

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Amends Delinquency and Dependency Procedural Rules

Several amendments to the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Procedural Rules for both delinquency and dependency matters were published in The Pennsylvania Bulletin (36 Pa.B. 957) on May 24, 2008.

Upon the recommendation of the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee, the Supreme Court modified the Comment section to Rule 100 "Scope of Rules" (relating to delinquency matters) and Rule 1100 "Scope of Rules" (relating to dependency matters) to clarify that, unless specifically provided in the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules, the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure and Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure do not apply to delinquency and dependency proceedings.

The Comment sections in Rule 123 "Subpoenas" (relating to delinquency matters) and Rule 1123 "Subpoenas" (relating to dependency matters) were modified to provide that any person may file a motion to quash the subpoena for a witness and/or for requested items. The Court is to rule on the motion prior to the production of the witness or the items.

Because of confusion regarding the transfer of records in "decertification" cases from criminal court to juvenile court, the Comment to Rule 160 (Inspection of Juvenile File/Records) was amended to provide that the entire criminal court file is to be transferred with the case to juvenile court. The criminal case file then becomes the juvenile court file and the disclosure requirements in Rule 160 apply.

Rule 1151 (Assignment of Guardian Ad Litem and Counsel) was amended to require that in situations where a dependency proceeding has

commenced pursuant to Rule 1200, the court must assign a guardian ad litem. The Comment to the rule was amended to clarify that the rule does not apply to adults who may require a guardian ad litem because they are incapacitated or minor "guardians".

Paragraph B of Rule 1320 (Application to File a Private Petition) was deleted from the rule. The Explanatory Report indicates that the Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee recommended the deletion of paragraph B because an application to file a private petition occurs prior to the filing of a petition, and thus a party cannot be served as required by paragraph B. If the court does grant the application to file a private petition following a hearing pursuant to Rule 1321 (Hearing on Application to File a Private Petition), and allows a petition to be filed pursuant to Rule 1330 (Petition: Filing, Contents, Function, Aggravated Circumstances), the parties will be served pursuant to the procedures in Rule 1331 (Service of Petition).

These amendments became effective on May 12, 2008, and can be found in the [May 24, 2008 edition](#) of the Pennsylvania Bulletin, or on the [website](#) of the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC).

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Weekend Master's Degree Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2011

Applications are now being accepted for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored weekend Master's Degree program at Shippensburg University. Members of the class of 2011 will begin classes in the fall of 2009. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2008.

The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a summer internship in which students have the opportunity to develop, implement, and evaluate a program in their home county, or evaluate an existing program that serves juvenile offenders.

Classes in this two-year program are scheduled every third weekend in the fall, spring, and summer, with no classes scheduled during the months of July and August. This program is available to county juvenile probation officers who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes. Applicants who have an undergraduate grade point average of less than 2.75 must take and pass the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the Graduate Record Examination.

Additional information about the program is available on the [JCJC website](#). If you have any questions, or are interested in applying for the program, please contact [Stephen Bishop](#) at 717-477-1294.



Becky Brant Appointed Assistant Training Director

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research is pleased to announce that Becky Brant was appointed to the position of Assistant Training Director, effective June 16, 2008. Ms. Brant graduated from Frostburg State University with a Bachelors Degree in Sociology in 1997, and is a 2002 graduate of the JCJC-sponsored Master's Degree Program at Shippensburg University.

Ms. Brant began her career in 1987 as the Program Coordinator of the Somerset County Juvenile Court's Victim-Offender Mediation Program. In 1999 she was hired as a juvenile probation officer with the York County Juvenile Probation Department and, in 2004, was promoted to Assistant Supervisor. Becky was a key part of developing the York County Juvenile Drug Court Program and served in a number of other areas including school-based probation, community-based probation, and intensive drug and alcohol probation services. She also served as Training Coordinator and Phase II Safety Instructor for the department. Her committee involvement included work with the York County Crimes Conference, the York County Missing Child Task Force, the York County School Attendance and Safety Committee, the Truancy Task Force, and the South Central Juvenile Fire-Setters Committee.

In her new role, Ms. Brant will be responsible for the coordination of the training program for the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. Becky will also conduct court service visits and be responsible for providing on-site monitoring and technical assistance to counties receiving Specialized Probation Services funding from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

Pennsylvania Youth Crime Prevention Efforts Produce Major Results

By Lee Carpenter; posted June 27, 2008; <http://live.psu.edu/story/33416/nw1>
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University Park, Pa. --- A \$60 million investment by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) over the last decade in evidence-based programs across the state has resulted in a \$317 million return on just seven of those programs, according to a report by the Penn State Prevention Research Center.

All programs involve prevention strategies that address youth crime and violence, including mentoring programs, school-based skill building programs, family strengthening programs, and individual and family therapy for juvenile offenders. The seven programs—Big Brothers Big Sisters, LifeSkills Training, Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care, Multisystemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy, Nurse-Family Partnership, and Strengthening Families 10-14—were found to offer a positive cost-benefit ratio ranging from \$54 to nearly \$80,000 per youth, collectively representing a total statewide return of over \$317 million.

Study results reveal that by reducing arrests, drug and alcohol treatment, victimization, welfare and social service usage and increasing school performance, graduation rates, employment and subsequent tax revenue, these prevention programs not only pay for themselves but generate a significant return on investment of between \$1 and \$26 for every dollar spent.

“These programs have been carefully researched and proven to prevent and reduce youth violence, delinquency and drug use, improving developmental outcomes for children and families,” said Dr. Mark Greenberg, director of the Penn State Prevention Research Center. “The results are indisputable: these programs are not only effective for families, they are also a cost-effective, wise investment of taxpayer dollars that will continue to pay dividends for years to come.”

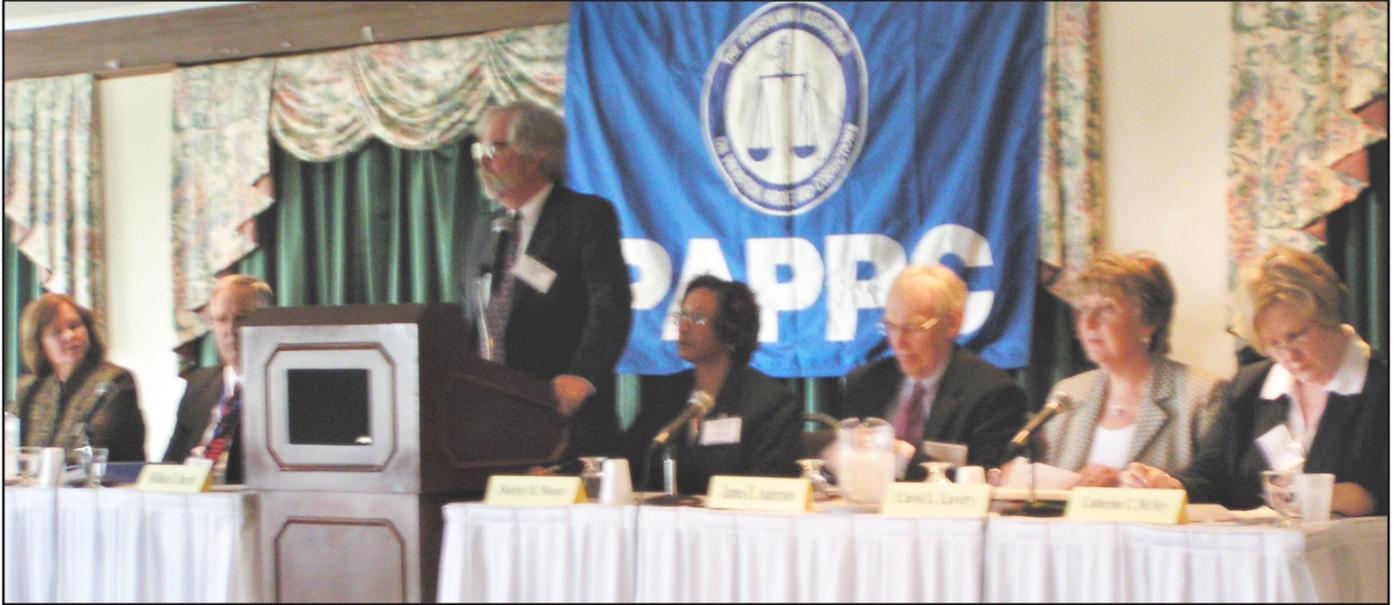
“We’ve made very deliberate, thoughtful investments in programs that we know work,” said Michael Pennington, director of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. “It is one thing to get tough on crime, but we also need to be smart about preventing kids from becoming the next generation of adult criminals.”

The report reveals that the adoption of policies developed to ensure a greater investment in prevention and promotion of the use of evidence-based programs will ultimately result in fewer prison admissions. The programs have the very real potential to reduce the juvenile and adult prison population over time. A reduction of only 5 percent in the number of adults and juveniles locked up in one year would free nearly \$84 million to support new or expanded prevention programs.

“Pennsylvania is facing a prison overcrowding crisis and the Department of Corrections is asking for nearly \$700 million to build more prison cells,” said Brian Bumbarger, director of policy research and outreach for the Penn State Prevention Research Center and co-author of the report. “Given the current rate of inmate population growth, the Commonwealth can spend \$700 million on new prison construction and we’ll still be overcrowded by more than 9,000 inmates within 5 years. Investing in prevention programs that work is the only way we’re going to get a handle on prison overcrowding over the next decade.”

The full report, *The Economic Return on PCCD’s Investment in Research-based Programs: A Cost-benefit Assessment of Delinquency Prevention in Pennsylvania*, is available on the Penn State Prevention Research Center’s website at www.prevention.psu.edu.

PAPPC Hosts 87th Training Institute



The Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections (PAPPC) hosted its 87th Training Institute in Pocono Manor, PA May 18-21, 2008. An opening Plenary Session, consisting of juvenile and criminal justice leaders in Pennsylvania, addressed the conference theme: Working Together, Working Smarter, for Safer Communities. Members of the panel included (pictured left to right):

- Dr. Patricia A. Griffin, senior consultant for the National GAINS Center;
- W. Conway Bushey, Executive Director of the County Chief Adult Probation Officers Association of Pennsylvania;
- Shirley Moore, Deputy Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections;
- James E. Anderson, Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission;
- Carol L. Lavery, Victim Advocate for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and
- Catherine C. McVey, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole.

More than three hundred registrants had an opportunity to participate in a variety of twenty-nine workshops. Proceeds from the Silent Auction, conducted during the conference, will benefit Women's Resources of Monroe County, Inc. and the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center.

- PAPPCC award recipients included:
- Bernard J. Krieg, Juvenile Corrections Professional of the Year;
- Kristine M. Johnson, Juvenile Justice Professional of the Year;
- Jamie M. Boyles, Adult Corrections Professional of the Year; and
- Leslie DeBrest, Adult Probation/Parole Officer of the Year.

The 88th PAPPCC Training Institute will be held May 17-20, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, Harrisburg, PA.



JDCAP Welcomes Deputy Director Wayne Bear

Wayne Bear has recently been hired as the Deputy Director of the Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania (JDCAP). Mr. Bear comes to JDCAP having served youth offenders, their support family and community systems for over 20 years. Wayne worked in the York County Juvenile Probation Department for 10 years. After receiving his Masters Degree in Social Work from Temple University, Wayne provided clinical and administrative functions in residential and secure care facilities for an additional 10 years. He is a licensed therapist, has provided individual and family therapy, and volunteers as a clinical member of the Critical Incident Stress Management team. Wayne can be reached at wbear@pacounties.org or (717) 232-7554 ext. 3117.

National Institute of Justice Conference 2008

The Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will hold its annual conference on July 21-23, 2008, at the Crystal Gateway Marriot in Arlington, Virginia. For the past ten years, this conference has brought together criminal justice scholars, policymakers, and practitioners at the local, state, and federal levels to share the latest research findings and technology. There will be workshops, seminars and panel discussions over the course of the 3-day conference, including panels entitled "*Wrongfully Convicted: The Road to Truth*"; "*Race, Crime and Common Ground: Lessons from a Decade of Action Research*"; and "*More Prisons, More Prisoners: Time for a Policy Change?*"

Additional information regarding the conference, including registration, can be accessed at the [National Institute of Justice](http://www.nij.gov) website.

Fall 2008 Juvenile Justice Academy Reminder

The on-line segment of "Juvenile Justice Academy: Orientation for the New Professional", which includes the on-line "Pennsylvania Juvenile Act" course and the prerequisite "On-line Learner's Orientation" course, must be completed by any new juvenile probation officers who are planning to attend the Academy (August 26-29 & September 30-October 3) prior to attending the Academy. Departments should register staff for the on-line courses as soon as possible in anticipation of the fall Academy. The "On-line Learner's Orientation" course starts each week on Mondays. The "Pennsylvania Juvenile Act" course will be offered the weeks of July 14-18, August 11-15, and September 8-12.

Registration for both on-line courses, as well as the two weeks of live training, is a single process – all covered by the \$250 registration fee. Registration will be available on-line via the [JCJC website](http://www.jcjc.org) under "Training" upon the release of the Fall 2008 Training Schedule in early July. For additional registration information or materials on Orientation or any other Center training programs, please contact the Center's training program at cjtraining@ship.edu.



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

Guest articles are always welcome; please submit them by e-mail or on a disk. We particularly enjoy your photographs.

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