

**BOARD LETTER – SUMMARY SHEET
HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER**

AGENDA REVIEW	2/17/16
BOARD MEETING	3/1/16
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	All
DEPARTMENT	Mental Health
SUBJECT	Authorization to increase the Contracted Rates for Temporary Psychiatrist Services Agreements for Fiscal Years (FY) 2015-16 and 2016-17.
PROGRAM	Department of Mental Health (DMH) Office of Medical Director
DEADLINES	Not-Applicable
COST & FUNDING	For DMH, the contracted hourly rates will be increased from \$200 to \$250 for temporary psychiatrists at Jail Mental Health Services (JMHS) Twin Towers and Century Regional Detention Facilities (CRDF), at an estimated cost of \$1,357,200 for FY 2015-16 and will be fully funded by 2011 Realignment, and/or AB 109 revenue. Sufficient appropriation and funding is included in DMH's FY 2015-16 Final Adopted Budget for this rate increase and the funding for FY 2016-17 will be requested through DMH's annual budget request process. Funding to cover the DHS rate differentials is included in DHS' FY 2015-16 Final Budget and will be requested as a continuing appropriation in future fiscal years as needed.
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	The recommended actions will allow DMH to increase contractor's hourly rates to a more competitive amount for temporary psychiatric services at the Jails and will enable DMH to have more success placing qualified independent contractors to work during critical coverage periods on weekdays and will also delegate authority to the Director of Health Services to execute amendments to the Department of Health Services (DHS) Physician Registry Services to increase the current maximum hourly rate from \$238 to \$250 for psychiatrist services to match the recommended increased DMH rates.
SUMMARY/ ISSUES (Briefly summarize program and potential issues or concerns. Identify changes, if any, to level of funding or staffing; how funding will be utilized and why best use; prior accomplishments; and for BLs involving contracts, also note changes to the	<p>Since July 1, 2000, DMH has utilized the services of contractors to provide temporary psychiatrists to provide mental health services to meet emergent needs when there are gaps in psychiatric services due to staffing shortages.</p> <p>Both DMH and DHS have experienced difficulty in identifying part-time, intermittent contract providers to provide services in County correctional facilities while recruitment continues for permanent County employees. DMH's current JMHS psychiatrist vacancy rate is approximately 29 percent including the additional fifteen new positions as recommended by the Department of Justice. The current temporary psychiatrist hourly rates have not yielded the number of independent contractors needed to meet the JMHS needs. With the increased contracted hourly rates, DMH expects to have success placing temporary psychiatrists to fill the critical service gaps at JMHS while continuing to recruit for the permanent vacant positions in JMHS.</p>

contract term.)	In December 2015, DHS received Board approval of a rate differential for contract personnel who will provide services in these facilities in order to be competitive with industry rates. The rate differential for temporary psychiatrist services equates to \$238 an hour, which is not on parity with the recommended rate increase for psychiatrist services under the DMH agreements. Therefore, the third recommendation in this letter is necessary for a consistent rate for both DHS and DMH.
DEPT. & COUNTY COUNSEL CONTACTS	DMH: Dr. Roderick Shaner, M. D. (Telephone No. 213-738-4603) County Counsel: Michelle Cervera (Telephone No. 213-974-1868)