

PROBATION ASSISTANT

DEFINITION

Under direction, to transport juveniles in custody to and from court; to transport juveniles in custody to group homes and juvenile halls; to insure that proper admission documents have been completed prior to admitting juveniles to juvenile halls and group homes; to supervise juveniles in the Special Purpose Juvenile Hall; to provide a variety of assistance with Probation programs; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is a specialized class for the Probation Department. Incumbents are responsible for the transport of juveniles in custody to and from court, juvenile halls, and group homes. They are also review documents for proper completion of documents prior to admitting juveniles in group homes or juvenile halls. In addition, they supervising minors in custody while the minors are detained in the Special Purpose Juvenile Hall and provide a variety of assistance with Probation services and programs.

REPORTS TO

Chief Probation Officer. May Report to Detention Coordinator or Probation Program Coordinator for some assignments.

CLASSIFICATIONS SUPERVISED

None.

PROBATION ASSISTANT - 2

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Transports juveniles to and from court, group homes, and juvenile halls.
- Has responsibility for security of juveniles during transport.
- Uses restraining equipment, as necessary, during transport.
- Inspects transport vehicle to verify proper operating condition and fuel levels.
- Supervise minors in custody in the Special Purpose Juvenile hall and maintain their security and well-being.
- May gather basic information regarding mental status and physical health of juveniles in custody.
- May gather appropriate data to cite and release juveniles to parents and guardians.
- Provides basic background information to juvenile hall and group home staff.
- Insures proper completion of juvenile hall and/or group home admission documents.
- Monitors child visits by parents.
- Calls and monitors defendants on house arrest.
- May perform drug testing.
- May assist with completion of monthly statistical information on holding cell use.
- Provides a variety of assistance with Probation programs and services.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; sufficient manual dexterity, strength, stamina, and eye-hand coordination to use restraining equipment and maintain control of juveniles; lift and move objects weighing up to 50 pounds; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is usually performed in an office, driving, and outdoor environments; sometimes works in varying weather conditions; continuous contact with staff and the public.

PROBATION ASSISTANT - 3

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Basic knowledge of problems and emotions of juvenile offenders.
- Restraining equipment such as handcuffs, belly chain, and leg irons.
- Safe transport methods and procedures.
- Basic knowledge of admitting procedures for group homes and juveniles.

Ability to

- Main responsibility for and carry out the safe transport of juveniles in custody.
- Use restraining equipment as necessary.
- Review and insure proper completion of group home and juvenile hall admitting documents.
- Evaluate situations and people accurately and make sound decisions regarding potential behavior problems.
- Maintain composure in stressful situations.
- Maintain and update accurate records.
- Effectively represent the Probation Department in contacts with juvenile offenders, the public, group home and juvenile hall staffs, and the courts.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.

Training and Experience: Any combination of training and experience which would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities would be:

Some previous experience in working with adult and/or juvenile offenders is highly desirable.

Completion of advanced coursework in criminology, sociology, psychology, social work, criminal justice or a closely related field is also highly desirable.

Special Requirements: Possession of a valid California driver's license issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Ability to work unusual hours or shifts as dictated by transport requirements.