



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

“Provide leadership for citizen action and promote an effective juvenile justice system.”





SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION - COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Mission and Goals

The purpose of the Commission is to act as public conscience for those who provide services to children, youth and families in the juvenile justice and dependency systems, and, when deemed necessary, to make recommendations for improving the delivery of services.

Legal Authorization

The legal authorization for the establishment and operation of the Juvenile Justice Commission is set forth in the California Welfare and Institutions Code, Sections 225 through 231.





JUVENILE DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION – COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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- ▶ To identify all responsible youth/juvenile diversion programs in order to evaluate policies, practices, and protocols. This may include pre-arrest, post-arrest, and post-filing diversion of prosecution.





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Why a Subcommittee?

- Discovery of gaps in diversion during the Commission’s yearly inspection of jails
- Net-widening effect rapidly expanding in San Diego County
- New data captured through the Juvenile Diversion Initiative
- Outdated policies and procedures
- LE request for more diversion options / accountability / training
- Voice of the people harmed lacking in diversion processes
- Sealing and non-disclosure processes





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LEARN

From justice partners and stakeholders.



LISTEN

To community (service providers, youth, parents, school professionals).

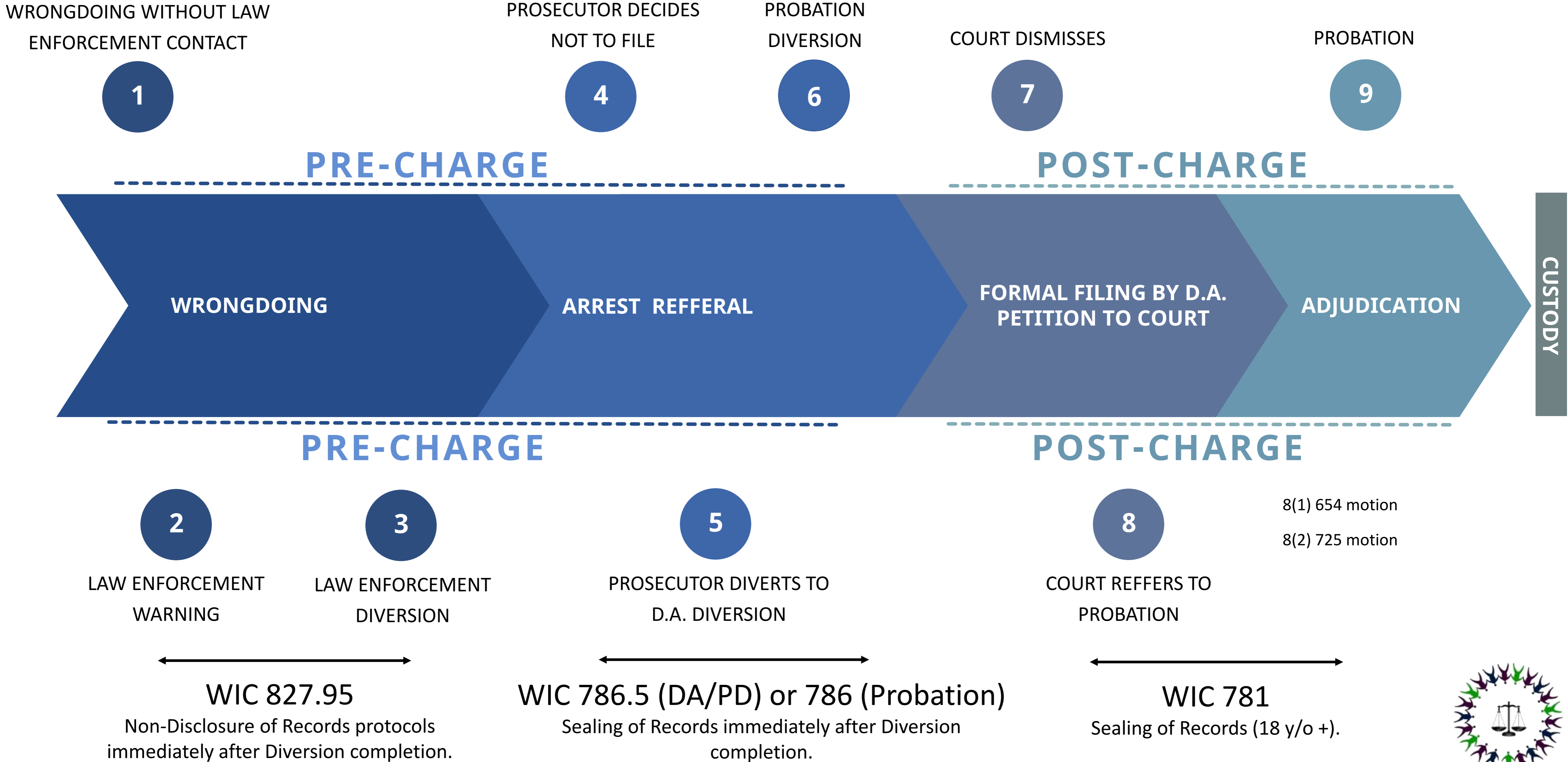


RECOMMEND

Provide recommendations that will improve the wellbeing of our youth and community harmed by crime.

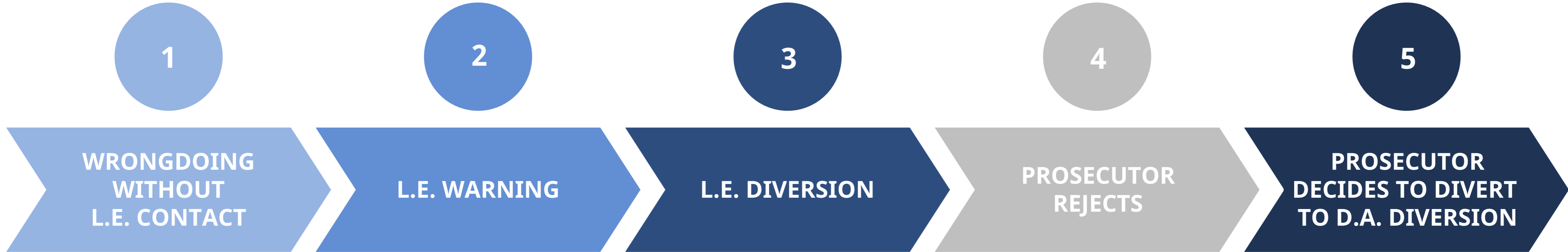


EXIT POINTS FROM THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM



EXIT POINTS AWAY FROM THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM⁷

PRE-CHARGE RESTORATIVE OPTIONS



Restorative programs at schools that address harm without expulsion or law enforcement contact. For example:

- Restorative Discipline plans,
- Restorative Conferences,
- Restorative practices that builds/mends relationships and community,
- Mediation services, and
- Victim/Offender Dialogue

Similar as exit point 1, restorative programs that address harm without further contact from law enforcement. For example:

- Restorative Conferences,
- Restorative practices that builds/mends relationships and community,
- Mediation services, and
- Victim/Offender Dialogue

Law enforcement makes the arrest and refers the youth to their diversion partners. For example:

- Traditional Diversion, or
- Restorative Justice Diversion

Note: These diversion options qualify for the immediate non-disclosure of records under WIC 827.95 or MOU Sealing agreements.

The District Attorney's Office decides to reject the case.

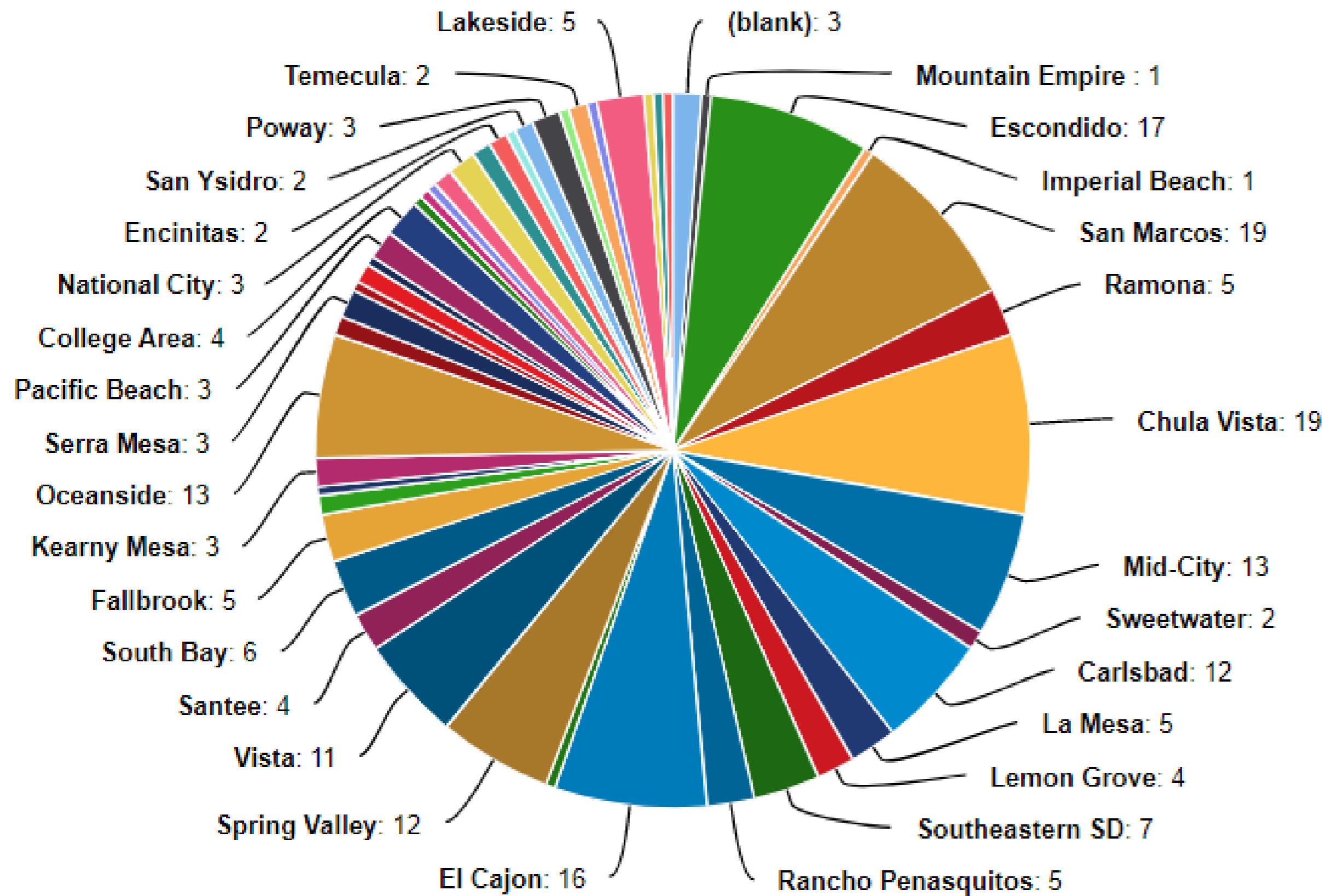
The screening prosecutor will divert eligible misdemeanor or felony cases to their diversion program. For example:

- Traditional Diversion, or
- Restorative Justice Diversion

Note: These diversion options qualify for the sealing of records under WIC 786.5 or MOU sealing agreements.

JUVENILE STATISTICS

Cases by Neighborhood
Snapshot November 2021-Feb 2022



Current Snapshot November 2021-April 2022

Cases submitted for filing of charges: 969

Cases rejected by DA: 232

Cases under review by DA: 166

Screened for prosecution: 580

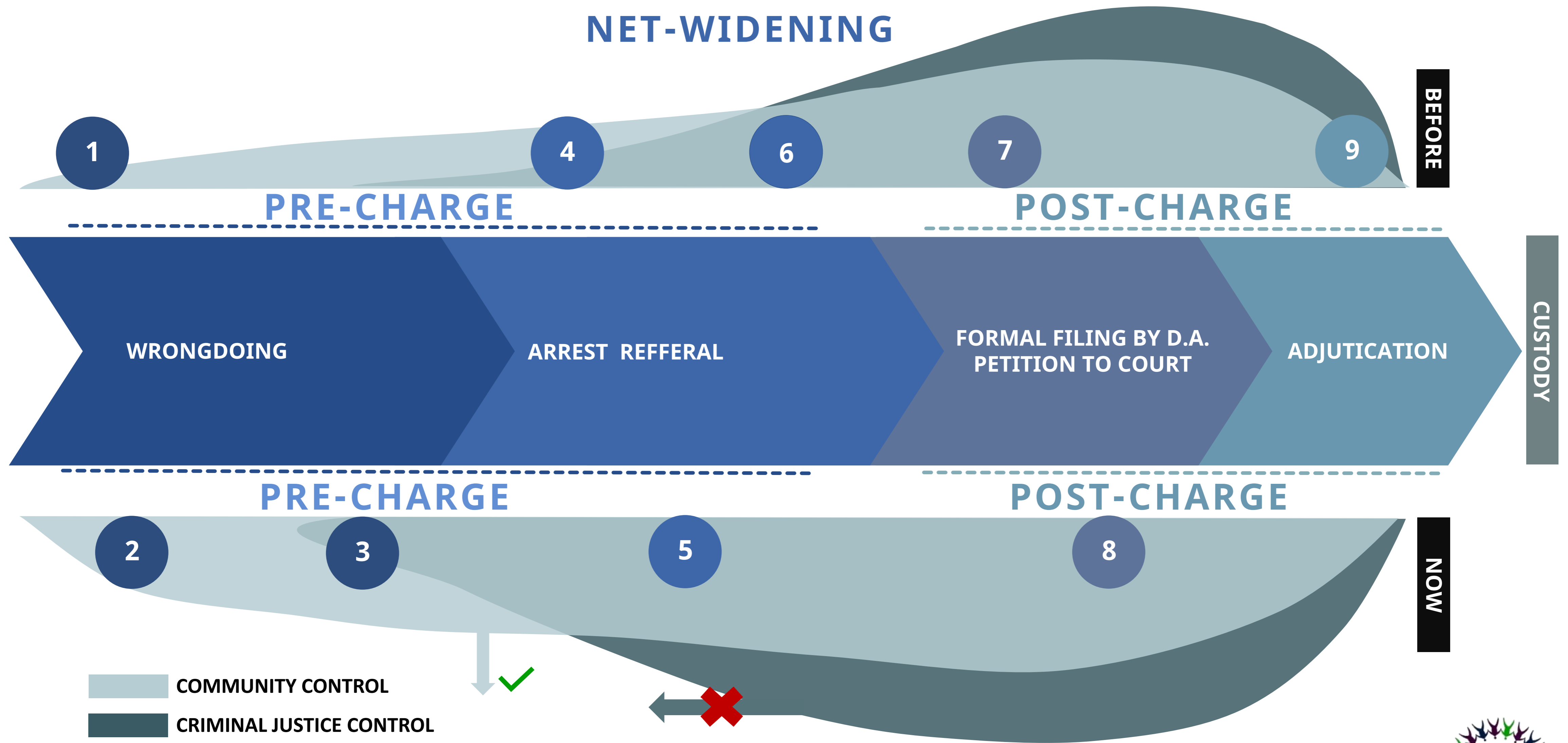
Cases referred to pre-charge diversion: 215

- 37% of cases the DA would have otherwise filed were referred to pre-charge diversion
- 69% of youth in JDI are low level to recidivate

*DA POWERPOINT PRESENTATION TO JJC MAY 4, 2022



SOCIAL CONTROL OF INDIVIDUALS



NET-WIDENING

SOCIAL CONTROL OF INDIVIDUALS

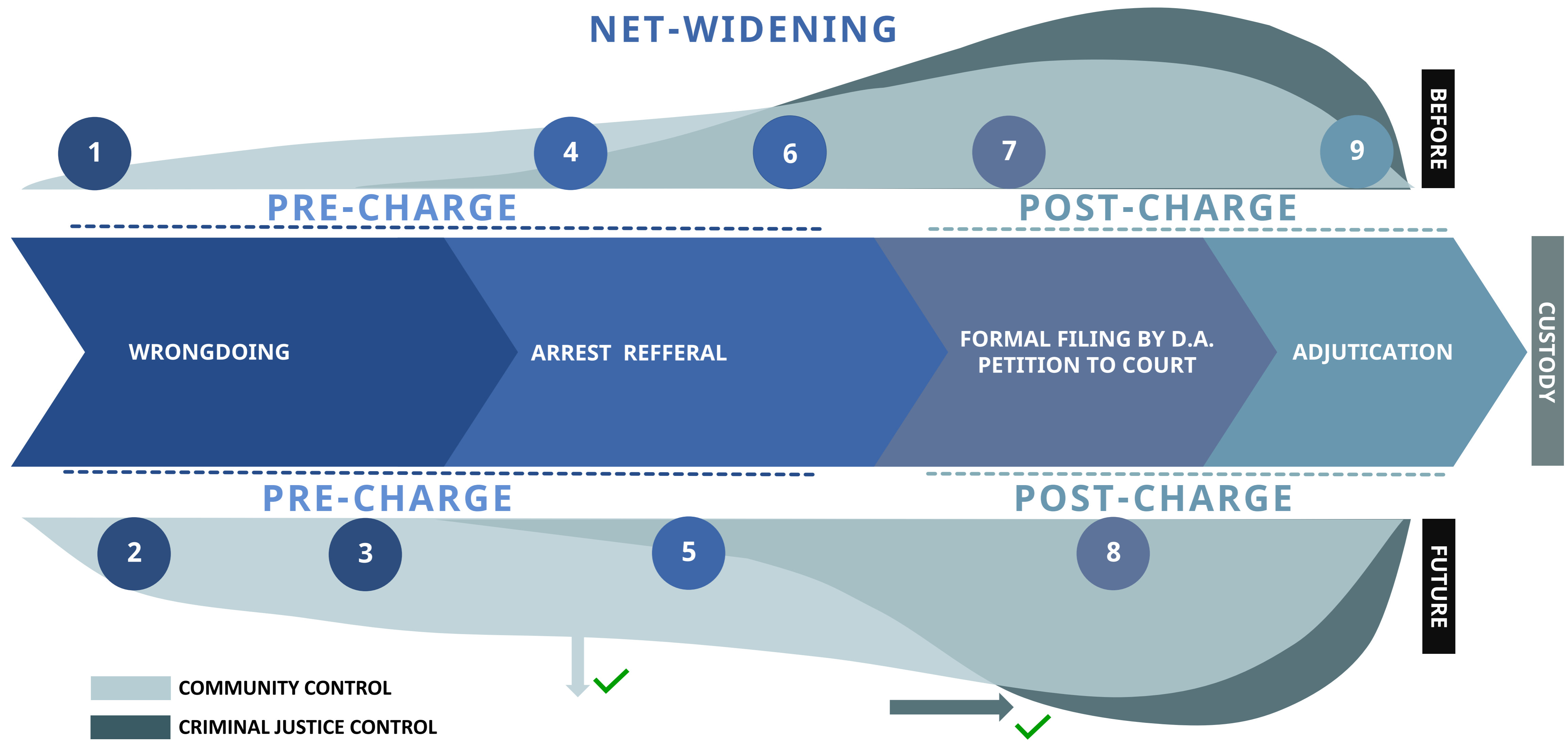
QUICK SOLUTIONS TO THE CURRENT NET-WIDENING HAPPENING IN SAN DIEGO:

- More Diversion contracts with multiple community organizations at earlier exit points to provide law enforcement with more options to divert youth with multiple needs and higher risks to recidivate.
- Policies and Procedures (Law Enforcement and Organizations) for the Sealing or Non-Disclosure of Records (inc. arrest record) when a youth successfully completes diversion.
- Policies and Procedures for screening eligibility – this helps avoid sending youth to unnecessary intervention, cherry-picking, and biases that can lead to the misuse of tax-payer money.
- Policies and Procedures for newly learned youth information by diversion service providers – this helps to avoid making community organizations investigative bodies to the justice system that can lead to the misuse of tax-payer money.



WHERE WE WANT TO BE

NET-WIDENING



RECOMMENDATIONS

SUMMARY

County:

- Spending package for community investments to address the impact of punitive systems on young and a potential transition to a more restorative framework using a phased approach.
- Establish an entity to assist schools and law enforcement locate new diversion programs.
- Establish a phased approach to redesigning the policies and procedure of the Office of Contracts and Purchasing to allow for innovative and restorative processes.

Diversion Program Administrators:

- Establish youth ran advisory councils that will assist in strengthening diversion practices and expanding services to the person harmed.
- Establish a form of communication with each referral partner to address positive and negative outcomes of the programming.
- Establish a phased approach to redesigning policies and procedures from an outdated case management process to a restorative model of managing cases.

Law Enforcement:

- Create new partnerships with community organizations through MOU's to immediately address the lack of diversion programs around the County.





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Contact us at:
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