

# PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Tom Corbett, Governor



## Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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### ***Jim Anderson Receives Presidents Award From Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges***

A surprised Jim Anderson, Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, received the *2012 Presidents Award* from the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges at the Hotel Hershey on July 27, 2012. Jim was invited to the association's business luncheon under false pretences – and was presented with the prestigious award in recognition of his lifetime achievements.



Judge Thomas M. DelRicci, President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, presented the award and described Jim as being seen by individuals at the highest levels of all three branches of government as Pennsylvania's primary state-level expert on matters pertaining to juvenile court issues. Jim has served as the Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission since 1986 and, under his leadership, the agency has earned national recognition in the juvenile justice arena.

Jim is perhaps best known for his legislative advocacy. He has been actively involved in literally every major legislative issue affecting Pennsylvania's juvenile justice, juvenile court, and child welfare systems for the past three decades. Of particular significance, Mr. Anderson developed the language contained in Act 33 of Special Session No. 1 of 1995 that redefined the mission of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system around the principles of balanced and restorative justice. Pennsylvania was the first state in the nation to adopt such legislation, which gives priority to repairing the harm done to crime victims and communities. Since then, over 20 other states have enacted similar legislation based on the Pennsylvania model. The JCJC's legislative program has been recognized as the nation's "*Outstanding Legislative Program*" by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Jim has received numerous state and national awards, including the 2012 Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association's *2012 MASCA Founders Award*; the 2008 *Champion for Change* award presented by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for juvenile justice system reform efforts in conjunction with its Models for Change initiative; and the inaugural *M. James Toner Fellows Award* from the National Juvenile Court Services Association for outstanding service to the juvenile justice community. Congratulations, Jim.

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# 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy:  
Achieving our Mission through Evidence-based Policy and Practice

Sponsored by:

The Juvenile Court Judges Commission

The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges

November 7-9, 2012 at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers

## **Registration is NOW OPEN!**

**[Click here to register today.](#)**

### ***Charles A. Williams III Featured Speaker at 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice Youth Awards Program***



Dr. Charles A. Williams III, also known as “Dr. Chuck”, is an educational psychologist, and a member of the faculty at Drexel University, where he serves both as Assistant Clinical Professor in the School of Education and the Founding Director of the Center for the Prevention of School-Aged Violence. His work focuses on mentoring, bullying, child welfare, and the achievement of

minority and special needs youth. He was recently invited by the White House to serve as a plenary speaker for the White House Conference on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. He is frequently called upon to discuss education, child welfare and bullying for Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, the Associated Press, USA Today, the Christian Science Monitor and other national media outlets.

His book chapter “The Socio-cultural Factors Affecting Minority Student Achievement in the U.S.” is to be published in a forthcoming book on education and social justice later this year. His article “Mentoring and social skills training: ensuring better outcomes for youth in foster care” was recently published in the journal *Child Welfare*.

He received the National Adoption Center’s Alison Award for his commitment to child welfare reform, and he was recently awarded a Senior Fellowship with The Stoneleigh Foundation where he will explore the influence of mentoring and social skills training on outcomes for youth in foster care.

“Dr. Chuck” is a former foster care youth who has been able to accomplish extraordinary things by holding onto his faith and one sacred tenet – “the way you start does not have to be the way you finish.”

### ***Dr. Edward J. Latessa Providing Afternoon Keynote Address At 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice***



Dr. Edward H, Latessa will provide the afternoon Keynote presentation at the 2012 Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, being held November 7-9, 2012 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers. His presentation will be entitled “*What Works With Juvenile Offenders in Reducing Recidivism?*”

Dr. Latessa is a professor and Director of the School of Criminal

Justice at the University of Cincinnati. He has directed over 150 research projects, including studies of juvenile justice programs, day reporting centers, drug courts, prison programs, intensive supervision programs, half-way houses, and drug programs. He and his staff have also assessed over 600 correctional programs throughout the United States.

Dr. Latessa has co-authored seven books and published over 140 other works in the areas of criminal justice, juvenile justice, and corrections, including his landmark 2006 publication “*What works in Reducing Recidivism?: The Principles for Effective Intervention.*” He has also received numerous awards including: the Bruce Smith Award for outstanding contributions to criminal justice by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (2010); the George Beto Scholar, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University (2009); the Mark Hatfield Award for contributions in public policy research by The Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University (2008); the Outstanding Achievement Award by the National Juvenile Justice Court Services Association (2007); and the August Vollmer Award from the American Society of Criminology (2004).

# Training to Enhance Family Involvement in Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Now Available

The Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research is launching a statewide effort to provide training for juvenile probation officers who desire to utilize strategies to expand family involvement in their work and in the system. The Family Involvement in Juvenile Justice (FIJJ) Curriculum, which was developed with the guidance of the Family Involvement Committee of the Pa. Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, was completed in 2011. The curriculum offers practical instruction on the emerging practice of family engagement and involvement in juvenile justice.

Twenty participants successfully completed training to become trainers for the FIJJ Curriculum, the first of its kind in the nation for juvenile probation officers. They are now ready to deliver training in teams of family advocates and juvenile justice practitioners in their counties, regionally, and, if needed, across the state. There were eight family advocates and twelve juvenile justice practitioners trained. The practitioners included seven juvenile probation officers, three providers, and two staff from the Bureau of Juvenile Justice, Pa. Department of Public Welfare. The juvenile probation departments represented were Adams, Allegheny, Northampton, Philadelphia, Westmoreland, and York. Family advocates were from the Allegheny Family Network, Mental Health Association in Pa., Parents Involved Network (PIN), Mental Health Association in Southeastern Pa., and Pa. System of Care Network.

The authors have aligned the curriculum contents with the 2009 *Family Involvement in Pennsylvania's Juve-*

*nile Justice System* monograph findings. It is also aligned with Balanced and Restorative Justice principles and Pennsylvania's recently established Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), which rests on two interlinked foundations: the best empirical research available in the field of juvenile justice, and a set of core beliefs about how to put this research into practice. The JJSES State Leadership Team has identified the FIJJ Curriculum as a key component of this initiative.

The Curriculum was piloted with the full staff of three juvenile probation departments (Westmoreland, Wyoming, and York) in spring 2011. Recommendations from the pilot participants were incorporated into the current version. The Curriculum was recognized as a Strategic Innovation by the John T. and Catherine D. MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative in 2011.

The FIJJ Curriculum has demonstrated significant positive attitude shifts through the pre- and post-assessments that are administered to participants. For example, pilot participants "agreeing very much" that "The benefits of family involvement in the court process outweigh the drawbacks" rose from 51% to 79%.

This training session is largely experiential, with a combination of lecture, discussion, interactive exercises, and a planning session. The training is intense, but also fun. Upon completing the 1 ½ day training, participants will be able to understand family involvement's place within juvenile justice and be able to develop action plans for further involving families in their work and their juvenile court. Nine hours

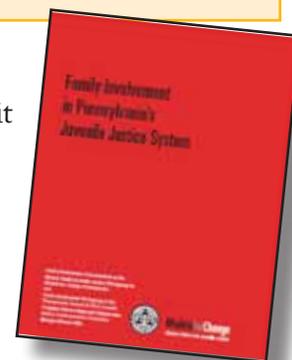
CJJT&R is sponsoring a training session on the FIJJ Curriculum in State College on October 3-4, 2012. To register for this training session visit the JEMS website at [www.jcjc.jems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.jems.state.pa.us).

of continuing education credit are earned by juvenile probation officers completing the training.

For those that wish to coordinate local training sessions, Susan Blackburn at the CJJT&R is the contact for additional information and /or scheduling a training session. CJJT&R has approved instructors who are familiar with the standardized training curricula and, in many cases, helped to develop the materials.

Upon request for training in a particular agency or region, the CJJT&R will locate interested and available trainers on the topic and will forward their names and contact information to the sponsoring agency. The sponsoring agency will then contact the trainers directly to develop contracts and determine travel arrangements. CJJT&R will provide technical assistance to/for the trainers and will provide training certificates to participants who complete the training.

To arrange for this training, contact Susan Blackburn at 717-477-1411 or by email [sblackburn@pa.gov](mailto:sblackburn@pa.gov) at least three months in advance of when you hope to hold the training.





# Supreme Court Delinquency Rules Update

<http://www.pacourts.us/T/BoardsCommittees/JuvenileCourtProcedural/>

On July 18, 2012, the Supreme Court adopted modifications to Rules 242, 394, 406, 512, and 800 of the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure which primarily address concerns regarding the role of the attorney for the Commonwealth that were identified by the Interbranch Commission on Juvenile Justice. These modifications are effective October 1, 2012.

## **Key provisions of the modifications to Rules 242, 394, 406, 512, and 800 are as follows:**

### **RULE 242. Detention Hearing**

- The changes to this rule provide that the attorney for the Commonwealth must present the evidence at the detention hearing.

### **RULE 394. Transfer Hearing**

- This rule clarifies the allocation of the burden of proof. Unless the exceptions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355 (g)(1) and (2) apply, the attorney for the Commonwealth has the burden of establishing that: 1) there is a prima facie showing that the juvenile committed a felony delinquent act; and 2) there is a preponderance of evidence showing that public interest is served by the transfer. If 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355 (g)(1) and (2) apply, the juvenile has the burden of establishing by a preponderance of evidence that public interest is served by retaining the case in juvenile court.
- This modification essentially eliminates the phrase..... “and that a child is not amenable

to treatment, supervision, or rehabilitation as a juvenile” ...from the Juvenile Act in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(g) because it is already included as a factor in determining whether the public interest is served by the transfer of the juvenile case to criminal proceedings in 42 Pa.C.S. § 6355(a)(4)(iii)(G). See Rule 800 and its Comment.

### **RULE 406. Adjudicatory Hearing**

- This rule requires the attorney for the Commonwealth to present the evidence in support of the petition and to establish beyond a reasonable doubt that the juvenile committed the delinquent act(s). See Rule 800 for suspension of the Juvenile Act by eliminating “at the request of the court” from 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336(b).

### **RULE 512. Dispositional Hearing**

- This rule provides that the juvenile, the attorney for the Commonwealth, and the juvenile probation officer may submit evidence for the court’s consideration in determining the disposition of the juvenile. The victim’s testimony may be presented through the attorney for the Commonwealth. The attorney for the Commonwealth may decide not to present evidence as to the disposition of the juvenile; however, the prosecutor must be present at this hearing.

### **RULE 800. Suspension of Acts of Assembly**

- The Juvenile Act provides that the attorney for the Commonwealth, “at the request of the court”, shall present

the evidence in support of the petition. See 42 Pa.C.S. § 6336(b). Rule 800 suspends § 6336(b) of the Juvenile Act only by removing the “at the request of the court” language thereby making the prosecutor’s presence mandatory.

- Additionally, § 6355(g) of the Juvenile Act is suspended in part by eliminating the need to prove twice whether the juvenile is amenable to treatment, supervision, and rehabilitation in the juvenile system. This is a duplicative requirement because amenability to treatment is required to be proven under the public interest prong of § 6355(a)(4)(iii)(G).



On July 31, 2012, the Supreme Court adopted a series of significant new Rules of Criminal Procedure that will govern the transfer of cases from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. § 6322, and also approved related modifications to the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure. These new Rules and related modifications will become effective November 1, 2012.

## **The Key provisions of the new Criminal and Juvenile Rules include the following:**

### **Pa.R.Crim.P. 595 ( relating to mandatory status conference)**

- Requires the judge to hold a mandatory status conference no later than 40 days after arraignment in “direct file” cases

- At the status conference, the judge shall determine whether the defendant has filed a “de-certification” motion, or is requesting additional time to do so.
- If the defendant is requesting additional time to file, and the judge agrees to the request, the judge must set a date by which the motion shall be heard.
- When the motion is filed, the judge shall determine whether the motion is ready to be heard and the case is to proceed as provided by Rule 597.
- If the defendant is not going to file a “de-certification” motion, or if the judge denies defendant’s request for additional time to file the motion, the case shall proceed under the Criminal Rules.

**Pa.R.Crim.P. 596 ( relating to motion requesting transfer from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings)**

- Any motion under this rule shall be filed after the preliminary hearing, but no later than 30 days after arraignment.

**Pa.R.Crim.P. 597 ( relating to procedures following the filing of a motion requesting transfer from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings)**

- If the judge at the status conference under Rule 595 determines that the motion for transfer is not ready to be heard, the judge shall schedule additional status conferences no later than every 60 days after the first conference until the motion for transfer is ready to be heard.
- When the judge determines the motion for transfer is ready to be heard, the judge shall schedule the hearing on the motion no later than 30 days after the determination.

- At the conclusion of the hearing, but no longer than 20 days after the conclusion of the hearing, the judge shall announce the decision in open court and enter an order granting or denying the motion.
- If the judge does not render a decision within 20 days of the conclusion of the hearing, the motion for transfer shall be denied by operation of law.
- If the judge grants the motion:
  - The judge shall immediately order the transfer of the case to juvenile proceedings and the case shall proceed under the Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure (except as provided below)
  - The judge shall order the defendant to be taken forthwith to the juvenile probation office (except as provided below)
  - If, within 30 days of the judge’s order transferring the case from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings, the attorney for the commonwealth files a notice of appeal from the order, the judge shall:
    - Stay the juvenile proceedings pending disposition of the appeal, and review the defendant’s bail status, and may release the defendant upon being detained in a secure detention facility under rule 598.
    - If the judge denies the motion for transfer, the case shall continue to proceed under the Criminal Rules

**Pa.R.Crim.P. 598 ( relating to place of detention during procedures for transfer from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. § 6322)**

- Essentially sets forth the procedures provided for under the Juvenile Act at 42 Pa.C.S. §6327(c.1), which sets for the circumstances under which a child in a “direct file” case who

has not been released on bail may be held in a secure juvenile detention center with the consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth.

**Pa.R.J.C.P. 337 ( relating to filing of petition after case has been transferred from criminal proceedings)**

- Rather than require a new petition to be filed in every transfer case, this new rule was added to allow the criminal complaint to be converted into the petition when supplemented with the information required to be included in the petition. The requirements of this paragraph are the items that are required in the petition, but which are not required in the criminal complaint.

**Pa.R.J.C.P. 404 ( relating to prompt adjudicatory hearing)**

- This rule addition requires that a hearing shall be conducted within 10 days of the filing of a petition when a juvenile was transferred from criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings.

# ***“Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Building Blocks for a Better System”***



## ***JJSES STATEMENT OF PURPOSE***

To work in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania’s juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by: employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs.

Part 12 of a series: “*JJSES Building Blocks*”

## ***Inter-Rater Reliability***

As juvenile probation departments move towards implementation of evidence-based practices, a number of new tools such as screening and assessment instruments have been incorporated into daily activities and responsibilities of probation officers. A challenge to departments involved with these activities is to not only ensure appropriate and effective staff training in the initial use of these instruments, but also ongoing fidelity to the instrument’s intended application. Attention to the specified information gathering and application protocols, scoring procedures, and following interpretation guidelines is critical to the quality assurance of these practices.

Assessment instruments are often chosen, at least in part, by the extent to which they have been deemed reliable in accurately measuring what it is that they are intended to measure when used by a variety of different individuals. A high level of reliability, based on research of the instrument’s utilization, is recommended for tools chosen for incorporation into juvenile probation department practice. Reliability refers to the degree to which a tool’s scores are consistent across scorers or across time with a given case. This is important due to the fact that a number of individuals within the department will be utilizing the same instrument. The outcomes of the use of the instrument, regardless of which staff applied it, must be essentially the same. Continuing to achieve high levels of reliability in local practice are largely dependent on quality assurance practices built into local policy and procedures.

One of the more significant issues to be monitored locally involves the concept of inter-rater reliability (IRR). IRR refers to the consistency with which the same information is rated by different scorers. The intent is to ensure that different staff (raters) will consistently score the same case in the same manner. Inter-rater reliability tends to be highest immediately following the conclusion of training on the use of a particular instrument. It is at this point that the scoring protocols and instructions are most clearly understood and evenly applied by staff. Rater drift occurs on an individual basis when, over time, these protocols and clarity of instructions blur and are replaced with alternative actions that contradict the tool design.

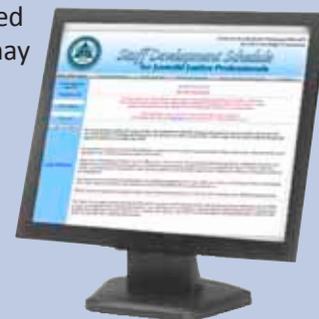
In order to assure the highest levels of inter-rater reliability possible, appropriate quality assurance activities must be incorporated into local practice and procedure. These can occur through a variety of means and over varying periods of time. Most involve supervisory oversight. For example, supervisors can occasionally independently rate cases and compare their finding to those of their staff. Differences in the rating process can then be identified and clarified with the staff as an ongoing activity. Booster trainings, where instrument application is reviewed on a structured basis and staff rate the same case followed by review and consensus building by all, are essential to the ongoing quality assurance process. Other quality assurance activities may involve case auditing by supervisors to assure the appropriate processing, observation of staff interaction with clients in relation to the use of the instrument(s), and the use of staff-specific and aggregate data collection around the key outcomes derived from the instrument(s).

Attention to the concept of inter-rater reliability is critical to maintaining the highest level of rater performance, which will in turn improve the predictive validity of the tool within the agency.

## Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities:

The CJJT&R's set of staff development workshops for the fall have been assembled, are posted on the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS) website and are open for registration. You may visit the site at [www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us).

Beginning this fall, Harrisburg-area workshops will be hosted at the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center, which is just off the Winding Hill Exit from Rt. 15 near Mechanicsburg. The Holiday Inn, New Cumberland is the recommended hotel to use when lodging is required. Reservations may be made by calling 717-774-2721. A block of rooms under the name "Center for Juvenile Justice" has been reserved at the \$65 + 6% tax rate.



Below are several upcoming programs for the fall:

- September 13-14 in Mechanicsburg, Bruce Schaffer will lead "Understanding Adolescent Substance Abuse Regression, Resumption and Relapse" at Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center.
- September 19-20 at the Days Inn Penn State, Dr. Samuel Benbow will lead a newly designed workshop entitled "Conduct Disorder in Juvenile Offenders: Linking Assessments to Case Planning and Supervision." Dr. Benbow is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Shippensburg University and has presented many other workshops for the Center in past years.
- October 3-4, "What Every JPO Should Know About Family Involvement" will be held at the Days Inn Penn State. This program is an opportunity to learn from the Family Involvement curriculum that was just released earlier this year. It will be co-led by Tim Duff, an Adams County Juvenile Probation Officer with over 30 years of experience in working with kids, and Madelyn Roman-Scott, an External Youth Advocate Project Manager with the Mental Health Association in PA.
- October 4-5 at the Days Inn Penn State, Dr. Paul Martin will teach a redesigned curriculum, "Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders, Violence and Treatment—Making Sense of It All."

Please remember, workshops are continually added to the Staff Development Schedule. Be sure to check the JCJC website or visit [www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us) regularly for updates to the schedule.

### We invite you to consider some upcoming trainings around the state.

*The following trainings and their links are sponsored by the indicated agency.*

September		October	
9/13	Understanding Adolescent Substance Abuse Regression, Resumption and Relapse <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>	9/19-21	Victim Impact Curriculum <a href="#">Westmoreland County Juvenile Court</a>
9/14	Stress in Adolescence <a href="#">Westmoreland County Juvenile Court</a>	9/24	Juvenile Justice Academy: Orientation For The New Professional Session II <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
9/19	Conduct Disorder in Juvenile Offenders: Linking Assessments to Case Planning and Supervision <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>	10/4	Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Disorders, Violence and Treatment – Making Sense of It All <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
		10/11	Technology & Delinquency: Social Networking <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
		10/17	Juvenile Sex Offenders: What Do We Really Know and, Can They Really Ever Go Home? <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
		10/18	Motivational Interviewing: Skills Every Juvenile Probation Officer Should Know <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
		10/23	Structured Interviewing Techniques for Juvenile Probation <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>
		10/31	Understanding Economic and Cultural Differences <a href="#">CJJT&amp;R</a>

*Hosting a training you would like to see listed here? E-mail us the details and we'll list it in our next issue.*

# The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Elects Officers

On June 25, 2012, members of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) elected the following officers for 2012-2013:

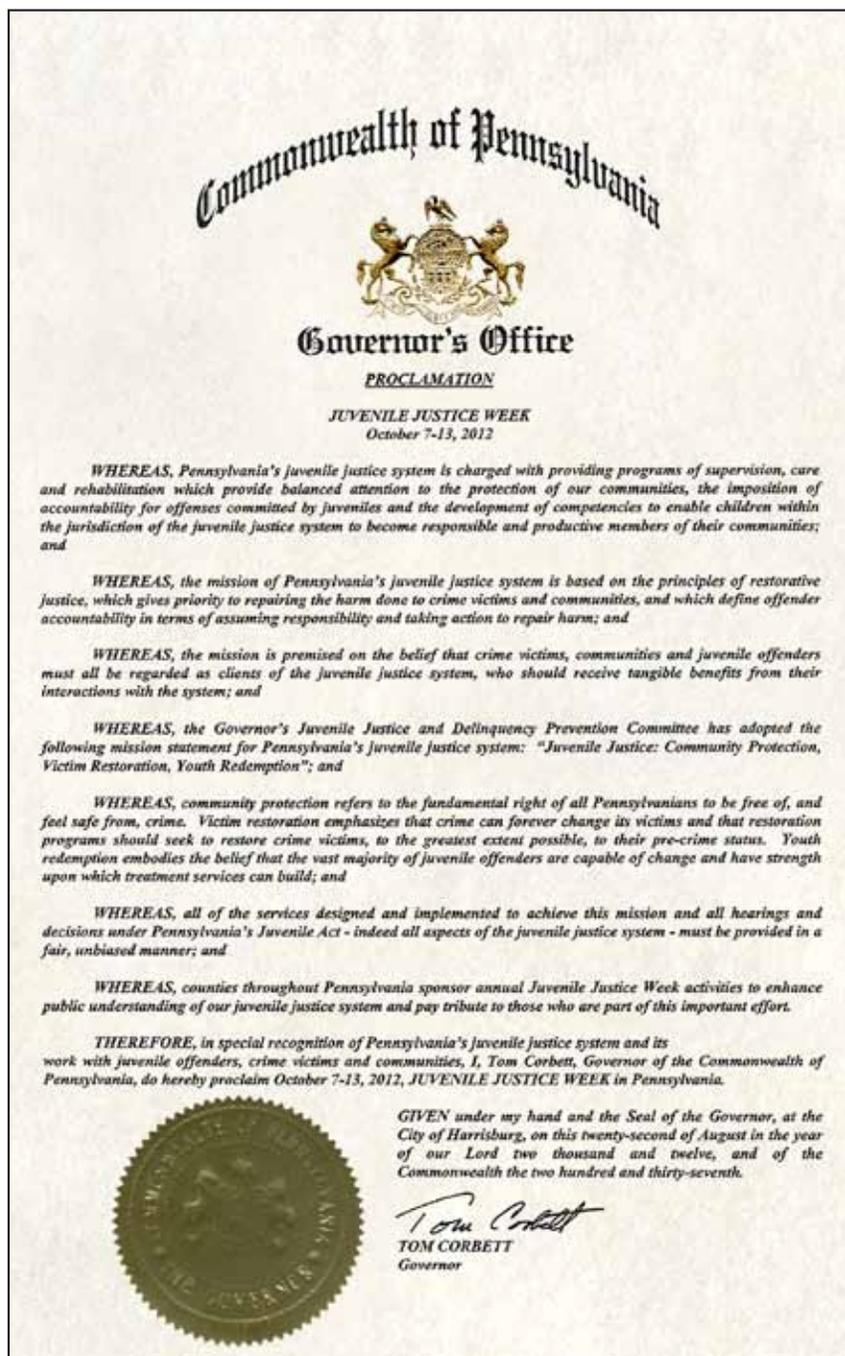
- Chair – **Judge Arthur E. Grim** (Senior Judge), who has served as a member since October 1997;
- Vice-Chair – **Judge Kevin M. Dougherty** (Philadelphia County), who has served as a member since October 2003; and
- Secretary – **Judge Lori A. Dumas Brooks** (Philadelphia County), who has served as a member since June 2007.

## Governor Corbett Proclaims Juvenile Justice Week October 7-13, 2012

Governor Tom Corbett recently proclaimed the week of October 7 – October 13, 2012 as Juvenile Justice Week in Pennsylvania. Juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth are encouraged to utilize Juvenile Justice Week as an opportunity to engage the public about the mission and outcomes of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

The proclamation notes that Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system is charged with "providing programs of supervision, care, and rehabilitation, as well as providing balanced attention to the protection of our communities, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed by juveniles, and the development of competencies to enable children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system to become responsible and productive members of their communities".

We encourage Chief Juvenile Probation Officers to send media accounts of local Juvenile Justice Week activities to [Steve Bishop](#) for publication in a special section celebrating Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice week. Please have all entries submitted by October 15, 2012.



# In Any Language, Field Search Translates to Success

*This article was reprinted from the Summer 2012 edition of TechBeat, the quarterly newsmagazine of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System, a program of the National Institute of Justice under Cooperative Agreement #2010-MU-MU-K020, awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice.*

## Parlez-vous Français? ¿Habla Español?

Field Search does, as well as “speaking” any other language that uses the Latin alphabet.

In April 2012, the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System’s Corrections Technology Center of Excellence (CoE)



released Version 4.0 of its Field Search suite via JUSTNET, the NLECTC System’s website. Field Search, a free software product designed for use in the field by nontechnical criminal justice personnel, allows users to quickly and efficiently search a target computer and create a detailed report of the findings. Originally released in 2006 and developed with funding from the Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice, Field Search can be launched from a USB drive and works live on a suspect computer to quickly find potential evidence such as Internet histories, images, multimedia files and results from text searches. The latest update includes a number of new features drawn from a “wish list” created by users.

“Our team is in contact with end users continuously,” says CoE Director Joe Russo. “One of the highest priorities came from Canadian agencies who are using Field Search in a nationwide pilot and who really needed to access commands in both English and French. We’ve added an open-source software component that changes the interface language just by changing a few lines of XML code. Pictures, URLs, they’re basically the same in any language, but users generally just feel more comfortable executing commands in their native language. This software will convert the commands to any language that uses the same alphabet as English: French, Spanish, Italian and so on.”

Russo says that another high priority need identified by users involved the relatively new browser interface, Google Chrome.

“More and more people are moving to this as their browser of choice,” he says. “It has about a 20-percent market share right now. The new version of Field Search can pull complete browser history from Google Chrome in the same way it can from older, established browsers such as Internet Explorer, Netscape, Firefox and Opera.”

## Other new features include:

- RegEditor tool. This tool helps users define registry keys to examine using Field Search. Many users know that there is something called a registry but have no idea where it is or what it does, Russo says. Windows stores a great deal of information about user behavior in the registry and if properly extracted, this information can often make or break a case.
- Media file support. The new release recognizes and views more than 20 different video formats, vastly expanding its ability to detect inappropriate/illegal video files.
- GUI (Graphical User Interface). Reorganization of the GUI interface made it more intuitive and visually separated basic functions from more advanced ones, including the addition of the capability to display different languages mentioned above.
- Improved report functions.
- Improved and expanded media file handling.
- Overall improved speed.

Russo says that none of these improvements would have been possible without the volunteer efforts of two individuals: Dr. Jim Tanner of KBSolutions and Jim Persinger of PM Investigations. Tanner, a nationally recognized expert in a number of areas including computer forensic investigations and sex offender management, served as project coordinator and software designer for the original version, which Persinger, a certified forensic examiner, commercial software developer and private investigator, developed. Tanner and Persinger did all of the work on the new version on their own time.

Since its original launch, the various versions of Field Search have been downloaded more than 10,000 times, and Russo says that “users consistently tell us that Field Search is user friendly and has proven invaluable in supporting violations and providing evidence to pursue new criminal charges against sex offenders and others.”

Field Search is available free of charge to qualified law enforcement and corrections personnel. For more information on Field Search, including how to download a copy, please visit [https://www.justnet.org/fieldsearch/fs\\_main.html](https://www.justnet.org/fieldsearch/fs_main.html), or contact Joe Russo at the CoE at (800) 416-8086 or [Joe.Russo@correctionscoe.org](mailto:Joe.Russo@correctionscoe.org).



# National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following announcements are reprinted from JUVJUST, an OJJDP news service:

## Report on Well-Being of Nation's Children Released

The [Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics](#) has released its annual report, "[America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being](#)." Among the findings from this year's assessment, both adolescent births and violent crime victimization declined. The report also reveals that the number of children living in poverty increased.



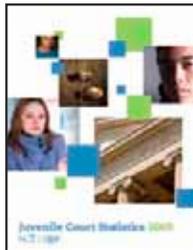
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is one of 22 federal agencies that constitute the forum.

Resources:

To read the full report, visit [www.childstats.gov/pdf/ac2012/ac\\_12.pdf](http://www.childstats.gov/pdf/ac2012/ac_12.pdf).

## National Center for Juvenile Justice Releases Juvenile Court Statistics 2009

The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) (NCJJ) has released "[Juvenile Court Statistics 2009](#)." The report profiles more than 1.5 million delinquency cases and more than 140,000 status offense cases that courts with juvenile jurisdiction processed in 2009. The report also tracks trends in delinquency and petitioned status offense cases over several decades. Data include volume of cases, demographics of juveniles involved, and offenses charged.



Resources:

View and download the report [online](#). Order print copies from [NCJJ](#).

See OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) for additional information on juvenile courts case processing.

## Report Highlights State Trends in Juvenile Justice Legislation

The [National Conference of State Legislatures](#) has released "[Trends in Juvenile Justice State Legislation: 2001-2011](#)," which examines state legislative activity over the past decade on a number of juvenile justice issues, including prevention and intervention, disproportionate minority contact, reentry/aftercare, and corrections reform. According to the report, during this



period, legislatures have tended to realign fiscal resources from state institutions toward more effective community-based services.

Resources:

View and download the report [online](#).

Learn more about the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#).

## Youth Encouraged To Participate in "Stop Bullying" Video Challenge

The [Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention](#)



invite youth ages 13 to 18 to create

30- to 60-second public service announcements as part of the [Stop Bullying Video Challenge](#). Video submissions should showcase ways the youth are taking action against bullying and promoting kindness and respect within their communities. The grand prize is \$2,000 and two runner-ups will each receive \$500. The three winning videos will be featured on [stopbullying.gov](#). Entries must be received by 11 p.m. E.T. on October 14, 2012.

Resources:

View complete contest [details](#).

[Learn more](#) about the national effort to address bullying and access bullying prevention resources.

## NC4YC To Host Webinar on Improving Conditions for Youth in Custody

On September 12, 2012, at 2 p.m. E.T., the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's [National Center for Youth in Custody](#) (NC4YC) will host the Webinar,



["Creating and Sustaining Improved Conditions for Youth in Custody: Beyond the Initial External Influence."](#) This 90-minute Webinar, the first in a series, will explore reforms in conditions of confinement resulting from litigation and case law and will identify broader, more comprehensive, and sustainable ways to make confinement consistently safer, more secure, more humane, and therapeutic for youth in custody.

Resources:

[Register](#) for this Webinar.

View upcoming [Webinar topics](#) from [NC4YC](#).

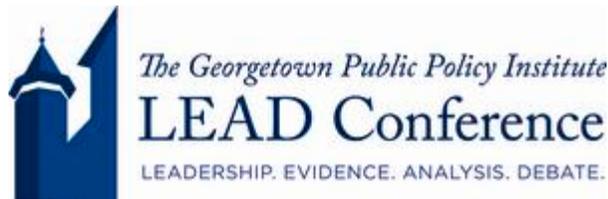
## SAVE THE DATE

### Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform

**January 24-25, 2013**

Washington, D.C.

[Georgetown University](#), the [Georgetown Public Policy Institute \(GPPI\)](#), and the [Center for Juvenile Justice Reform \(CJJR\)](#) are pleased to announce the inaugural Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference (Leadership. Evidence. Analysis. Debate.): *Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Children and Youth: Improving Lives Through Practice and System Reform*, taking place January 24 - 25, 2013 in Washington, D.C.



The Georgetown Public Policy Institute LEAD Conference is an annual national event that brings together experts and key stakeholders to examine a particular policy challenge and discuss potential solutions. This year's inaugural event will invite attendees to explore the following issues related to at-risk children and youth:

- *What do children and youth need to develop into healthy, happy, and productive individuals?*
- *When children or youth are abused, drop out of school, commit a crime, or suffer from mental health problems, what interventions can help them get back on the path towards positive life outcomes?*
- *What are the necessary systemic changes that can help improve outcomes for at-risk children and youth?*

This two-day conference will address these questions and more by presenting policies and practices that can be brought together in a comprehensive way to support the healthy development of this vulnerable population. The event will stress the importance of early intervention, but will also underscore that it is never too late to help a child or a family. The conference will highlight various subject areas, such as education, employment and job training, physical and behavioral health, social development, child welfare, and juvenile justice.

We encourage anyone who is interested in improving outcomes for at-risk children and youth to attend. Policymakers, practitioners, researchers, foundation representatives, students, teachers, community leaders, and more will all benefit from this opportunity to hear from leading experts, network with other professionals, and participate as a part of an ongoing national dialogue.

**Registration will open soon.**

For additional information, please visit the conference website at:  
<http://gppi.georgetown.edu/leadconference/>

## JCJC Graduate Education Program Accepting Applications for the Class of 2015

### Looking to advance in Juvenile Justice?

Applications are now being accepted for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University. Members of the class of 2015 will begin classes in the Summer of 2013. **The deadline to apply is October 15, 2012.**

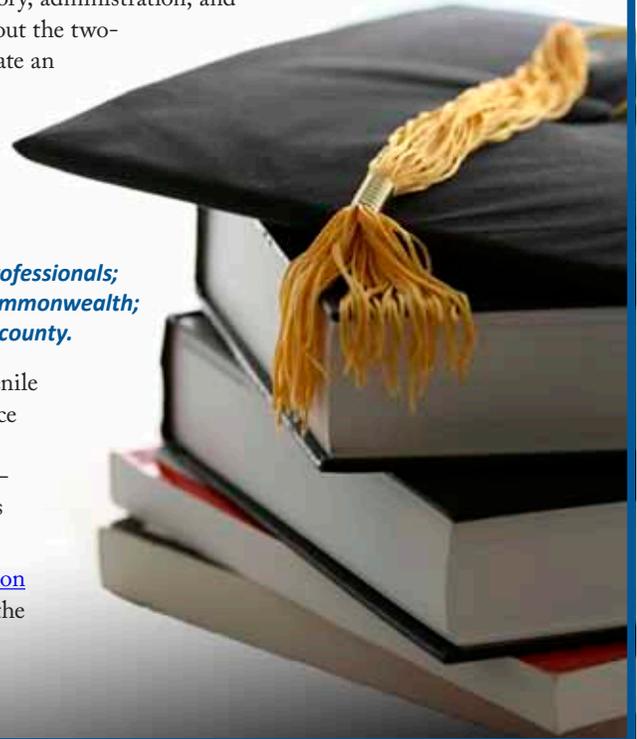
The Shippensburg University program offers students a Master of Science degree in the Administration of Justice. This is a 36-credit hour program that includes courses in research methods, theory, administration, and policy analysis. Also featured is a practicum study which is conducted throughout the two-year program. This practicum study provides students the opportunity to evaluate an existing program or practice that serves juvenile offenders in their home county.

#### What are the benefits of the JCJC Graduate Education Program?

- **Free tuition;**
- **Free lodging on class weekends** (for students traveling more than 50 miles);
- **No weekday or evening classes;**
- **A Master's curriculum specifically tailored to working juvenile justice professionals;**
- **Networking with other juvenile justice professionals from across the Commonwealth;**
- **Opportunity to learn how to evaluate juvenile justice programs in your county.**

This program is available to county juvenile probation officers – and county juvenile detention staff – who will have at least two years of post-baccalaureate experience in the juvenile justice field prior to the start of classes. Other juvenile justice professionals – such as residential placement staff and victim services providers – may also apply and be accepted into the program on a “self-pay” basis as space is available.

Additional information about the program is available on the [Graduate Education](#) pages at [www.jcjc.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjc.state.pa.us). If you have any questions regarding eligibility or the application process, please contact [Stephen Bishop](#) at 717-477-1294.



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.

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To subscribe to the JCJC newsletter, Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to [jcjcnews@ship.edu](mailto:jcjcnews@ship.edu) to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

