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**STATE OF DELAWARE**

# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL**

**STATE OFFICE BUILDING – 10th FLOOR**

**820 FRENCH STREET**

**WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801**

**Summary Minutes**

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**

**Wednesday, February 24, 2016**

**2:00PM -3:15 PM**

**DSCYF, Main Administration Building**

**Conference Room 199**

**Committee Members:** Michael Arrington, Esq. (chair), John Sadowski (DOE), Dr. Tim Brandau (Child, Inc.), Lisa Minutola, Esq.(ODS), Director Nancy Dietz, Donna Pugh and Bianca Aldegon (DYRS) , Director Shirley Roberts (DFS), LaKresha Roberts, Esq.(DOJ), Hon. Michael Newell and Carrie Hyla (Family Court), Trish Davies (NCCPD), Major Kevin Bordley (DSP).

**CJC and SAC Staff:** Terica Jones, Chris Kervick, Scott McLaren, Stacey Paoli, Daniella Spitelli, Stacy Edwards, Brie Gannon and Philisa Weidlein-Crist

**Public Attendees:** Tim Collins

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

1. **Smart on Juvenile Justice Access Program Overview**

Program Coordinator Stacey Paoli gave an overview of this planning grant and informed JJAG of a March 18th Advisory Committee meeting. This is a one year planning grant with an opportunity for later implementation funding. A strategic plan will be completed by June to allow the state to complete for the additional funds.

The goal of this grant is to target possible strategic reform in 6 target areas: Decreased waiver of counsel, Increased representation at initial detention hearings, Established post-disposition legal services to address collateral and civil consequences, Reduction of disproportionate minority confinement, Institutionalized specialized juvenile defense practice and training programs and Examination of policies and laws for transfer given research on adolescent brain development.

1. **Juvenile Civil Citation Program Update**

Program Coordinator Donna Pugh updated JJAG on the program. She provided a handout detailing the youth served in the final 3 months of 2015 and informed us that 40 youth were referred as of the date of the meeting in 2016. The program initially started with the school resource officers and as of January 2016 went live with all police departments on LEISS.

This is a 90 day program with an opportunity for a 30 day extension for youth struggling to complete their community service requirements. There have been some barriers/challenges identified. The possibility for program extension as well as the assignment of an intern to call participants to do the pre/post surveys has assisted to combat some of those challenges. The apology letter requirement has been modified to first include a one page restorative justice worksheet prior to the completion of a community impact statement.

The Possession of marijuana with aggravating factors has been added as an eligible charge for the program. Additional charges will continue to be discussed with the DOJ. In addition, the discussion regarding eligibility with youth with a prior arrest will continue as well. The JJAG has requested a racial breakdown for successful program completers. This will help with determining any disproportionate minority contact impact. Thus far, there have been more referrals in Kent and Sussex than New Castle counties.

During the first week of April, a delegation from Delaware will be returning to Florida to see Civil Citation sites in 2 different counties. In addition, the program coordinator will be presenting at the Police Chiefs Council’s annual meeting in May.

1. **FFY2015 Title II Prevention Funding**

The availability of $264,300 for new programs was discussed. The JJAG decided to release a solicitation requesting concept papers open to non-profits and state agencies. The committee specified that they plan to fund 2 or more programs.

1. **Legislative Discussion**

Discussion of numerous bills including: HB 62 (Family Court adjudicated drug court adjustment to pre-disposition program), HB 211 (restriction of shackles and physical restraints on children) and SB 12 (Juvenile illegal firearm possession punishments) as well as two draft bills regarding jurisdiction and transition plans for juveniles with mental health diagnoses. The JJAG Chair will present comments from the Committee on the legislation at the next Criminal Justice Council meeting on April 18th.

1. **New/Old Business**

Presentation by the DYRS Quality Assurance Manager Michelle Brogden is deferred until the next JJAG meeting.

1. **Adjourn**

Without anything further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Terica Jones

Juvenile Justice Specialist