

# Applying Collaborative Justice to Sexually Violent Predator Civil Commitment

## **Shoba Sreenivasan, PhD**

California Department of State Hospitals, Sacramento, CA, Forensic services division-SVP Evaluator; and, Adjunct professor, Keck USC School of Medicine

## **Amy Hoffman, JD**

Deputy Public Defender County of San Diego, San Diego California

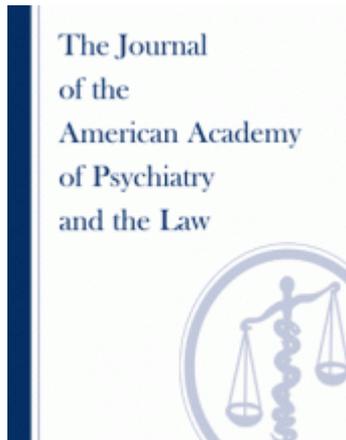
## **Allen Azizian, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology, California State University, Fresno, CA and Senior Psychologist, Clinical Operations Division, California Department of State Hospitals, Sacramento, CA.

- ▶ Background
  - ▶ Sexually Violent Predator Law
  - ▶ Current California SVP Commitment and Process
  - ▶ Rationale for SVP Collaborative Justice
- ▶ Collaborative vs Adversarial Justice
- ▶ Proposed Model for SVP Collaborative Justice
  - ▶ Parameters for Cases Accepted or Rejected
  - ▶ Potential Obstacles
- ▶ Concluding Points
- ▶ Question & Answer

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- ▶ **Applying Collaborative Justice to Sexually Violent Predator Civil Commitment**
- ▶ Shoba Sreenivasan, Amy Hoffman, James Cahan, Allen Azizian and Linda E. Weinberger
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# Overview

Sexually violent predator (SVP) statutes : post-prison indefinite civil psychiatric commitment of sex offenders

High cost of psychiatric hospitalization

Low base rates of sexual recidivism of sex offenders released from custody

Select SVP cases, a collaborative justice model of outpatient placement may be feasible in lieu of lengthy and costly placement in state hospitals.

Public concerns may be mitigated through high-control parole + additional treatment and controls, interim halfway house placement, and community prosocial support systems.

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Background

# SVP Laws: Overview

## Purpose

- ▶ identify small group of extremely dangerous incarcerated sexual offenders who represent a threat to public safety if released from custody.
- ▶ post-prison commitment (after term served)
- ▶ Indefinite period of civil commitment

## Post-prison commitment





# SVP Laws

- ▶ Washington first implemented in 1990
- ▶ Laws have withstood constitutional challenges (see *Kansas v. Hendricks*; *Kansas v. Crane*)
- ▶ Require presence of a mental disorder that predisposes the individual to a serious and well-founded risk for future SVP
- ▶ Most common diagnoses are paraphilic disorders; though ASPD also used
- ▶ Generally high standard for commitment (beyond a reasonable doubt)

Critics: SVP laws co-opt civil psychiatric commitment to incarcerate dangerous criminals (American Psychiatric Association Task Force Report, 1999).

McNeil Island SCC (Washington)



# California WIC 6600 (SVP law)

## California, Welfare and Institutions Code

### Sections 6600 through 6609.3

Criterion A: Has the individual been convicted of a sexually violent criminal offense against one or more victims?

Criterion B: Does the individual have a diagnosable mental disorder that predisposes the person to the commission of criminal sexual acts?

Criterion C: Is the individual likely to engage in SVP criminal behavior as a result of a diagnosed mental disorder without appropriate treatment and custody?

## Process

- ▶ Face-to-Face Evaluations (2 doctors, psychologists/psychiatrists)
- ▶ Case with 2 positives forwarded to DA
- ▶ Probable Cause Hearing: once the probable cause hearing begins, the person alleged to be an SVP remains in custody until that person is no longer considered to meet the SVP criteria
- ▶ Can choose to waive time to delay PCH- but housed in County Jail until PCH

## Current California SVP Commitment: Statistics

Since January 1996 to 2018:  
19,000 in state prison referred for SVP  
evaluation

2,216 found to meet the criteria  
1,585 sent for a probable cause hearing.

Of these individuals,  
Court found probable cause in 72 percent  
of the cases ( 1,141), and 949 individuals  
were housed in the state hospital.

Post PCH: 441 in state hospital mean 5  
years; 25% detained for approximately 11  
years

Reference: D'Orazio D: California in context: sexual offender  
civil commitment across the country. Presented at California  
Department of State Hospitals, Sacramento, California, August  
2019



# Why Collaborative Justice?



# Declining Sexual Recidivism Rates for released sex offenders

Nationally: drop from 14% to current estimates of 5 to 7%

California data:

3-year rates from prison release: <1.5%

5-year rates for parolees, low 4.4%



- ▶ California prisons released sex offenders: very low at 0.9 to 1.3% ( 8,942 sex offenders were released between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, and 3,313 between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013).
- ▶ 1,198 California sex offenders released on parole in 2009 and 2010 -sexual recidivism arrest or conviction; 5-year follow-up, the sexual recidivism rate remained low at 4.4 percent
- ▶ 371 released California sex offenders, 6.2% over 5-year period
- ▶ Sex offender recidivism by risk rate:
  - ▶ 30.3% or 10 of 33, Level Ivb
  - ▶ low-risk category (1.4% or 1 of 71, Level II)

# References

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Outcome Evaluation Report: An Examination of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2009-2010. 2011

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Outcome Evaluation Report: An Examination of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2011-2012. 2013

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Outcome Evaluation Report: An Examination of Offenders Released in Fiscal Year 2012-2013. 2014

Lee SC, Restrepo A, Satariano A, Hanson RK: The predictive validity of Static-99R for sex offenders in California, 2016 update. Available at: [http://saratso.org/pdf/thepredictivevalidity\\_of\\_static\\_99r\\_forsexualoffenders\\_incalifornia\\_2016v1.pdf](http://saratso.org/pdf/thepredictivevalidity_of_static_99r_forsexualoffenders_incalifornia_2016v1.pdf). Accessed December 10, 2019

Lee SC, Hanson RK, Fullmer N, et al: The predictive validity of Static-99R over 10 years for sexual offenders in California: 2018 Update. Available at: [http://saratso.org/pdf/lee\\_hanson\\_fullmer\\_neeley\\_ramos\\_2018\\_the\\_predictive\\_validity\\_of\\_s\\_.pdf](http://saratso.org/pdf/lee_hanson_fullmer_neeley_ramos_2018_the_predictive_validity_of_s_.pdf). Accessed December 9, 2019

# Low Recidivism in Released SVPs

- ▶ New Jersey: 102 released ex offenders, 6.5% years follow-up, 10.5% recidivism
- ▶ Texas: 1,928: 3.2% f/u: 2.25 years to 7.5 Years
- ▶ Florida released SVPs commitment: low rate of sexual recidivism of 10 percent (71 of 710 offenders ;
  - ▶ 4.5 percent rate of felony conviction for an average of 5 years
  - ▶ 6.8% 10 years; 6.5% 14 years
  - ▶ 3% to 4% in another study of 1,200 Florida sex offenders not recommend for SVP commitment
- ▶ Carr C, Schlank A, Parker KC: Review of Florida's Sexually Violent Predator Program Office. September 23, 2013. Available at: [http://media.cmgdigital.com/shared/news/documents/2013/09/23/09.23\\_svpp\\_report.pdf](http://media.cmgdigital.com/shared/news/documents/2013/09/23/09.23_svpp_report.pdf).
- ▶ Mercado CC, Jeglic E, Markus K, et al: Sex offender management, treatment and civil commitment: an evidence-based analysis aimed at reducing sexual violence. 2013. Available at: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/243551.pdf>
- ▶ Montaldi D: A study of the efficacy of the Sexually Violent Predator Act in Florida. Wm Mitchell L Rev 41:780–868, 2015
- ▶ Boccaccini MT, Murrie CD, Caperton JA, Hawes S: Field validity of the STATIC-99 and MnSOST-R among sex offenders evaluated for civil commitment as sexually violent predators. Psychol Public Pol L 15:278–314, 2009

## Low Sexual Recidivism Rates Among Released California SVPs

- ▶ 6.5 percent SOR five years post-release: 93 individuals after the SVP probable cause hearing but prior to civil commitment who were later released from the state hospital.
- ▶ N=399 average 7 years in forensic hospital prior to release, fixed 5-year rate about 6% sexual recidivism
- ▶ Lave TR, Zimring FE: Assessing the real risk of sexually violent predators: Doctor Padilla's dangerous data. *Am Crim L Rev* 705:1–137, 2018
- ▶ Azizian A, D'Orazio D, Olver M: Recidivism findings from California sexually violent predator commitment program. Presented at the Association for Treatment of Sexual Abusers Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2019



**LOW  
RATES!**

**New York:** SVPs with mental abnormality but not at threshold requiring inpatient confinement: 2009 report: 2.6% rate of sexual recidivism

**Texas:** also has an intense outpatient supervision process for those found to meet SVP criteria, sexual recidivism : 0.8% over an average release period of 4.77 Years

## References

- ▶ New York State Office of Mental Health: 2008 Annual Report on the Implementation of Mental Health Hygiene Law Article 10: Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act of 2007. 2009. Available at: [https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/resources/publications/2008\\_somta\\_report.pdf](https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/resources/publications/2008_somta_report.pdf) 11.
- ▶ Bailey RK: The civil commitment of sexual predators: a unique Texas approach. J Am Acad Psychiatry Law 30:525–32, 2002

# Civil Commitment Is Lengthy and Expensive

Length of hospitalization is years, not months

- ▶ California data \$250,000 a year per patient using (i.e., hospital operation cost divided by total number of patients in a given year) or a total of \$235 million each year

## Outpatient SVP alternative program

- ▶ Minnesota, New York, Texas
- ▶ Florida Settlement agreements post recommendation for commitment, permits community treatment

California has no alternative to inpatient

Average Hospital Stay prior to community treatment release is 10 years

CONREP: conditional release to outpatient treatment only after hospital commitment completed

Since 1996: 46 individuals release to CONREP: \$\$\$\$

Average yearly cost for one individual under SVP CONREP is \$653,000 (no state-owned housing, rents, security costs)

Reference: D'Orazio D: California in context: sexual offender civil commitment across the country. Presented at California Department of State Hospitals, Sacramento, California, August 2019



Offender  
diversion:

feasible?

limited diversion,  
primarily juveniles sex  
offenders

few jurisdictions have it  
for adult sex offenders

Pre Diversion prior to  
rare



# Florida settlement agreements initiated at the probable cause stage for those recommended for SVP commitment

- ▶ Stipulates to being an SVP to allow court to treat the offender as an SVP if they violate agreement
- ▶ Released to community, terms and conditions include outpatient treatment
- ▶ 140 with settlement agreements, 3.6% rate of new sexual offense ( 1 year to 10 years of follow-up)

Reference: Montaldi D: A study of the efficacy of the Sexually Violent Predator Act in Florida. Wm Mitchell L Rev 41:780–868, 2015

# Collaborative v. Adversarial Justice



# Examples of collaborative justice courts (adult)

- ▶ Community courts
- ▶ Drug courts,
- ▶ DUI courts
- ▶ Homeless courts
- ▶ Mental health courts
- ▶ Reentry courts
- ▶ Veterans courts

CALIFORNIA COURTS  
THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CALIFORNIA

# Collaborative Versus Adversarial Justice

## Adversarial Justice

- ▶ U.S. justice system remains largely an adversarial system of law
- ▶ One party against the other
- ▶ Wealthier litigants are better able to retain expert witnesses to assist in the presentation of the evidence,
- ▶ Imbalance has led some scholars to question the fairness of the adversarial system.

## Collaborative Justice: drug courts, mental health courts

- ▶ Promotes cooperation and team-based problem-solving between multiple parties: judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation and parole representatives, correctional personnel, victim advocates, law enforcement officers, and public and private treatment providers
- ▶ Coordinate judicial supervision with rehabilitation and treatment
- ▶ Extensive monitoring with goal of reducing criminal recidivism
- ▶ Managing the criminal defendant's behavior through treatment rather than punishment
- ▶ Link between mental health dx and criminal behavior

## *Diversion Court?s: Do they work ?*

Sarteschi CM, Vaughn MG, Kim K: Assessing the effectiveness of mental health courts: a quantitative review. *J Crim Just* 39:12–

Lamb HR, Weinberger LE, Reston-Parham C: Court intervention to address the mental health needs of mentally ill offenders. *Psychiat Serv* 47:275–81, 1996

Christy A, Poythress NG, Boothroyd RA, et al: Evaluating the efficiency and community safety goals of the Broward County Mental Health Court. *Behav Sci & L* 23:227–43, 2005

McNiel DE, Binder RL: Effectiveness of a mental health court in reducing criminal recidivism and violence. *Am J Psychiatry* 164:1395–403, 2007

Steadman HJ, Redlich A, Callahan L, et al: Effect of mental health courts on arrests and jail days: a multisite study. *Arch Gen Psychiatry* 68:167–72, 2011

Lamb HR, Weinberger LE: Deinstitutionalization and other factors in the criminalization of persons with serious mental illness and how it is being addressed. *CNS Spectrums* October 10:1–8, 2019, 2011

- ▶ Metaanalytic review of mental health courts (18 studies) suggested small positive effects in reducing recidivism and improving clinical outcomes.
- ▶ Increased utilization of mental health services and reduction in criminal recidivism

# Proposed Model for CA SVP Collaborative Justice



Applying Collaborative Justice to SVP Civil Commitment

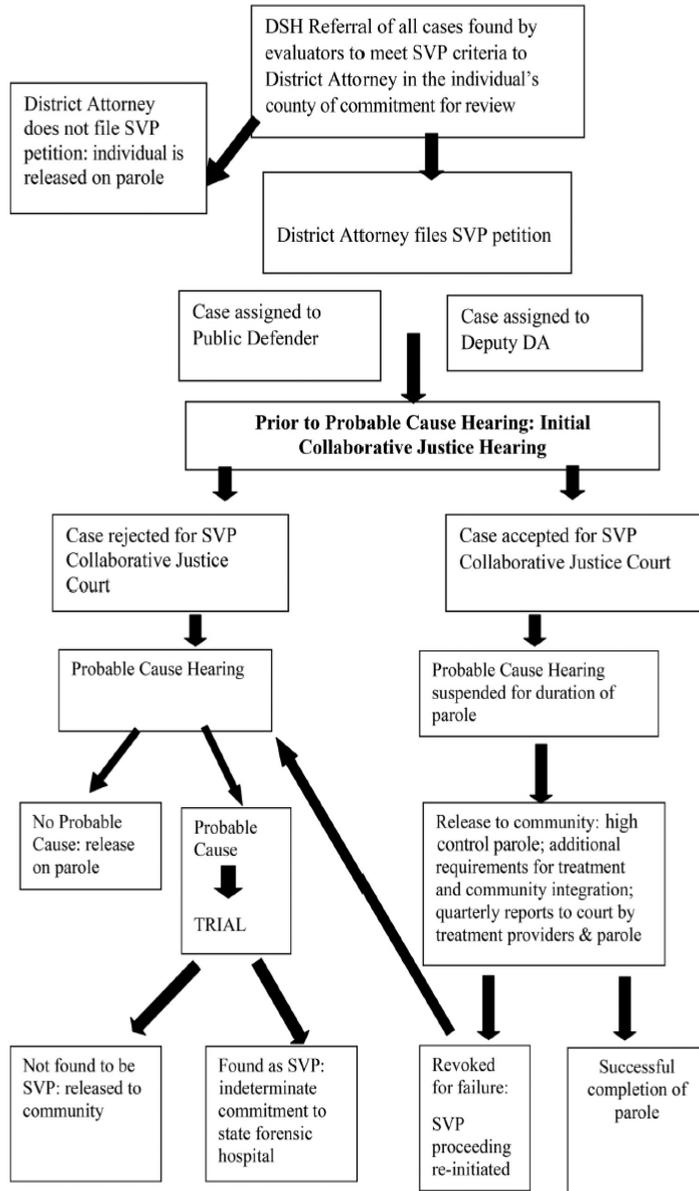


Figure 1. Collaborative Justice Model. DSH, Department of State Hospitals; SVP, sexually violent predator.

# Model Schematic

SVP PCH

Susp  
PC

Collaborative  
Justice

DSH Referral of all cases found by evaluators to meet SVP criteria to District Attorney in the individual's county of commitment for review

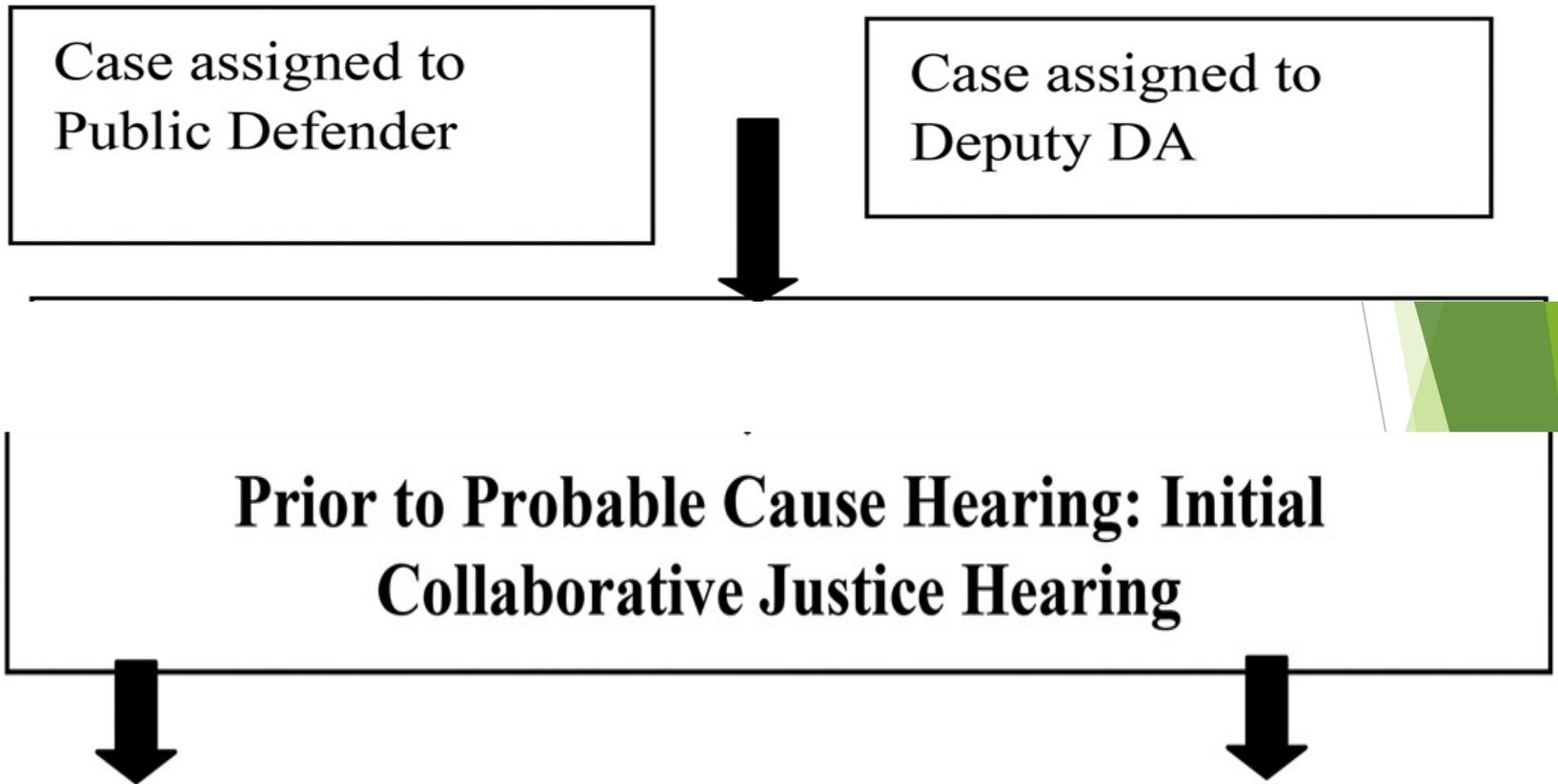
District Attorney does not file SVP petition: individual is released on parole

District Attorney files SVP petition

Case assigned to  
Public Defender

Case assigned to  
Deputy DA

**Prior to Probable Cause Hearing: Initial  
Collaborative Justice Hearing**



Case rejected for SVP  
Collaborative Justice  
Court

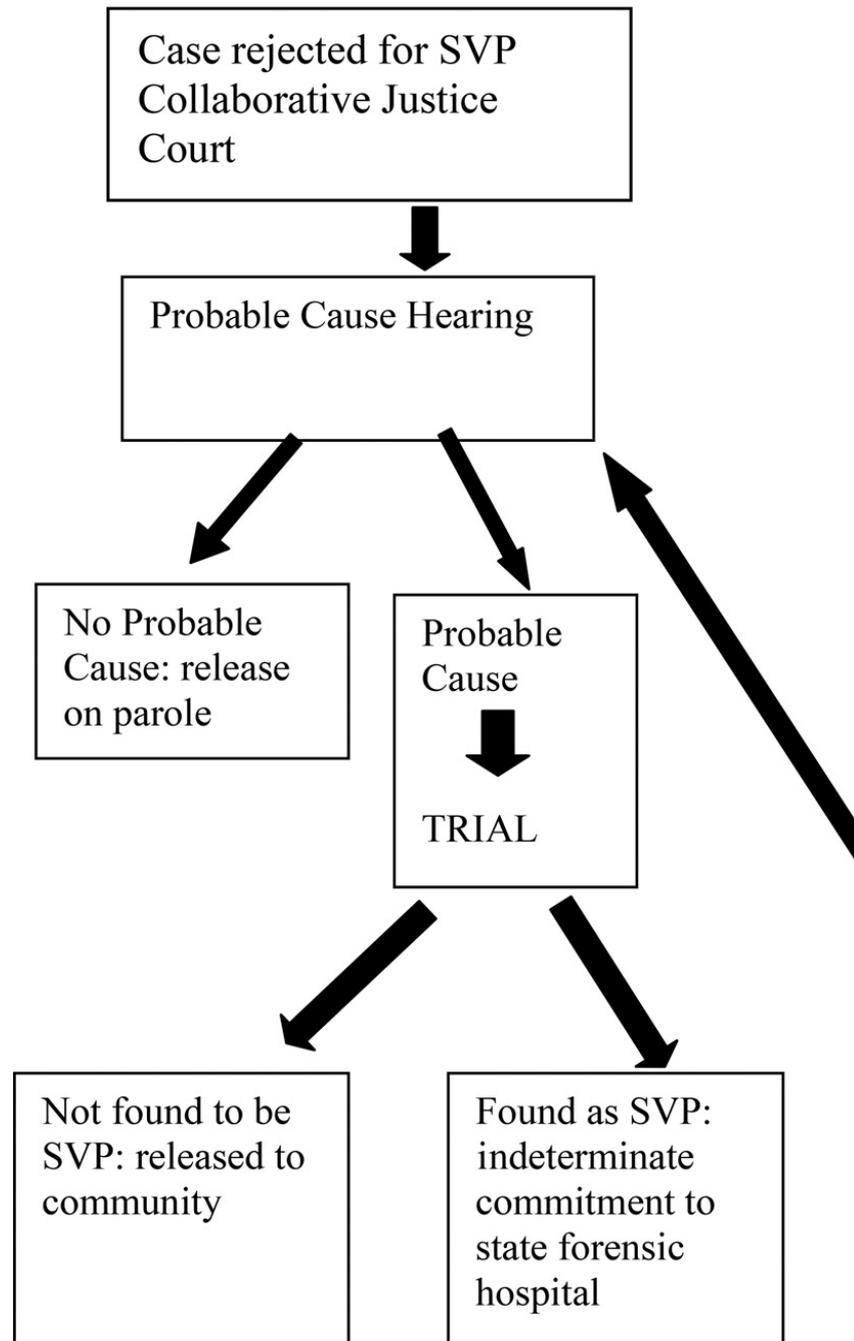
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Case accepted for SVP  
Collaborative Justice  
Court

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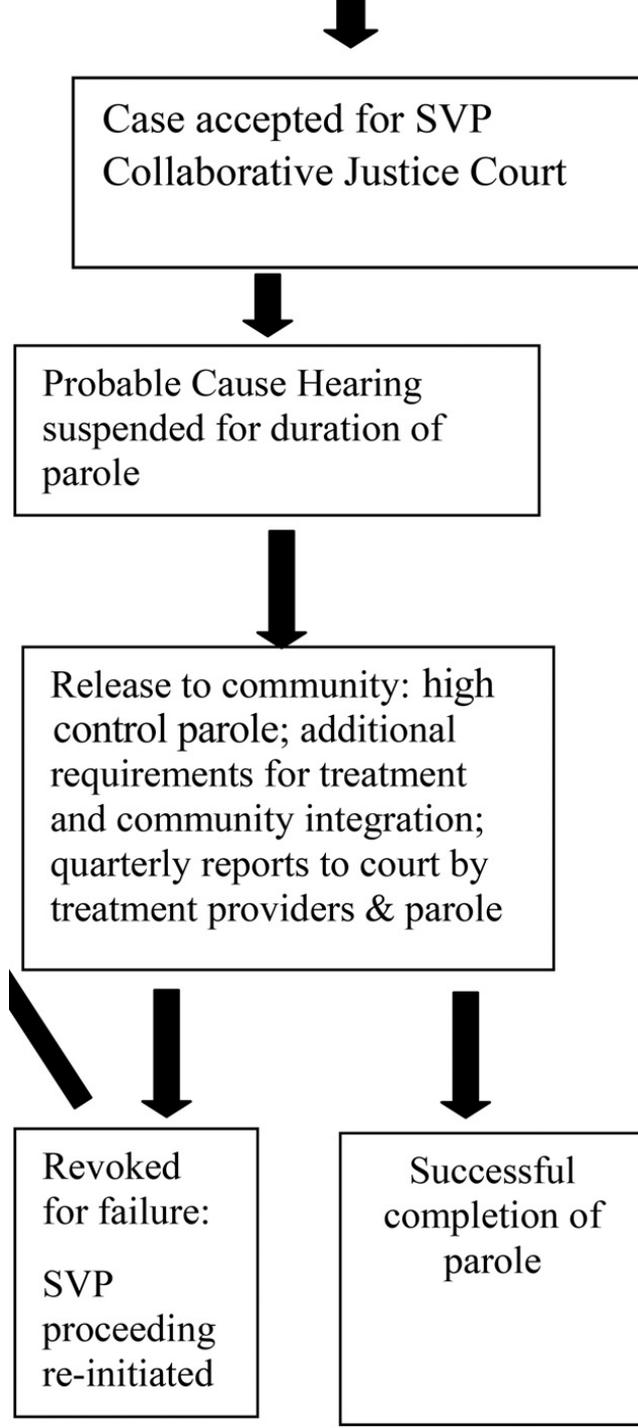


**CASE REJECTED  
FOR  
COLLABORATIVE  
COURT**



CASE ACCEPTED  
FOR SVP  
COLLABORATIVE  
COURT





Case accepted for SVP  
Collaborative Justice Court

Probable Cause Hearing  
suspended for duration of  
parole

Release to community: high  
control parole; additional  
requirements for treatment  
and community integration;  
quarterly reports to court by  
treatment providers & parole

Revoked  
for failure:  
SVP  
proceeding  
re-initiated

Successful  
completion of  
parole

# SVP COLLABORATIVE JUSTICE COURT UNDER MENTAL HEALTH COURT

SVP civil commitment predicated upon a diagnosed mental disorder, the SVP collaborative court is envisioned to fall under a county's mental health or behavioral health collaborative court system.

Parties could agree to good cause for continuance, and the process would not require statutory changes for implementation.

No statutory change to the law would be required to implement the SVP collaborative court.

Section 6602(b) Welfare and Institutions Code indicates that "the probable cause hearing shall not be continued except upon a showing of good cause by the party requesting the continuance."

# COLLABORATIVE JUSTICE TEAM



Judge

Deputy district attorney

Counsel for the respondent,

Representative from the parole board,

Independent forensic psychologists or  
psychiatrists experienced in sex offender  
evaluations (not DSH-SVP clinician)

Victim's rights advocates.

# *Release Conditions*

- ▶ Conditions similar to those used for outpatient management of individuals found to be SVPs in New York and Texas
- ▶ Parole conditions for high-risk sex offenders, such as interim halfway house placement, GPS monitoring, residence restrictions, restrictions against association with children, drug and alcohol prohibitions, curfew, internet restrictions, work restrictions, relationship restrictions, prohibition of any use of pornography, and polygraph testing.
- ▶ Other mandates, specifically participation sex offender and other psychosocial groups (e.g., anger management, substance abuse treatment, posttraumatic stress disorder treatment).
- ▶ Assistance with prosocial integration, such as providing opportunities for employment and development of appropriate social networks.
- ▶ Quarterly reports to court on the participant's progress and success in meeting treatment goals and objectives
- ▶ Violation of these conditions could result in a revocation of the collaborative court agreement and reinstatement of SVP court proceedings

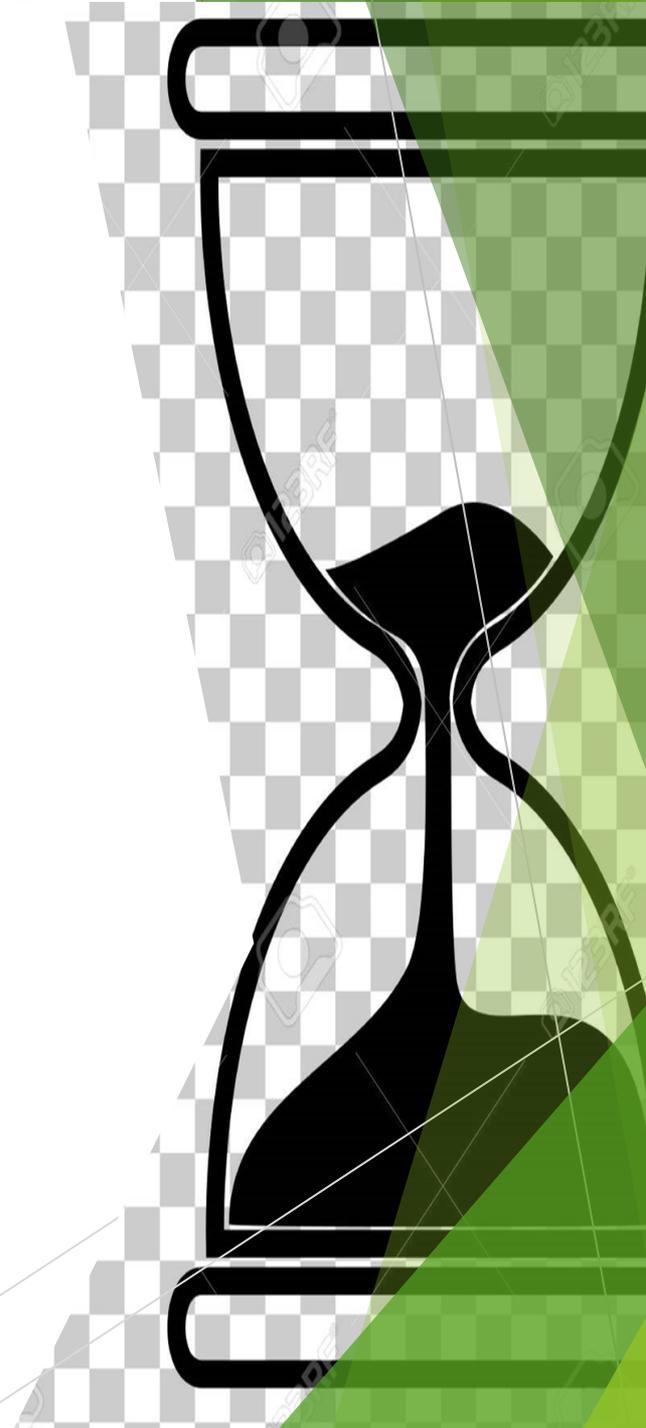
# Enhancing Success



- ▶ program flexibility, which would allow terms of the program or to be adjusted
- ▶ add or delete programmatic mandates based on the risk, need, and responsiveness of the participant

Pre-probable cause stage and  
therefore  
not civilly committed under the SVP  
law, parole  
is the only supervised release option  
ranges from three to 10 years

*Duration of Court Monitoring*



# Who should be accepted? Who should be rejected?

Sreenivasan, Hoffman, Cahan, et al.

**Table 1.** Parameters for Cases Accepted or Rejected for Collaborative Court

| Case Characteristics for Acceptance  | Case Characteristics for Rejection   |
|--|--|
| <p>One child or adult victim for qualifying offense where sexual conduct is not substantial</p> <p>Sexual history does not suggest preferential pedophilic or paraphilic interests</p> <p>Victim selection is not clearly predatory (e.g., intrafamilial offending)</p> <p>Age is a mitigator:</p> <p>Older offender (over 60) with long-term incarceration whose qualifying offense occurred 15 years prior to sexually violent predator petition</p> <p>Offender is young (e.g., 20s) with sex offenses occurring at age 18 and only nonqualifying priors as an adolescent</p> <p>Motivation for treatment with evidence of participation in sex offender treatment in custody or self-help participation in management of coping skills to address anger, depression, or substance use</p> <p>Sex offending occurred under intoxication, has engaged with in-custody substance-abuse treatment</p> <p>Protective factors of prior prosocial functioning: good employment, has social and financial supports</p> <p>Sex offending was situationally based, related to youth gang affiliation with no current history of such affiliation</p> <p>Offender special characteristics:</p> <p>Developmentally delayed, receiving government support, or offenses indicative of emotional identification rather than sexual interest in children</p> <p>Medical conditions that limit mobility or create short life expectancy</p> <p>Offense characteristics or history:</p> <p>Offender's current offense is not sexual; offender has been in community for extended period without sexual offending</p> <p>Sexual offense is remote</p> <p>History of one adult or child qualifying victim with more recent history of noncontact sexual offenses</p> | <p>Multiple child or adult victims with substantial sexual conduct; sexually sadistic crimes against adult or child victims</p> <p>Sexual history suggests entrenched, preferential sexual interest in children or sadistic or coercive contact with adults</p> <p>Victim selection:</p> <p>Clear predatory pattern: targeting strangers, kidnap or abduction involved</p> <p>Targets particularly vulnerable victims: elderly, toddlers/infants (neophilia), or persons with disabilities</p> <p>Age is not a mitigator:</p> <p>Older offender (over 60) with last sexual offense occurring in an older age bracket</p> <p>Young offender (e.g., 20s) with a pattern of adolescent and early adulthood qualifying prior sexual offenses; trajectory of victim choice suggests sexual deviance</p> <p>Little or no evidence of positive programming in custody; poor impulse control in custodial setting, such as drug use, sexual acting out, or violence toward others</p> <p>Sex offending occurred under intoxication and with evidence of in-custody use of substances</p> <p>Protective factors absent; history of antisocial functioning, poor employment, negative influences as social support (e.g., gang), no financial support</p> <p>Offense analog behaviors, such as habitual involvement in sexually deviant activities in custody (e.g., coercive sexual contact, child materials or pictures, stalking staff for sexual contact) or distributes or makes sexually explicit drawings, narratives, or photos</p> <p>Offender special characteristics:</p> <p>Lack of compliance with authority in custody setting; multiple rules violations with anger or aggression indicative of a pattern of defiance toward authority</p> <p>Medical conditions that do not limit mobility or, if they do, offender has previously sexually acted out despite conditions</p> <p>Offense characteristics or history:</p> <p>History of new sex crimes committed while on parole</p> <p>Sexual offense pattern reflects trajectory of increasing sexual aggression and predatory behavior</p> <p>Offender has wide range of victims (e.g., adults and children, males and females) and broad sexual deviance</p> |

paroled offenders, both general and sexual.<sup>60</sup> There are many restrictions placed on sex offenders that

children may congregate could contribute to homelessness and inadvertently increase the risk to

# Case characteristics for rejection

- ▶ Multiple hands-on offenses, such as rape and child sexual molestation
- ▶ Sexual hx entrenched/deviant preference, sadistic
- ▶ Victim pattern clearly predatory
- ▶ Targets particularly vulnerable victims: elderly, toddlers/infants (neophilia), or persons with disabilities
- ▶ Age not a mitigator
- ▶ Older offender >60 with last sexual offense occurring in an older age bracket
- ▶ Young offender (e.g., 20s) with a pattern of adolescent and early adulthood qualifying prior sexual offenses; trajectory of victim choice suggests sexual deviance
- ▶ Little or no evidence of positive programming in custody; poor impulse control in custodial setting
- ▶ Sex offending occurred under intoxication and with evidence of in-custody use of substances
- ▶ Protective factors absent; history of antisocial functioning, poor employment, negative influences as social support (e.g., gang), no financial support
- ▶ Offense analog behaviors, in custody (e.g., coercive sexual contact, child materials or pictures, stalking staff for sexual contact)
- ▶ Lack of compliance with authority in custody setting
- ▶ Medical conditions that do not limit mobility
- ▶ History of new sex crimes committed while on parole
- ▶ Sexual offense pattern reflects trajectory of increasing sexual aggression and predatory behavior
- ▶ Offender has wide range of victims (e.g., adults and children, males
- ▶ and females) and broad sexual deviance

# Case characteristics for acceptance

- ▶ One child or adult victim for qualifying offense where sexual conduct not substantial
- ▶ Sexual history does not suggest preferential pedophilic or paraphilic interests
- ▶ Victim selection is not clearly predatory (e.g., intrafamilial offending)
- ▶ Age is a mitigator: Age is not a mitigator:
- ▶ Older offender > 60 with long-term incarceration; offense occurred 15 or more years prior to SVP petition
- ▶ Younger offender (20s) sex offense occurred at 18; nonqual as adolescent
- ▶ Motivation for treatment with evidence of participation in sex offender treatment in custody or self-help participation management of coping skills to address anger, depression, or substance use
- ▶ Sex offending occurred under intoxication, has engaged with in-custody substance-abuse treatment
- ▶ Protective factors of prior prosocial functioning: good employment, has social and financial supports
- ▶ Sex offending was situationally based, related to youth gang affiliation with no current history of such affiliation
- ▶ Offender special characteristics:
  - Developmentally delayed, receiving government support, or offenses indicative of emotional identification rather than sexual interest in children
  - Medical conditions that limit mobility or create short life expectancy
- ▶ Offense characteristics or history:
  - Offender's current offense is not sexual; offender has been in community for extended period without sexual offending
  - Sex offending remote
  - Hx adult or child qualifying victim with more recent history of noncontact sexual offenses

# Protective Factors

- ▶ Engaging in daily prosocial and structured activity, should be a benchmark
- ▶ Community resource that can facilitate a healthy stable environment:
- ▶ Military veterans: Veterans Health Care System may provide access to housing, mental health, medical treatment, and employment opportunities that can enhance community reintegration
- ▶ Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) :
  - ▶ systematic review of 15 studies participation in COSA helped offenders with community readjustment, such as engaging in prosocial activities and employment.
  - ▶ Short follow-up and low base rate of sexual recidivism, so couldn't assess COSA's impact in reducing sexual recidivism
- ▶ Reference: Clarke M, Brown S, Völlm B: Circles of support and accountability for sex offenders: a systematic review of outcomes. *Sex Abuse* 29:446–78, 2017

- ▶ Therapeutic alliance enhances successful and safe reintegration of the individual into society
- ▶ For therapeutic alliance to be formed, information disclosed by the client needs to remain confidential.
- ▶ Use guidelines developed by state sex offender management boards offer a useful template in addressing how information learned within treatment during parole and probation periods cannot be used for further criminal prosecution

# What if information disclosed enhances risk?



Collaborative justice team works together to make modifications necessary to ensure public safety without hindering progress made in treatment

# Potential Obstacles to Implementation of SVP Collaborative Court



- ▶ *Public Protest*
- ▶ *Prosecutors' Incentive to Negotiate*
- ▶ *Respondent Objections*

Collaborative Court, in select cases, could save money and protect public safety

California has one of the largest number of individuals under SVP civil commitment

Indefinite nature makes it an expensive program

Small number referred by DSH to district attorney's offices 50 in 2018, 49 in 2019

Could be subsumed under each County's existing mental health court

- ▶ Example: San Diego County, could be under Behavioral Health Court
- ▶ Cost 2018-2019: 120 participants, about \$15,600 per person per year
- ▶ Versus:
- ▶ Hospital cost= \$250,000 per person per year
- ▶ CONREP= \$633,000 per person per year

# Questions

The image features the word "Questions" in a large, bold, red 3D font, centered horizontally. It is surrounded by numerous grey 3D question marks of varying sizes and orientations, some in the foreground and others blurred in the background. The entire scene is set against a white background with a soft shadow beneath the text. On the right side, there is a decorative green geometric border composed of overlapping translucent shapes in various shades of green.