

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 10, 2009

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Budget Shortfall Forces County Probation Department to Begin Layoffs

(Santa Ana, CA)—Due to an \$8.2 million shortfall primarily resulting from Federal and State revenue reductions and increased expenses, the County of Orange Probation Department will begin the layoff process for 58 employees (including six managers) on Tuesday, Feb. 10th.

"There will be 58 layoffs, however, due to our unique scheduling needs we will give notices to 100 employees who occupy positions that may be impacted," said Colleene Preciado, Chief Probation Officer.

The Probation Department will host an Outplacement Services Seminar for affected employees on Friday, Feb. 20th. Job assistance representatives will be available to help guide individuals into new employment opportunities. In addition, representatives from Los Angeles County Probation will be on-site to conduct interviews for vacancies within their department as well.

"The involvement of Los Angeles County Probation will allow employees to prepare application materials in advance and give Human Resources staff time to set up proper waivers and personnel files for LA County representatives," said Chief Preciado. "We are very appreciative of their willingness to reach out to our employees."

Services impacted by the layoffs include closure of the Youth and Family Resource Center (YFRC) in Westminster, leaving two YFRCs open in the community, and, through attrition, reducing 92 beds at Los Pinos Conservation Camp to a new capacity of 64 beds.

"During these difficult times, we are making the difficult decisions necessary to minimize impacts on the community we serve," said Thomas G. Mauk, County Executive Officer. "At the same time, we continue to work tirelessly to support every member of our staff affected by layoffs and seek alternative courses of action whenever possible."