

The Superior Court

LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA

January 31, 1961

DRAFT OF A PROPOSED LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROGRAM FOR THE DETENTION AND TREATMENT OF NARCOTIC ADDICTS

The following is a proposal for a Los Angeles County program for the institutional confinement and treatment of a limited number of narcotic addicts selected through a pre-sentence investigation so as to include only those believed to be amenable to treatment. This proposal encompasses four undertakings:

A. The establishment of a camp or barracks-type detention facility which would be a part of the county jail system under the control of the Sheriff for the preliminary confinement of such addicts.

B. The establishment of a "half-way house" under the control of the Probation Officer.

C. The operation of a research program preferably under the direction of an outstanding medical school. Such research plan would be tied in directly with the medical staff in charge of the two facilities (A & B). It would enable the directors of the program to evaluate the effectiveness of various forms of treatment as a guide to the current and future operation of the project.

- (c) A representative of the probation officer, preferably one who will be closely identified with the Half Way House operation.

Such committee would review the individual's record, interview him, determine his suitability for the program, and would recommend to the Court whether or not he should be included.

4. The classification committee recommendation would be subject to the approval of the Sheriff, who, as the custodial officer, would determine whether or not the individual is suitable for placement in the type of institution proposed from the point of view of security.

5. If the recommendation of the classification committee is favorable, is approved by the Sheriff, and the Judge concurs in it, then the latter would place the individual on probation for a period of from 3 to 5 years. In such grant of probation the Judge might first impose:

- (a) A state prison sentence, or
- (b) A county jail sentence, suspend such sentence and grant probation, or
- (c) Suspend the proceedings without imposition of sentence and grant probation, as in his discretion the facts of the case might warrant.

6. The grant of probation would be conditioned upon confinement in the Sheriff's proposed detention facility for an indefinite period, not exceeding one year, but with

a minimum of from 4 to 6 months.

7. A medical staff would be employed to provide psychiatric supervision, group therapy, and counseling.

8. A release from the Sheriff's facility would be granted only upon recommendation of the medical director.

9. The Sheriff's facility would provide for a work, educational, and recreational program designed to be rehabilitative in nature, and would be under the control of specially trained Sheriff's deputies experienced in the handling of narcotic addicts. These would be hand-picked people who are sympathetic to the basic objectives of the program.

10. Whenever the medical director of the Sheriff's detention facility believes an inmate has recovered from his addiction to narcotics to such an extent that he is no longer a menace to the health and safety of himself or others and that such inmate is ready for the second step, such medical director shall file a report to that effect with the Sheriff and the probation department.

11. The probation officer shall arrange to remove such person from the Sheriff's facility to the Half Way House.

12. If the medical director of the Sheriff's facility shall determine at any time that any inmate of such facility has not benefited by detention and treatment in such facility and is not likely to benefit by further detention and treatment therein, or that he is a menace to the

health and safety of other inmates of such facility, he shall report such fact to the probation officer who shall return him to the court for a modification or revocation of probation.

13. Nothing contained in these procedures shall be construed to prohibit the Sheriff from removing an inmate from the narcotic control unit to a maximum security or other detention unit for security, disciplinary or health reasons. At the recommendation of the Sheriff such inmate may be returned to the Court, through the Probation Officer, for modification or revocation of probation. Nor shall any provision herein prevent the Sheriff from transferring to the narcotic control unit any addicted prisoner who is sentenced to the County Jail, without probation, and who in his opinion can benefit by treatment in the narcotic control unit.

14. The Half Way House facility shall be located in the community under the supervision and control of the Probation Department. A medical director and staff shall be assigned to such facility, members of which shall be in daily attendance at such facility so as to keep the inmates under close supervision and to provide continuing group therapy and counseling.

The Probation Department will provide intensive supervision of each inmate so as to be in position to control his movements, activities, and associates.

Each probation officer assigned to this work shall have a case load of not more than 30 inmates in order to permit him to work more closely with the inmates and help them solve their problems without return to narcotics. Job placement will be under the control of the Probation Officer.

15. The inmates of the Half Way House will be required to remain in residence at such facility although permitted such freedom as is necessary to become gainfully employed. Contacts with families, former friends, and associates, will be only as expressly permitted by the Probation Officer. Furloughs and leaves will be permitted only as authorized by the medical director.

16. Each inmate will be required to undergo frequent medical examinations. Anti-narcotic tests, and others, will be administered when indicated by the medical staff at the facility.

17. If the Probation Officer learns, or a medical examination discloses, an inmate has resumed the use of narcotics, such inmate may be returned immediately to the Sheriff's detention facility upon order of either the Probation Officer or the medical director. The Probation Officer, after consultation with the medical director, shall submit a report to the Court together with his recommendation for modification, revocation, or continuation of probation.

18. The inmates of the Half Way House shall also be subject to a return to the court at any time upon order of the probation officer if they commit any crimes, or otherwise violate any of the conditions of probation, in the same manner as other probationers are returned to the court.

19. While away from the Half Way House on leaves or furloughs, such probationers shall remain under close supervision of such probation officers who may order them to return to the Half Way House for the administration of tests or for further treatment or counseling, as may be indicated from time to time. Such close supervision shall continue until the termination of probation.

20. Recognizing that the treatment of narcotic addicts is primarily psychological, emphasis shall be placed on the promotion in the treatment units of an attitude in which the inmates actively support each other in their efforts to understand and overcome the problems which have induced them to use narcotics. The techniques to be used are those to be approved by the supervising committee after consultation with outstanding medical authorities in this field.

Every effort will be made for control and to keep former addicts from getting hooked again. Efforts will be made to secure suitable employment for them if and when it is determined that they are ready for it. They will be encouraged to support their families. As one of the condi-

tions of probation, control over the earnings of addicts shall be maintained during their initial periods of employment, with deductions made therefrom for support of themselves at the institution, the support of families, etc., in accordance with a plan to be worked out with each individual by his probation officer.

21. This county program is not designed to be applied to the criminally aggressive person with a record of law violations to which he has added narcotic addiction. For such a person, the only answer is confinement in state prison.

LOUIS H. BURKE
Presiding Judge, Superior Court