



# COUNTY OF YOLO

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## Chief Probation Officer Appointed

**(Woodland, CA)** – Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike McGowan today announced the appointment of Marjorie Rist as Yolo County’s Chief Probation Officer. Most recently, Ms. Rist has been serving as Interim Chief Probation Officer, taking on the responsibilities of former Chief Probation Officer Don Meyer, who was appointed to the same position with Sacramento County in August, 2009.

“Ms. Rist has served us well since 2004. Our decision to appoint her Chief Probation Officer was unanimous and enthusiastic,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike McGowan. “She has demonstrated her abilities to lead as Interim Chief and rose to the top in our search to hire a new Chief Probation Officer. We are pleased to have her continued leadership.”

Ms. Rist began her tenure with Yolo County in 2004 as Assistant Juvenile Hall Superintendent. In 2006, she was promoted to Juvenile Division Manager and in March 2009, promoted to Assistant Chief Probation Officer. Prior to her tenure with Yolo County, Ms. Rist worked for Butte County also in the field of probation. Ms. Rist received her bachelor degree in management from St. Mary’s College of California.

Of note, since her appointment as Interim Chief Probation Officer, the Yolo County Probation Department was awarded a Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant award in the amount of \$2,692,181, in large part due to Ms. Rist’s efforts in pursuing the grant. Byrne Memorial Competitive Grants are American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. The grant will fund nine probation officers for a two-year period to implement an innovative program designed by Marjorie Rist and former Chief Probation Officer Don Meyer, and supported by the Sheriff, District Attorney and Public Defender. The program will employ the use of a standardized, evidence-based, risk assessment instrument to safely release low-risk offenders into the community, while they are pending trial. A majority of the funded officers will work in the community supervising those who have been released, some of whom will be supervised with the assistance of electronic monitoring technology.

“I was pleased to hear the announcement of Marjorie Rist’s appointment as Chief Probation Officer of Yolo County,” said Don Meyer, Sacramento County Chief Probation Officer. “Most noteworthy in my time working with Ms. Rist, is that through her efforts, the Yolo County Probation Department implemented evidence-based programs that have resulted in reduced recidivism amongst offenders, thereby enhancing public safety and reducing the financial and emotional costs to victims associated with continued criminal acts by repeat offenders. Yolo County is fortunate to have her expertise.”

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