



**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
AGENDA ITEM  
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

**Mindy Sotelo**  
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Supervisor

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Curro**  
Vice Chair -  
District 4  
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**Ashlyn  
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Probation  
Officer

**Bianca  
Esparza**  
Community  
Member at  
Large

**Jeanette  
Garcia Neal**  
Youth  
Alliance  
Organization

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**Item Number: 5.b**

**MEETING DATE:** 06/08/2026

**DEPARTMENT:**

**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** MaryAnne Aubin

**SUBJECT:**

Receive and Update from the Mission Statement Ad Hoc; Discuss and Adopt a Mission Statement

**AGENDA SECTION:**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

At a prior meeting, the Public Defender Oversight Committee reviewed a variety of draft mission statements, suggested revisions, and asked staff to provide revised options for consideration at a future meeting. The mission statement is intended to clearly define the Committee's purpose, values, and goals, providing guidance for oversight of the Public Defender program and related operations. Committee direction emphasized oversight responsibilities, exploring potential in-house program management, and including bulleted core values.

The PDOC established the Mission Statement Ad Hoc Committee to review and refine the Committee's mission statement for future consideration. The Mission Statement Ad Hoc Committee subsequently met and presented the following draft mission statement for the Committee's review and discussion:

**The San Benito County Public Defender Oversight Committee is committed to fostering a strong and robust public defense system that delivers quality legal representation, protects constitutional rights, and promotes public trust.**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Committee review, discuss, provide any additional feedback, and adopt a mission statement or provide direction on next steps.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

