

[Print Current Page](#)**KCBS**

[Print Story](#) [ShareThis](#) Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

Posted: Wednesday, 30 September 2009 11:20AM

Santa Clara Works to Get Kids Out of the Justice System



SAN JOSE, Calif. (KCBS) -- Santa Clara County supervisors have approved an overhaul of the justice program for juveniles, meaning that young people with minor offenses will be out of the system sooner.

[KCBS' Tim Ryan Reports](#)

"That's the goal, we want to keep as many children out of the system as possible," said Supervisor George Shirakawa.

A new matrix is intended to determine which juveniles can be safely diverted from the court system.

"We will quickly service those, and assess those kids who are in that 80 percent category, and get them quickly through the system, and they won't return to the system," said Shirakawa. "And with the other 20 percent, you want to deliver those services effectively, quickly, and efficiently."

Juveniles waiting weeks for self-help programs could soon see them within days. And probation officers with caseloads of more than 500 kids, should see those numbers drop.

(MGO)

Copyright 2009, KCBS. All Rights Reserved.

[Print Current Page](#)