



Antelope Valley College
Social and Behavioral Sciences Division
Administration of Justice Program

Antelope Valley College- Admin of Justice -CTE- Advisory Committee Planning Meeting
Time: Jun 26, 2025, 11:00 AM

Guest List & Attendance

LASD Campus Safety AVC

- Deputy David Pine

LAPD

- Det. Mike Lambarth

CDCR Recruitment and Training

- Danny Royster - Regional Training Manager

AVC AJ Faculty Staff

- Carlos Pinho / LASD /R. BHPD
- Hank Price / R. Secret Service
- Argel Cardoniga / R. US Marshal
- David Harrison / R. LA CO Probation
- Leon Hudson / R. LASD
- Perry Jehlicka – Kinesiology Department

AVC AJ Adjunct Faculty Staff Active Law Enforcement

- Jorge DeJesus III / Active LAPD Sgt.
- Chadney Watters/ Active LASD Lt

Agenda & Discussion

1. **11 AM:** Meeting called to order by Hank Price

2. Hank Price opened explaining the purpose of the AVC Administration of Justice Program Advisory Meeting purpose. The vision of the program is part of a greater CTE mission to establish career opportunities and / or career advancement within the law enforcement job market and to a lesser degree support careers in the legal profession. This mission requires coordination and assimilation with local, county and state level law enforcement entities to ensure the program end product is in line with the needs of the invited entities particularly in the areas of recruiting, training and promotion. It was also noted that the implementation of any curriculum or content changes to the program and academic courses would require at least a year because of the standard approval process to modify a course within the California Community College system.



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3. **Introductions:** Participants representing different entities introduced themselves and their respective departments.

4. **AB992 Modern Policing:**

Hank Price shared the details from the State of California requirement for community colleges to develop a Modern Policing Degree Program as per AB 992 which supersedes AB89. Specifically, the bill pushes back the requirements set forth by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training as set forth by AB89 until January 1, 2031. The most critical of those requirements being that peace officers attain certain certificates or degrees within 36 months of that date. Carlos Pinho added that we have already met the Modern Policing AS degree requirement with the modification of AJ201 Modern Policing in Society to be taught this fall semester as well as the addition of AJ 220 Leadership and Ethics Course.

AVC in the planning stages of building a BA degree in Modern Policing but that is a much greater undertaking that ultimately will require significant approval, review and hiring. Carlos Pinho noted that the AJ Program is trying to stay one step ahead of the legislation and asked the agencies in attendance to keep us informed as they were allowed about direction they were given regarding education requirements as it related to their respective application, hiring and promotion processes.

The details and application of AB89 were discussed. Danny Royster, CDCR, Peace Officer Recruitment Unit in Sacramento, emphasized the point that Community Colleges are a “hot bed” of recruiting for CDCR and encouraged our continued participation in the CDCR outreach programs. He noted that the more exposure a potential applicant had to their prospective job, the more likely they were to be a good fit for the job and remain there for a full career.

5. **Health and Fitness for First Responders:**

Hank Price spoke about the development of our Health and Fitness for First Responders Program. The program was created to overcome common failures noted during fitness testing of new candidates to all law enforcement programs and to give applicant verifiable evidence of their long-term commitment to physical preparation. These courses include credit and non-credit courses which are listed as AJ111, AJ112, AJ113 and AJ911, AJ912 and AJ913 respectively. The Health and Fitness for First Responders Program courses are taught by Perry Jehlika who was the former AVC football coach and is an AJ Instructor and teaches mainly in the Kinesiology Department here at AVC. The courses are being expanded to include stress management, wellness, nutrition and how best prepare for a career in law enforcement and maintain lifelong fitness.

Danny Royster indicated that CDCR needs so many new recruits that they are effectively lowering the P-fit standards to accommodate a greater number of applicants. Detective Mike Lambarth, LAPD indicated that LAPD was losing almost half of its new hires between completion of the academy and the end of the first year of employment. Most of these are voluntary resignations largely driven by the physical intensity of the job. These issues were examined as a lack of preparation.

Detective Mike Lambarth expressed that many candidates lack the ability to deal with uncomfortable and stressful / confrontational environments. He also stated that in his experience dealing with new officers, they



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often have difficulty explaining what happened at the crime scene the detective was responding to. He suggested a course in expository narrative. Hank Price stated that he and Carlos Pinho were currently working on a pilot program with Norma Jones in the AVC Communications Department, Communications in Professional Organizations as well as a creating a new “Report Writing AJ 130 Course. Hank Price noted that report writing was also a target of his AJ205 Criminal Investigations course. Mike Lambarth added that police work in general is working toward crisis intervention and de-escalation skills. These are all central points that are projected to be included in the development of future upper-level bachelor’s degree courses in Modern Policing.

6. Community Engagement:

Hank Price stated that the AVC Administration of Justice Program is always looking for opportunities to engage with the community through or with the various law enforcement agencies whether recruiting students to the Administration of Justice program or assisting the various law enforcement agencies with their recruiting efforts and applicant identification. Greater community exposure will help us track with what the community needs from us as well as what law enforcement agencies require. Hank Price offered AVC Administration of Justice presence at any public events. Danny Royster expressed his continued efforts to get colleges to enroll in the COPS program and get as many students to tour “inside the walls” as possible. He was emphatic that this program leads to better applicants and said he would like AVC’s renewed focus in the fall. The details of this CDCR program were discussed. The distinctions between county and state prisons were discussed by both LT Chadney Watters, LASD and Danny Royster, CDCR. Carlos Pinho suggested AVC have a monthly “Law Enforcement Recruiting Day” that law enforcement agencies could send recruiting teams out to attend.

7. Campus Cadet Program:

Carlos Pinho spoke about the opportunities for recruiting and development of students through the Campus Cadet Program. He and Deputy Pine, LASD expounded on the value of the paid student worker program and gave examples of students who had progressed through the program from high school recruitment to AVC to their ultimate employment at law enforcement agencies. The program has been highly successful with former cadets graduating from the LASD academy as deputies as well as custody assistants.

8. Open Forum and Ideas from the Advisory Members:

- Danny Royster, CDCR spoke about the new “Athletes to Officers” program that targets college athletes as potential recruits. Coach Perry Jehlicka confirmed that many of his former players began careers at various law enforcement agencies after graduation. Danny Royster and Mike Lambarth agreed that athletes are a natural fit to a law enforcement career because of their physicality and training in confrontational and uncomfortable environments.
- Argel Cardoniga recommended that the Cadets be required attend the Health and Fitness for First Responders. He mentioned the lack of preparation physically and mentally of students. Deputy Pine agreed that physical fitness is a priority and that he agrees with the need to have them enroll and get prepared. The Certificate in Health and Fitness offers proof of their consistent efforts.
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- Carlos Pinho noted the recent changes in Financial Aid to students and student workers. As of only a few weeks ago, financial aid is extended only to courses within a student's declared major so non-credit courses or electives outside a student's major may no longer be covered. This is also going to apply to student workers who must be taking courses within their major to work on campus.
- Sgt. Jorge De Jesus, LAPD asked if there was a charge to set up a recruiting booth on campus and expressed an interest in LAPD coming on campus. Carlos Pinho said there was not a charge and that there had been no recruiting teams on campus.
- LT Chadney Watters added that after recruitment, background investigations were the biggest hinderance to hiring efforts and that backgrounds are where a lot of good applicants get lost. LT Watters suggested we incorporate a workshop on navigating the pitfalls of background investigations.

Closing Remarks:

12:03 PM: Hank Price thanked all participants for their contributions and concluded the Advisory Meeting.