMI caseload. Modifications need to be made to the program

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to better serve youth with mental impairments.

**Recommendation 1.10 – Support with modification**

TJPC and TYC should remain as stand-alone, independent state agencies. However, it is important that they communicate and collaborate. Local post-adjudication programs must not be required to provide services to TYC youth. It is imperative that local decisions and control be maintained in local facilities.

Issue 2 – I will defer making any remarks on Issue 2 as that is a TYC issue and is not pertinent to local juvenile probation departments.

Issue 3 – I agree that TJPC as a stand-alone agency should develop standards and monitor all residential facilities that serve probation youth

Issue 4 – I will defer making comments on Issue 4 as I believe TJPC is developing the process to adequately handle abuse, neglect and exploitation complaints

Thank you for your interest in juvenile justice in Texas.

Jane Anderson King  
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer  
Randall County