



VCPPOA NEWS



VC Probation Peace Officers Conduct Informational Picket at Government Center to Highlight Supervisors' Lack of Priority for Public Safety

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VENTURA, CA -- Dozens of Ventura County Probation Officers and Correction Services Officers conducted an informational picket yesterday morning outside the County Government Center on Victoria Avenue. Citing chronic problems within the Ventura County Probation Agency, caused by a lack of proper priorities for public safety services provided by the County's probation peace officers, leaders of the Ventura County Professional Peace Officers' Association -- VCPPOA -- conveyed their longstanding frustrations about the lack of proper prioritization of probation services by Agency executives and County officials.

VCPPOA President Don Douglass explained to more than 80 probation peace officers gathered at the event that "Monitoring dangerous and violent offenders should not be done on the cheap!"

County officials continue to deny that recruitment/retention issues and the additional risks and responsibilities brought on by the State's Juvenile and Adult Realignment programs are negatively impacting public safety services provided to Ventura County residents and businesses.

VCPPOA members walked with signs reading "Keep Ventura County Safe." They were joined by a mobile billboard circulating the area around the Ventura County Government Center.

VCPPOA probation peace officers overwhelmingly rejected the "Last, Best & Final" contract proposal offered by Ventura County officials on June 25, 2014. Nearly one hundred VCPPOA members attended the July 22, 2014 Board of Supervisors hearing to urge County officials to take a more responsible stand in favor of a contract that would acknowledge the new challenges directly related to both the Juvenile and Adult State Prison Realignment programs. Yesterday's activities mark a significant escalation in the Association's efforts to draw attention to the County's lack of proper priorities for public safety programs operated by the VCPA.

For photos and video accounts of yesterday's informational picketing event, visit the association website at www.VCPPOA.org, or the Youtube video at http://youtu.be/9fVH4x_luL4

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