

# JUVENILE JUSTICE

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## Supreme Court Amends Pa. R.J.C.P. 160, 330, and 515

On August 21, 2007, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania approved modifications to Rules 160, 330 and 515 of the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure, effective December 1, 2007. The amendments to Rules 160, 330 and 515 were published in *The Pennsylvania Bulletin* (37 Pa.B. 4866) on September 8. The Rule changes are also available on the [AOPC website](#).

The Supreme Court modified Pa. R.J.C.P. Rule 160 (Inspection of Juvenile File/Records), to provide that, upon request, the court shall order the creation of a public document for each case designated eligible for public inspection. The amendment to Rule 330 (Petition: Filing, Contents, Function) sets forth a new averment in the petition if the case is eligible for public inspection. The amendment to Rule 515 (Dispositional Order) requires a designation in the court order if a case is eligible for public inspection.

The modification to Rule 160 adds a new paragraph B. "public availability", which requires that upon request, a public document shall be created by the clerk of courts if the case is designated eligible for public inspection pursuant to Rule 330 or Rule 515. For cases that are deemed eligible for public inspection pursuant to Rule 330, the public document would be required to contain the following information: the juvenile's name; the juvenile's age; the juvenile's address; and the offenses alleged in the petition. For cases deemed to be eligible for public inspection pursuant to Rule 515, the public document would be required to contain the following information: the juvenile's name; the juvenile's age; the juvenile's address; the offenses alleged in the petition; the adjudication on each allegation; and the disposition of the case. The comment to Rule 160 explains that there is one document for each eligible case that is open for public inspection. The public document should be clearly marked for employees of the clerks of courts' office as the only document available for public inspection. All other information contained in the juvenile court file is not open for public inspection but only open to inspection to the persons enumerated in paragraph (A) of Rule 160.

Rule 330 (Petition: Filing, Contents, Function) amended Pa. R.J.C.P. 330 (C) (Petition Contents) by requiring the petition to include an averment as to whether the case is eligible for limit-

*Supreme Court, Cont'd on Page 7*

## Phase Two Counties Meet for Aftercare Strategic Planning

Representatives from sixteen counties participating in organizational self-assessment and strategic planning around aftercare practices met in Mechanicsburg on September 26. The one-day training served as the “kick-off” to the start of this second group of counties in the aftercare project, and was designed for individuals serving as team leaders within their jurisdictions. This group brings the total to 35 counties that have participated in this portion of the project. Previously, every county in the Commonwealth was involved in an information gathering process to reflect current aftercare practices and procedures. These participating counties will now take the next step of assessing needs and planning for implementation of key aftercare reform in their jurisdictions. Autumn Dickman, of the Juvenile Law Center, provided an overview of the MacArthur Foundation’s Models for Change initiative. Rick Steele and Kelly Franklin, aftercare specialists with the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission and Pa. Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, respectively presented the remainder of the session.

During the training session, participants reviewed findings of a summary of Pennsylvania’s current aftercare practices as they relate to the goals of the *Joint Position on Aftercare*. This document lays out the principles of a model aftercare system and specifies best practices that we aspire to develop as standard procedures across the Commonwealth by the year 2010. Issues related to assembling a county-wide team to assist in assessment, strategic planning and implementation of aftercare change were covered. The group also discussed the importance of developing appropriate data collection and outcome measures for the various activities in each county project. Anticipated activities in the project were also reviewed.

All of the sixteen participating counties are in the process of putting together a team of individuals knowledgeable about county aftercare practices. Members of the team will individually complete an organizational self assessment relating to current aftercare practices. As a whole, the team will then reach consensus on the appropriate “scoring” for each item being assessed. Eventually, each county team will participate in a group process to identify priorities for change within its jurisdiction, and develop a strategic plan for accomplishing these goals and outcomes. This activity will be facilitated by the aftercare specialists, who will also provide technical assistance and monitoring throughout the project activities.

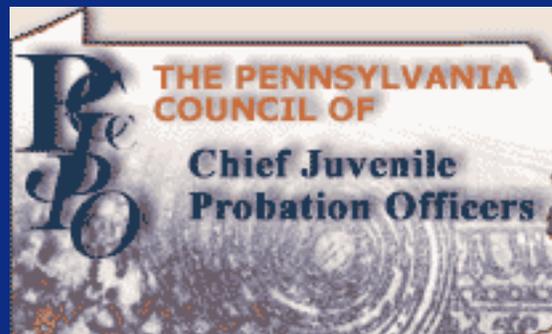
The most recent group of participating counties includes: Adams, Armstrong, Centre, Clarion, Clinton, Cumberland, Fayette, Jefferson, Lackawanna,

Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Northumberland, Tioga, and Washington.

Counties previously involved in this portion of the Aftercare Project include: Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Chester, Dauphin, Erie, Franklin, Lycoming, McKean, Northampton, Philadelphia, Venango, Warren, Westmoreland, Wyoming, and York.

Additional counties will be recruited to participate in ensuing phases of the project, with a goal of statewide participation by 2010. Those interested in this, or other portions of the Aftercare Models for Change project should contact [Rick Steele](#) of the Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission or [Kelly Franklin](#) of the Pa. Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers.

***Save this Date!***



**40th Anniversary  
Celebration**

**Thursday, November 29, 2007  
Nittany Lion Inn, State College**

## Staff Development News

The fall staff development schedule is in full swing and several programs are at or near the point of closing to additional registrants. However, several workshops that are included in the Center's fall offerings still have space available.

The workshop "People Skills for Public People: Applying Emotional Intelligence to Meet Today's Challenges" is a management/supervisory directed program scheduled for October 18-19 at the Days Inn Penn State that still has limited space for additional registrants. This program will be led by Dale McCoy, a Missouri-based trainer and consultant with over 25 years of experience who regularly teaches for the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges and the National Juvenile Court Services Association. He served as an original member of the steering committee that designed an Administrative Certification Program. He first presented at CJJT&R programs two years ago and has earned tremendously positive evaluations.

The following week, on October 24-25, in Mechanicsburg, the Center will sponsor "The Basics of Adolescent Substance Abuse: Trends, Interventions and Referral Skills." This is a core curriculum course intended primarily for staff who are new to the system, and have not yet been exposed to this information—or those seeking a refresher. The program will be taught by Bruce Schaffer, a frequent trainer for the Center, who receives consistently high praise and exceptional evaluation scores.

In November, two other programs still have space for additional registrants. "Phase I—Staff Safety Training," also a core curriculum program, will be co-presented by Dave Gianoni, a Supervisor from Erie County and Linda Thompson, a supervisor with the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation on November 15 & 16 in State College.

On November 28-30 the Center is hosting the 2½ day program "Kinesic Interviewing-Level 1" also in

State College. Led by Dan Sosnowski, this is an intensive training program that teaches multi-phase behavioral analysis and tactical interrogation methods using advanced kinesic interview theories. Participants will learn skills enabling them to recognize the cues of truthful and deceptive behavior generated by the subject being interviewed. Dan is a 1980 graduate of the John E. Reid College of Detection and Deception. He is a senior instructor with Stan B. Walters & Associates, and is actively involved with research and teaching "Practical Kinesic Interview and Interrogation" courses.

Further details on these programs can be found in the Fall 2007 Training booklet or on the [JCJC website](#). Questions may be addressed to either [Stephen Bishop](#) at (717) 477-1294 or [John Herb](#) at (717) 477-1185.

This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University.

Guest articles, especially those with photographs, are always welcome; please submit them by email.

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## Third Pennsylvania Community Restorative Justice Forum Convened

The Community Restorative Justice Forum for Pennsylvania's central region was held on Tuesday August 14, 2007 at the Days Inn, State College. Approximately 75 participants attended the forum representing eight counties, including Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Cameron, Elk, Centre, Perry, and Tioga.

Centre County Judge Thomas K. Kistler and Blair County Commissioner Donna D. Gority presented opening and keynote remarks.

Participants also heard several juvenile justice program narratives from Jon Singer, executive director of the Lancaster Victim-Offender Program and William J. Rossnock, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer of Northumberland County. Five workshops were presented on topics which included community conferencing, restorative discipline in schools, community service learning, an introduction to balanced and restorative justice, and youth aid panels.

County teams then spent the remainder of the day discussing the formation or enhancement of their local teams, identifying local resources and training issues, and developing local action plans.

The forums, entitled "Building Bridges: Community Restorative Justice Forum", are based on the *Building Bridges* monograph developed by the Court and Community Collaboration Committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers. The forum's goals include assisting jurisdictions in their efforts to engage community organizations and community members to gain an understanding of balanced and restorative justice.

County chief juvenile probation officers were asked to develop a team of 10 participants from their jurisdictions representing multiple sectors of the community such as schools, social services, civic organizations, victims services and faith communities. The agenda was developed to enable participants to learn from each other, with a particular emphasis on the engagement of the community in responding to delinquent behavior.

The next forum is planned for the northwest region of Pennsylvania in 2008. Chief juvenile probation officers and Communities That Care representatives in that region will be notified as soon as the preliminary arrangements are confirmed. For more information, you may contact [Susan Blackburn](#) at (717) 477-1411.

## Lancaster County Youth Center Director Selected



Drew Fredericks was appointed Director of the Lancaster County Youth Intervention Center on August 6, 2007. Mr. Fredericks began working at Barnes Hall Juvenile Detention Facility (*Lancaster County*) as a youth case worker upon graduating from Kutztown University in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. He worked as a youth case worker for eight years.

Mr. Fredericks co-authored all of the operational policies and procedures for the county's new detention/shelter facility (*Youth Intervention Center*) during the summer of 2001 and lead the transition into the new facility in March 2002. Drew became the facility's training coordinator in February 2002 and designed and implemented an extensive and interactive 4-week training program for all new employees, while training the facility's veteran employees in the operational requirements of the new facility.

In May 2005 Drew was given the opportunity to assist through policy and procedure enforcement, a highly disciplined and structured environment for the residents and staff.

Mr. Fredericks was appointed Interim Director in April 2007, upon the resignation of former director Scott Martin. He continued the facility's mission and began focusing on employee recognition and incentive programs. These programs, along with the positive work environment, enabled the facility to keep turnover rates low.

# PA Department Of Health Working To Increase FASD

## Awareness By Kathy Jo Stence

Each year in the United States, 1 in 100 live births are affected by a known birth defect that often goes undiagnosed, yet its consequences are far reaching. The results of it affect all our systems of care at a great cost to both families and society. This birth defect is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). FASD is an umbrella term utilized to describe various diagnoses that are related to individuals who were exposed and affected by their mothers' consumption of alcohol during pregnancy. These include Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), Partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (PFAS), Alcohol Related Neuro-development Disorder (ARND) and Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE). This exposure may lead to numerous learning, physical, mental and/or behavioral disabilities. While the severity of damage to the fetus depends on numerous factors, it is crucial to remember that there is NO safe amount of alcohol consumption while pregnant.

Alcohol is a teratogen, which is an external agent that causes abnormalities (birth defects) during fetal development. According to research studies, alcohol is more damaging to a developing fetus than cocaine, heroin and marijuana. Alcohol, therefore, produces far more neurological damage than any other abusive substance. This is problematic since many women of childbearing age are neither aware nor informed about the risks involved in drinking while pregnant. Many women assume, or are told by some medical professionals, that a drink a day is healthy. Nothing could be further from the truth, since it only takes one drink for a developing fetus to become vulnerable to brain damage and subsequent damage to other organs. Studies have found that women who drank during pregnancy reported that they only drank during the first trimester. This is unfortunate, as the first trimester is the most critical time for a developing fetus.

The disorders that fall under FASD are ultimately the leading cause of brain damage in newborns that are 100 percent preventable. The damage caused by prenatal exposure to alcohol can cause children to exhibit signs of poor impulse control, memory deficits, poor judgment, physical abnormalities, as well as deficits in reading, learning, and overall intellectual functioning.

Many children with FASD need to be placed in special education programs, but are often under or misdiagnosed, therefore, the individual does not receive the appropriate treatment and needed resources. As a result, this leads many children, who are more vulnerable to depression, to such things as dropping out of or getting suspended from school, becoming involved in the legal system, as well as suffering from the abuse of drugs and/or alcohol themselves.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs (BDAP) is working with others across the Commonwealth to increase awareness regarding the dangers of drinking any amount of alcohol during any time of pregnancy and to bring to light the needs of individuals who have been affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. In June 2006, a multi-system task force was established consisting of representatives from various organizations including the medical field, education, juvenile justice and parents of children who have an FASD to establish a state plan to address FASD. The purpose of the plan, which is still in its draft version, is to prevent new occurrences of FASD and provide access to support and services to those individuals and their families who are affected in Pennsylvania. It includes strategies to increase awareness and education, to ensure adequate funding, and align and improve systems of care. In addition, the plan calls for appropriate data collection to begin to track incidence of FASD in Pennsylvania, as well as to collect information necessary to determine effective outcomes of the plan. Upon approval and implementation of the plan, the FASD task force will continue to meet to assess the effectiveness of the plan and make recommendations for modification as necessary.

Recently, by proclamation of Governor Edward Rendell, Pennsylvania observed FASD Awareness Week. This was held September 9 -15. A kickoff event was held in the east-wing rotunda of the Capitol in Harrisburg and included various speakers who are collaborating with the Department of Health to increase the knowledge of the citizens of this Commonwealth on this important topic. For example, Bill Poe of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board spoke about the importance of providing information regarding the dangers of drinking while pregnant to those who make purchases in state wine and spirits stores. As part of this cooperative effort, informational flyers were placed in purchase bags in state stores during FASD awareness week and posters indicating the dangers of alcohol use during pregnancy are on ongoing display in stores across the Common-

*FASD Awareness Cont'd on Page 6*

## Juvenile Probationers Fulfill Community Service Obligation in Joint Project with American Legion 202-Gettysburg, Pa.

Originally published in SEP/OCT 2007 issue of "Flying InFormation"/AL Post 18-RI



*David Smith; Dick Baumgardner (1st Vice CDR), Jim Sutton (CDR), Tim Fazenbaker (Past CDR) and Stan Clark from AL Post 202-Gettysburg, Pennsylvania*

Locally, adult non-violent offenders who are veterans are often tasked with volunteering at the RI Veterans Home in Bristol to fulfill court-ordered community service. In Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, American Legion Post 202 teamed up with the Juvenile United Mental Health Program (JUMP) of the Juvenile Probation Department in a project. JUMP includes a case manager, family therapist, drug and alcohol therapist and juvenile probation officer. Offenders ranging in age from 10 to 21 were able to fulfill the required community service components by participating in a "Support Our Troops" project to help collect and sort items for CARE packages for deployed troops. Legionnaires from Post 202 assisted and also paid the shipping costs for the 30 boxes. Said Jessica Ilko, Adams County Juvenile Probation Officer: "The kids were happy to participate in the project and thought it was a great idea. Several graduates of the program have gone on to join the military." If you would like to explore starting a similar program in your community using this model, contact [Jessica Ilko](#) for more information.

### *FASD Awareness Cont'd from Page 5*

wealth. The keynote speaker of the kickoff event was Kathleen Mitchell, vice president of the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and birth mother to a daughter with an FASD. Various other awareness initiatives were conducted throughout the week across the Commonwealth.

The efforts of increasing awareness are not limited to FASD awareness geek or to the work of the FASD task force. Since so many individuals are impacted by FASD as are our service systems, it is time that we all begin to become educated regarding the dangers of prenatal alcohol exposure, the outcomes associated with FASD and the implications for each one of us. More information is available from the [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder website](#), the [National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome website](#) and the [PA Department of Health website](#). Or feel free to contact [Kathy Jo Stence](#) at the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs at (717) 787-2712.

## State Suicide Conference

Pennsylvania's first statewide suicide prevention conference entitled "Suicide Across the Age Span: Saving Lives Together," was held on September 12 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. The event was a huge success, with over 350 stakeholders present and displays from over 10 organizations. It was sponsored by the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and co-sponsored by the Pa. Departments of Aging and Health, the Consumer Satisfaction Team of Lancaster and Drexel University. The Pennsylvania State Police generously donated gun locks for the conference and over 400 were distributed to the participants. Work-shops focused on the youth, elderly, general population and evidence based programs. Katie Wootten, the state prevention specialist for Pennsylvania from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, Dr. Lance Couturier from Philadelphia Behavioral Healthcare and the Family Advocacy Training Center, and Dr. John B. MacLarney, Vice President of FTAC, held a work-shop entitled Implementing Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Strategies Among Juvenile Offenders. The session covered the problem of suicide in juvenile facilities, risk factors for suicide among juvenile offenders, and critical components of comprehensive suicide prevention programs in that setting. Deputy Secretary of Health, Joanne Corte Grossi and Ivonne Bucher, Director of the Public Policy for the Department of Aging made opening remarks. Jerry Reed, Executive Director of Suicide Prevention Action Network (SPAN) USA, was the keynote speaker for the event. Luncheon remarks were made by Sabrina Boyd-Tillghman, from the Department of Public Welfare, and Lance Couturier. Afterwards, a panel discussion regarding three county task forces was held. The conference was held during Suicide Prevention Week, September 9 – 15, 2007.

*Supreme Court, Cont'd from Front Page* ed public information, pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. §6307 (b)(1)(ii) (relating to the inspection of court files and records). The comment to Rule 330 explains that the petitioner is to designate whether the allegations in the petition make a juvenile's case eligible for limited public information. When a case is designated, the clerk of courts is to mark the file clearly.

Rule 515 (Dispositional Order) provides that a dispositional order shall include a designation whether the case is eligible pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. §6307 (b)(1)(i) for limited public information. The comment to Rule 515 explains that when a case is designated eligible for limited public information, the clerk of courts is to mark the file clearly.

Please do not hesitate to contact [Lisa Freese](#) at (717) 705-9003 or [Keith Snyder](#) at (717) 787-5634 if you have questions.

## MPOETC Offers Computer Training

The Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) offers free computer training courses to law enforcement officers and criminal justice staff members, which includes juvenile probation officers and staff. MPOETC has two training locations, the Computer Learning Center East at 8002 Bretz Drive, Harrisburg and the Computer Learning Center West at 500 Amity Street, Homestead. Complete descriptions and registration information for the following courses may be found at the [MPOETC website](#). Classes begin at 9:00 A.M. and end at 3:30 P.M. Questions may be directed to [Vance Rosebush](#) at (717) 346-7751.

### The October to December 2007 Center Schedule includes the following:

#### Computer Learning Center East

8002 Bretz Drive, Harrisburg

October 1 - Introduction to Word  
October 4 - Introduction to PowerPoint  
October 25 - Introduction to Excel  
November 1 - Introduction to Access  
November 28 - Intermediate PowerPoint  
December 3 - Intermediate Word  
December 20 - Intermediate Excel

#### Computer Learning Center West

500 Amity Street, Homestead

October 4 - Introduction to PowerPoint  
October 18 - Introduction to Word  
October 30 - Web Page Design  
October 31 - Introduction to Excel  
November 1 - Introduction to Access  
November 27 - Photoshop 1  
November 28 - Intermediate PowerPoint  
December 13 - Intermediate Word  
December 19 - Introduction to Publisher  
December 20 - Intermediate Excel

## 2007 "KIDS COUNT Data Book" Now Available

The Annie E. Casey Foundation has released its 18<sup>th</sup> annual "KIDS COUNT Data Book." This annual publication is a national and state-by-state profile of the well-being of America's children that ranks states on 10 key measures and provides data on the economic, health, education and social conditions of America's children and families.

This year, the "KIDS COUNT Data Book" essay, "Lifelong Family Connections: Supporting Permanence for Children in Foster Care," looks at the more than 700,000 children in the United States who spend time in foster care each year, and what can be done to build and strengthen the family relationships that these young people need.

The 2007 data book and other materials are available from the [Annie E. Casey Foundation's website](#).

