



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Volume 30, Number 8

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## PLENARY SPEAKER ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2019 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE



Judge Victoria Pratt has gained national and international acclaim for her commitment to reforming the criminal justice system.

During her tenure as the Chief Judge in Newark Municipal Court in Newark, New Jersey, she spent years gaining a deep understanding of how justice could be delivered to court participants in a manner that increased their trust in the legal system and changed their behavior. While presiding over Newark Community Solutions, the Community Court Program, she used creative problem solving to provide alternatives to jail to low-level offenders. These alternatives included community service, individual and group counseling sessions, and her signature assignment of introspective essays. Called a pioneer in procedural justice, her respectful approach has had a positive effect on court participants' court experience, how the community viewed the court and how court players viewed their roles. Her TED Talk, *How Judges Can Show Respect*, has gone viral. It has been translated into 11 languages, received over one million views and the Facebook clip has received an astounding 28 million views.

Judge Pratt's work has been featured in *The Guardian* newspaper, *The Simple Idea that Could Transform U.S. Criminal Justice*, and *Rutgers Magazine*, *Asking for a Little Respect*, both written by Pulitzer prize-winning author Tina Rosenberg. She has also appeared on MSNBC's *The Melissa Harris Perry Show*, the Emmy-award winning PBS show *Due Process - Community Court: A Kinder, Gentler Way?*, and NPR's *Fresh Air with Terry Gross*.

A fierce advocate committed to reform, Pratt has worked with jurisdictions across the nation, and as far as Dubai, Ukraine, England, Trinidad and Tobago, and Mexico. She also served as a Professor at Rutgers Law School where she taught Problem Solving Justice and Restorative Justice. She continues to champion criminal justice reform through her consulting firm, Pratt Lucien Consultants, LLC, by sharing her skills and approach with others. As well as speaking to corporate and organizational leaders about how to heighten and restore respect into their day-to-day operations so that their mission can be better achieved.

Judge Pratt attended Rutgers University in New Brunswick and Rutgers Law School – Newark. She is licensed to practice law in both New Jersey and New York, and is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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## DR. KELLY WALTMAN-SPREHA ENDS EMPLOYMENT WITH THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION



On August 16, 2019, Dr. Kelly Waltman-Spreha ended her tenure with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) to pursue a position as a Policy Specialist with the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI), a division of Community Resources for Justice (CRJ). Headquartered in Boston, CRJ is a non-profit organization that works with local, state, and national criminal and juvenile justice organizations to provide technical assistance using a data-driven approach to design, enact, and implement system-level reforms.

Dr. Waltman-Spreha had been with the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission since 2015, when she was named Director of Training and Graduate Education at the JCJC's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R).

In 2017, she was promoted to the position of Director of CJJT&R, overseeing the administration and management of all operations and staff at the Center.

During her tenure with JCJC, Dr. Waltman-Spreha served on various statewide workgroups and committees and was a member of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Leadership Team. In October 2018, Dr. Waltman-Spreha earned her PhD in Criminal Justice from Temple University. Her expertise and leadership will be missed, and we wish Kelly the very best in her future endeavors.

# Registration Now Open!!

Click this banner or visit <https://www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us/CPS/ConferenceDefault.aspx> to register.

# SAVE *the* DATE

*Harrisburg Hilton  
and Towers*

**NOVEMBER  
6-8, 2019**

*2019 James E. Anderson*

**PENNSYLVANIA  
CONFERENCE  
ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROVIDING FOR VICTIM'S RIGHTS TO REACH BALLOT**

HB 276, known as "Marsy's Law", would amend the Pennsylvania State Constitution to grant victims of adult and juvenile crimes certain inherent rights, many of which are currently statutorily guaranteed through the Victim's Bill of Rights. It stipulates that there be notice of hearings and other proceedings, protection from the accused, notice of release or escape, full and timely restitution, proceedings free from delays and with prompt conclusion, the ability to confer with the government's attorney, and information on all of these rights.

During the 2017/2018 legislative session, SB 1011, which contained the exact language as HB 276, was approved by both the House of Representatives and the Senate. As a proposed constitutional amendment, it was filed in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth on June 22 as Pamphlet Laws Resolution No. 1.

In order for the proposed constitutional amendment to occur, the exact language of a bill must pass the General Assembly on two successive sessions and subsequently be placed on the state ballot at least three months after the second passage, either in a primary, general, or municipal election. The passage of HB 276 in the current session represents the final legislative approval prior to placement on a state ballot for referendum vote. It was filed in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth on June 20, 2019.

## **ACT 18 OF 2019 PROVIDES FOR SCHOOL-RELATED TRAUMA FOCUS AND THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS**

On June 28, Governor Tom Wolf signed SB 144 into law as Act 18 of 2019. Portions of Act 18 took effect immediately, while others will take effect in either 60 or 90 days of the signing.

SB 144 was initially limited to a proposal to amend the Public School Code in order to provide for the use of telepresence technologies as a form of homebound instruction for students who cannot attend school due to serious medical conditions such as being diagnosed with cancer, injured in a car crash, or recovering from surgery. Act 18 creates the Keystone Telepresence Education Grant which will give the state's 29 intermediate units access to a maximum of \$300,000 in funds to purchase telepresence equipment to support homebound students facing serious medical conditions.

Through various amendments, several additional components were added to SB 144 prior to passage as Act 18. Most specifically these amendments related to the broad implementation of trauma informed education services, and the development of threat assessment teams in school districts.

Act 18 provides for processes to better equip teachers and other school employees to help children who have experienced trauma, or Adverse Childhood Experiences, succeed by implementing mandatory training. The training will cover how to identify the signs of trauma among students, how to utilize multi-tiered support systems, and recognition of schoolwide policies related to positive behavior supports, restorative justice, and resiliency. Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs, include all forms of abuse, neglect, and other potentially traumatic experiences that occur to people younger than 18. Additionally, Act 18 requires individuals pursuing a degree in education to take courses on trauma-informed approaches.

In order to assist schools with implementation, Act 18 mandates that, no later than August 31, 2019, PCCD's School Safety and Security Committee shall develop a model trauma-informed approach plan that shall be used by a school entity applying for grant funding through that process.

Additionally, Act 18 mandates that each school entity within the Commonwealth shall establish at least one Threat Assessment Team for the assessment of and intervention with students whose behavior may indicate a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community, or others. Specific requirements for team membership, activities, and responsibilities are contained in the Act 18 language. Act 18 provides that juvenile probation professionals may serve as regular team members or be consulted during the threat assessment process, as appropriate.

For additional information regarding Act 18 of 2019 contact Richard D. Steele ([ricsteele@pa.gov](mailto:ricsteele@pa.gov)) or Robert Tomassini ([rtomassini@pa.gov](mailto:rtomassini@pa.gov)).

## JCJC STAFF PRESENT AT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE OF STATE TRIAL JUDGES

On July 25, 2019, staff of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) delivered a presentation titled "Current Issues in Juvenile Justice" during the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges (PCSTJ) in Hershey, PA.

The Honorable John F. Spataro (Crawford County), Chair of the PCSTJ Juvenile Section Training Committee, began the event by introducing JCJC Executive Director, Richard Steele, who provided opening remarks and welcomed the attendees on behalf of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. JCJC Deputy Director, Robert Tomassini, then provided an overview of the day's agenda and introduced JCJC staff leading each session.

Dr. Kelly Waltman-Spreha, JCJC's Director of the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research, followed by presenting recent trends and issues related to residential placements in Pennsylvania, including trend data illustrating the overall decline statewide in the use of residential placement and substantial cost savings resulting therefrom. Additional placement-related data was provided, including how Pennsylvania compares to other states regarding placement rates of delinquent youth. The session ended with Dr. Waltman-Spreha describing current efforts to ensure youth safety and quality of care to juveniles placed in residential facilities.

JCJC's Director of Policy and Program Development, Leo Lutz, led a session dedicated to the state of secure detention and presented data related to the historical utilization of secure detention. Challenges related to the observed decreased use of secure detention were highlighted during this session, including the difficulties juvenile probation departments are facing in accessing juvenile detention services, detention center staffing and recruitment, and extended lengths of stay for youth with complex needs. Information regarding the Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI) and Graduated Responses was also provided to demonstrate the benefits of structured decision-making tools.

Finally, Angela Work, JCJC's Director of Quality Assurance in Juvenile Justice, presented information regarding statewide expungement data and practices, including survey results the JCJC compiled examining county practices and policies related to the expungement of juvenile delinquency records. These findings clearly show the expungement of juvenile delinquency records varies widely across the Commonwealth and the need to develop best practices to ensure greater uniformity and consistency concerning expungement practices. This session concluded with Ms. Work summarizing projects currently underway with the JCJC and the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, including the revision of the Juvenile Delinquency Records Handbook and Expungement Guide, the development of recommended best practices, the development of online training to educate juvenile justice professionals on expungements, and the development of reports to be made available to juvenile probation departments to assist with identifying those cases potentially eligible for expungement.

The session closed with judges in attendance asking questions to the panel and providing comments regarding the topics presented.

The JCJC thanks the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, and the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges for the opportunity to deliver this session during their Annual Meeting.

## COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

### WELCOME CHIEF MARY JO BATTLE ERIE COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION

On June 18, 2019, Mary Jo Battle was appointed as Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Erie County by the Honorable John Trucilla, President Judge. Ms. Battle began her career with the Department on October 31, 2005 as a contracted employee, to be hired on as a probation officer one year later on October 16, 2006. Ms. Battle was promoted to supervisor in February of 2017.

Ms. Battle earned her master's degree in Administration of Justice from Mercyhurst University in 2009. Prior to her work in juvenile probation, she worked as a Mental Health Technician for Cornell Abraxas for three years.

Ms. Battle is an avid supporter in the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) initiatives and will continue the work started in Erie County by recently retired Robert Blakely. She is a Defensive Tactics trainer, Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer, Case Plan Coordinator, and just recently finished her Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) certification. More recently, Ms. Battle will be joining the ranks as a Mercyhurst University adjunct professor of Juvenile Justice starting this fall.

### TRAUMA EXPANSION PROJECT KICKS-OFF CHILD TRAUMA SCREEN TRAINING

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission and Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, in partnership with Fordham University and the National Center for Youth Opportunity and Justice, hosted a training and workshop on the implementation and use of the Child Trauma Screen (CTS). The CTS was developed as a very brief, empirically derived screen for child traumatic stress that can be administered by trained clinical and non-clinical staff, including intake staff, child welfare workers, juvenile probation officers, clinicians, medical providers, and school personnel. It can be administered as an interview, in person or on the phone, or completed as a self-report form.

This workshop occurred in State College on August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Sixty-one juvenile probation officers representing twelve counties were in attendance. At the conclusion of the workshop, juvenile probation officers gained skills to administer the CTS, coach others within their department to administer the CTS, and support the implementation and utilization of this screening instrument. As participants in the Trauma Expansion Project, these counties are planning to implement the CTS on October 1, 2019.

In early 2020, this project will expand to include the implementation of the Trauma-Informed Decision Protocol (TIDP). The TIDP is an enhanced decision protocol for juvenile justice systems to guide responses to trauma screening based on the Risk-Needs-Responsivity model of case planning. The goal of the TIDP is to improve youth outcomes through increased referrals for comprehensive trauma assessments and/or treatment, enhanced case plans, increased completion of behavioral health treatment, improved responsiveness to probation supervision, and decreased future delinquency.

If you are interested to learn more about the Trauma Expansion Project, please contact Angela Work at [awork@pa.gov](mailto:awork@pa.gov) (717.705.6596) or Jay Leamy at [jdleamy@chesco.org](mailto:jdleamy@chesco.org) (610.344.6342).



# JCJC POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Beginning in early September 2019, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission will be seeking applicants for the position of Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research. This position is responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating all programs administered at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University.

This is a civil service position. **The application/examination for this position is currently being developed and will be accessible on the Commonwealth's Employment website (<http://www.scsc.pa.gov/Job-Seekers/Open-Test-Announcements>) in early September.**

Once available, the application process will remain open for 30 days.

Applicants must possess seven years of professional juvenile justice experience which includes five years of experience as a juvenile probation officer and two years in an administrative, supervisory, or professional juvenile court consultative capacity; and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice, Criminology, or the Behavioral Sciences.

Please contact Rick Steele at [ricsteele@pa.gov](mailto:ricsteele@pa.gov) or (717) 787-6910 if you have any questions or require additional information.

## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

### New Disposition Information

### *Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System*

**Definition:** A disposition is an allegation of delinquency disposed of by the juvenile probation department and/or the court.

**Date of Disposition:** Enter the date on which the disposition was made. In order for a record to be counted as a disposition, it must have a date of disposition. **Only one disposition per date on the same case can be entered, with two exceptions – if one of the dispositions is 1) Termination of Court Supervision/Case Closed–Not Court Ordered or 2) Disposition Pending.**

**Dispositions:** Select from the following dispositions and descriptions that best suits the decision.

**Please note: "Bench Warrant" will no longer be accepted as a final disposition. Please use the "Continued, no action taken" option on the hearing screen or "Disposition Pending" until a resolution to the bench warrant has occurred.**

Accepted Courtesy Supervision – Select if your county is only supervising the juvenile, and the transferring county made all other decisions on this case.

Administrative Supervision Only/Collections – This disposition should be the result of a disposition review when the juvenile has met all requirements except for collection of payments.

Allegation Withdrawn – Select if no petition has been filed and the police or district attorney withdraw the allegation.

Change of Placement – This should only be used as an outcome of a placement review hearing when the juvenile is changing placement facilities.

Community Service Only – This should be selected if the only decision was that the juvenile complete community service.

Consent Decree – Six-month supervision after the filing of a petition with or without a hearing. There can be no adjudication of delinquency on a consent decree. Can be extended for an additional 6 months.

Continuance of Previous Disposition – If continuing a previous disposition on the SAME case, this should be entered as the result of a dispositional review hearing on that case. This disposition can also be used on a new case if it is consolidated with an existing case where the juvenile is already on supervision.

Continuation of Placement – This should only be used as an outcome of a placement review hearing when the juvenile is being continued in placement.

Deferred Adjudication – Select if the judge does not adjudicate delinquent at this time of disposition but waits until after the supervision is completed to render that decision.

Dependency Placement – This disposition is entered on a dependent child that is being placed through the probation office.

Disposition Deferred – Unable to Locate Juvenile – Should be selected if the juvenile could not be located.

Disposition Pending – Use if a final disposition has been deferred or is pending on this case.

Fines/Costs Ordered by the Court – No other supervision on this case. These are mostly referrals for non-payment of fines at the MDJ level.

Fines/Costs to Be Paid, Payment Plan (not court ordered) – This disposition is usually selected on cases referred by the MDJ for collecting payments only and was not a court-ordered disposition.

Informal Adjustment – The case was informally adjusted prior to the filing of a petition. There should not be a formal hearing or substantiated charges on an informal adjustment disposition. Informal Adjustments are for a period of 6 months and can be extended via an order of court for an additional 3 months, for a total of 9 months, with conditions established.

Judgement Filed/Case Closed – Should be used if the juvenile is now 21 years of age and the county has lost jurisdiction in juvenile court.

Other – This disposition should be used ONLY if no other disposition is applicable. Comments must be entered. Can be entered with or without a hearing.

Petition Dismissed – Select this disposition if a petition was filed and the judge/hearing officer dismissed the petition. If a petition is dismissed, the allegation is also automatically dismissed.

Petition Dismissed, Found Not in Need of Treatment, Supervision, or Rehabilitation (Rule 409) – Select this disposition if the charge(s) are substantiated, but found NOT in need of treatment, supervision, or rehabilitation (Rule 409).

Petition Withdrawn – Select this if a petition was filed and then withdrawn by the filing source (police, district attorney, etc.). Could occur with or without a hearing.

Petition Withdrawn and Placed on Informal Adjustment – Select this if a petition was filed, the petition is then withdrawn, and the juvenile is placed on informal adjustment.

Placement – Select this disposition if the juvenile is removed from the home (it does not include day treatment, shelter or detention). There should be a hearing entered, substantiated charges, and an adjudication of delinquency.

Probation – This disposition requires a hearing, substantiated charges, and an adjudication of delinquency.

Protective Supervision – Select this disposition if protective supervision as a dependent child is ordered. This is typically used for an alleged delinquent youth that is not founded and the youth is adjudicated dependent.

Referred to Another Agency/Individual – Select this if the case was referred to Children and Youth, or other agency, without further involvement of juvenile probation.

Released from Placement, Placed on Probation – This should only be used as an outcome of a placement review hearing when the juvenile is released from placement and placed on probation.

Released from Placement, Supervision Terminated – This should only be used as an outcome of a placement review hearing when the juvenile is released from placement and supervision is terminated.

Restitution Only – This should be selected if the only decision was that the juvenile pay restitution.

Termination of Court Supervision/Case Closed on Prior Disposition – Select if supervision on a prior disposition is being terminated as the result of a hearing or signed court order. Should be the result of a dispositional review hearing or signed court order.

Termination of Court Supervision/Case Closed, No Further Supervision – Select if a case is being closed after an adjudication of delinquency when no further supervision is ordered.

Termination of Court Supervision/Case Closed, Not Court Ordered – Select if supervision is being terminated but is not court ordered. This would close informal types of dispositions (i.e., informal adjustments, community service, fines/costs).

Termination of Supervision/Case Closed, Summary Charge – Select if all other charges were withdrawn, unfounded, reduced, or amended to summary only charges, and delinquency jurisdiction is terminated.

Transferred to Criminal Court – The most serious disposition. Should only be on cases with Felony charges and should have a hearing, but NOT substantiated charges, nor adjudication of delinquency.

Transfer to Other Juvenile Court – Disposition was transferred to another county with or without a hearing.

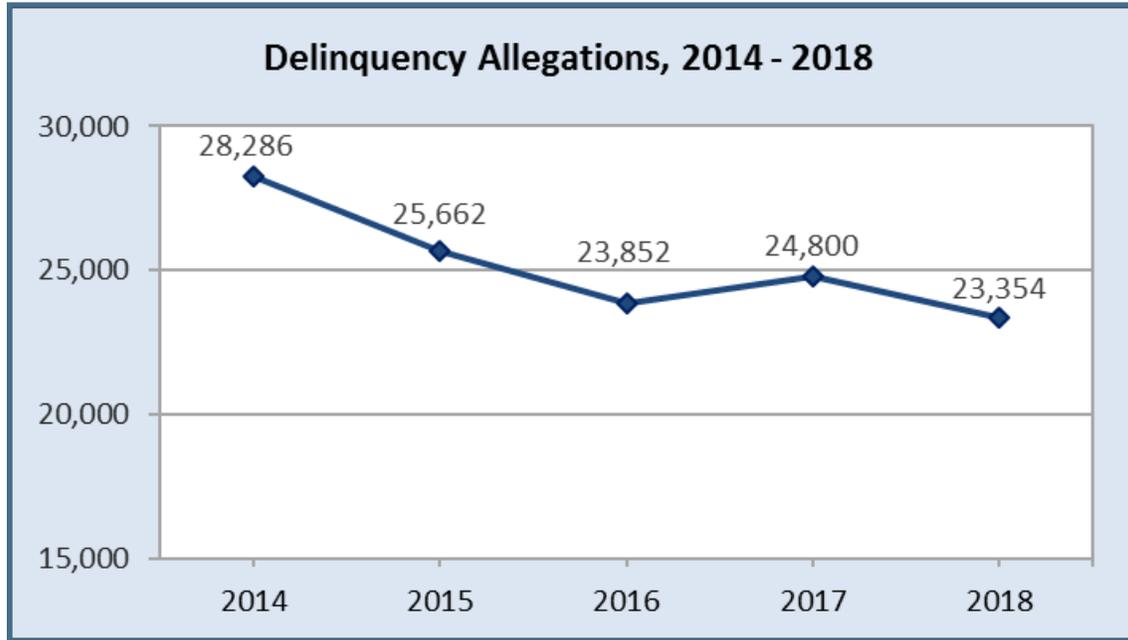
Warned and Counseled – Select if the juvenile was warned and/or counseled on a Pre-Petitioned case.

Youth Aid Panel – Used for an informal diversion program, such as a youth aid panel, peer jury, youth court, etc.

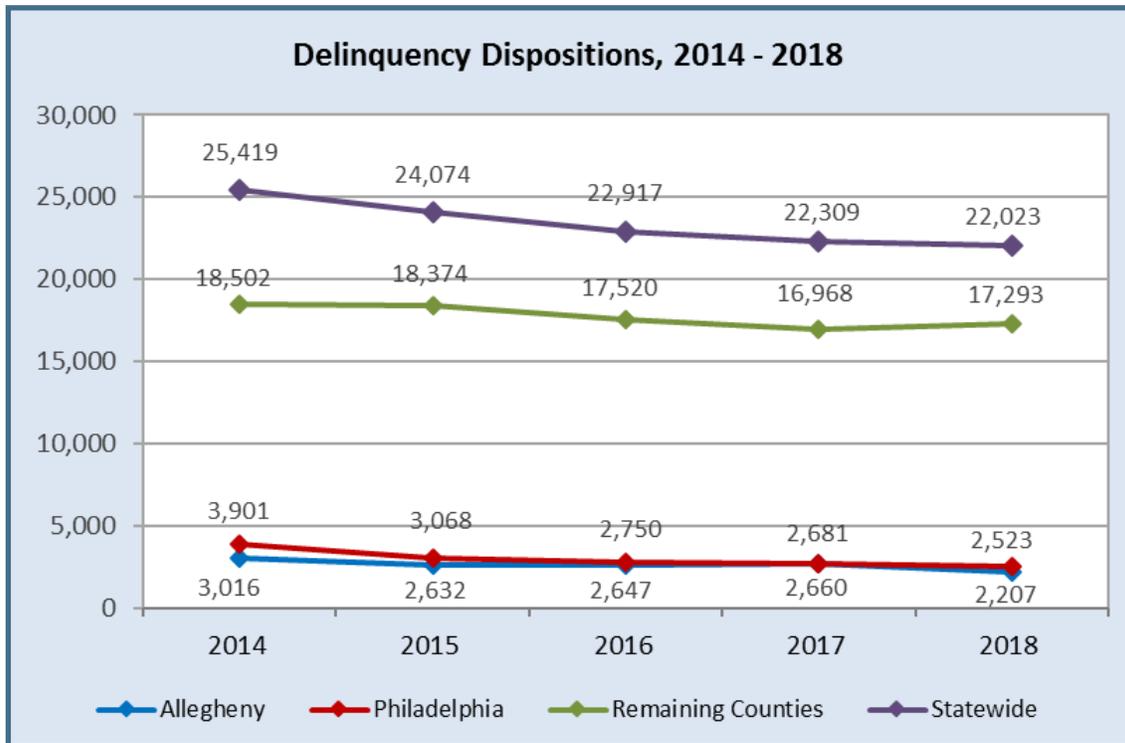
# PENNSYLVANIA'S 2018 JUVENILE COURT ANNUAL REPORT

## Allegations, Dispositions, Secure Detention, and Placements

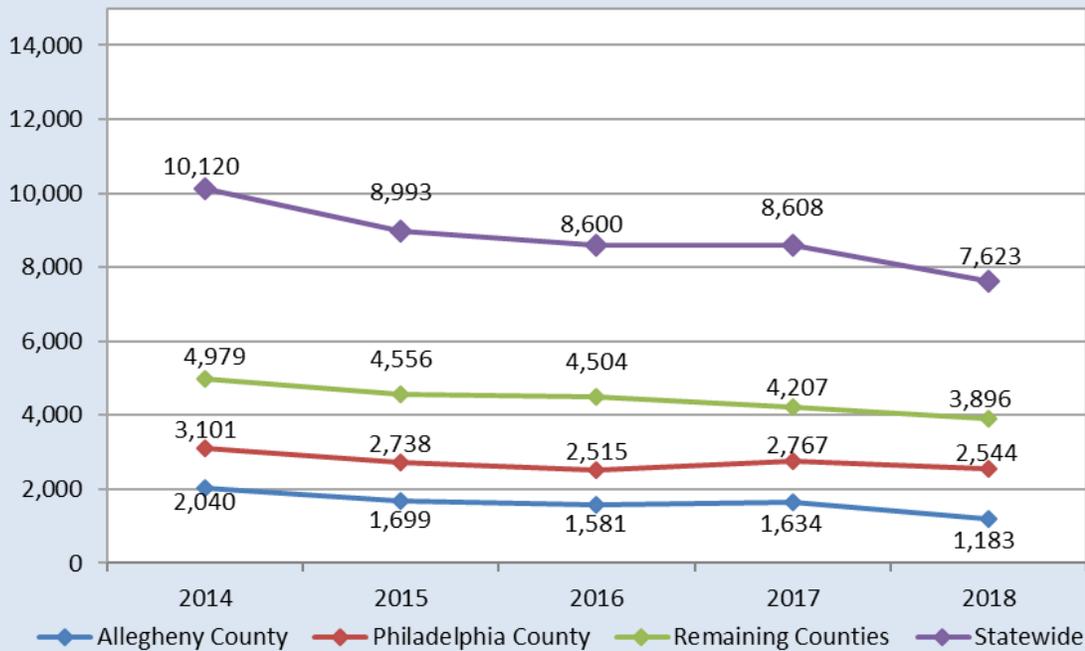
There were 23,354 delinquency-related allegations in Pennsylvania during 2018. This represents a 17.4% decrease from 2014, and a 5.8% decrease from 2017.



Delinquency dispositions statewide in Pennsylvania have decreased in each of the last five years. This includes a 1.3% decrease from 2017, and an overall decrease of 13.4% since 2014. Allegheny County reported a decrease of 17.0% from 2017 to 2018, and Philadelphia County reported a 5.9% decrease for this time period.



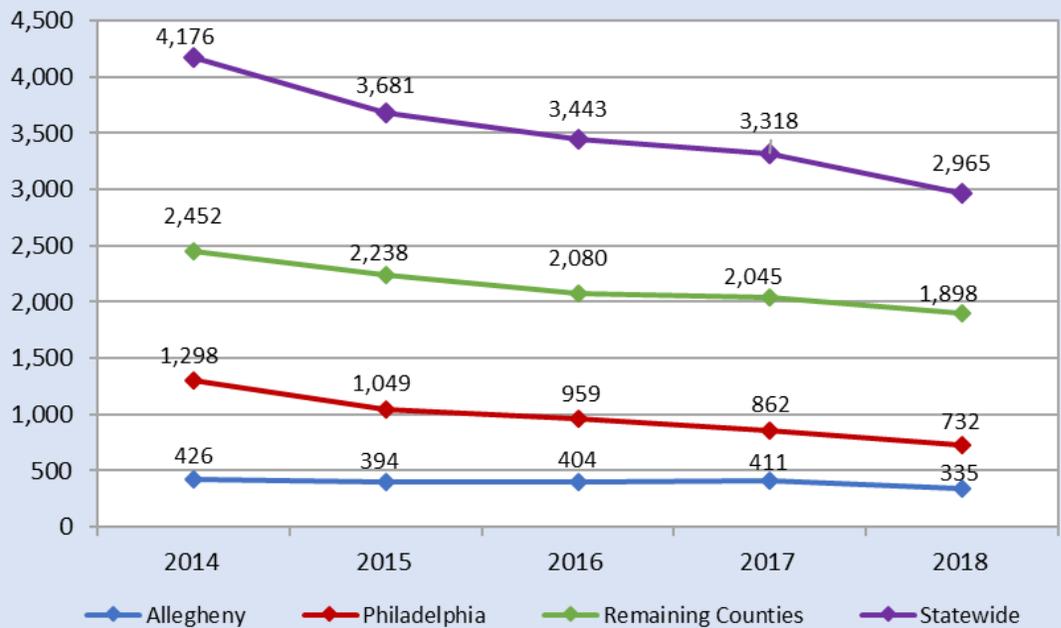
**Secure Detention Admissions, 2014-2018**



Detention admissions have declined statewide since 2014, with a 24.7% overall decrease and an 11.4% decrease from 2017 to 2018. Allegheny County detention admissions decreased by 27.6% from 2017 to 2018, and Philadelphia County admissions decreased by 8.1% during the same time period.

Statewide, delinquency placements decreased by 29.0% since 2014, and by 10.6% from 2017 to 2018. The 2,965 delinquency placements in 2018 represented 6.2% of all delinquency dispositions. Delinquency placements in Allegheny County decreased 18.5% from 2017 to 2018 and placements in Philadelphia County decreased 15.1% for this time period.

**Delinquency Placements Including Disposition Reviews, 2014 - 2018**



County-specific data on delinquency allegations, delinquency dispositions, secure detention admissions, and delinquency placements can be found in the appendices of the [Pennsylvania 2018 Juvenile Court Annual Report](#).

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### September

- 12-13 Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist Training  
State College
- 17-18 MI Coaches Training  
State College
- 23-27 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation  
Professional - Blended Learning Course  
Camp Hill

### October

- 1 YLS Master Trainer Recertification  
State College
- 2 Case Plan Forum  
State College
- 9 SPEP™ Informed Training  
State College

### October

- 15-16 YLS Master Trainer Certification  
State College
- 17 Continuous Quality Improvement Forum  
State College
- 22 YLS Master Trainer Recertification  
Greensburg

### November

- 20-21 Probation Officer Well-Being: Strategies for  
Safe Working Environments  
State College

Registration available at  
[www.jcjems.state.pa.us](http://www.jcjems.state.pa.us)



### Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund

We invite you to participate in supporting the Dr. Thomas L. Austin Undergraduate Scholarship Fund. Since 1986, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to an undergraduate student at Shippensburg University majoring in Criminal Justice. This scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Thomas L. Austin, who taught in the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University from its inception in 1982 until his retirement in 2011. The criteria for this scholarship are academic excellence and an interest in juvenile justice.

Donate to the Juvenile Justice Scholarship Fund today!  
<https://tinyurl.com/JJScholarshipFund>

# **YOUTH FORESTRY CAMP #2**

## **OPEN HOUSE**

**WHAT: Youth Forestry Camp (YFC) #2 Open House.** Please come tour our facility, meet our staff, interact with our residents and gain insight into the treatment and vocational services provided at YFC #2.

**WHO:** Juvenile justice stakeholders, including but not limited to Juvenile Probation and Judges

**WHEN:** Friday, September 27, 2019 from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

**HOW:** Please RSVP by September 13, 2019 by emailing your contact information to Youth Development Counselor Manager, Don Hindmarsh at [dhindmarsh@pa.gov](mailto:dhindmarsh@pa.gov).

Further details will be provided once registered.

85 Youth Forestry Lane  
White Haven, PA 18661

Phone: 570-443-9524  
Fax: 570-443-9177  
Email: [dhindmarsh@pa.gov](mailto:dhindmarsh@pa.gov)

## **Conference Information**

### **2019 PA Juvenile Justice Services Conference hosted by JDCAP**

#### **Integrating Self-Care and Resiliency: Taking Care of Those Who Take Care of Others**

**October 3-4, 2019**

#### **Kalahari Resort and Conference Center**

##### **Tentative Breakouts**

Discipline Sessions: Clinical, New to the Field, Five+ Year Staff, Leadership | Brain Injured Youth: The Impact on Staff Culture | Social Networking; Friend or Foe | Triggers and Trust: Minimizing Conflict to Build Morale | Compassion Satisfaction: Motivations and Rewards of Work | The Power of Visceral Sensations in the Treatment of Youth | Mindful Awareness Program | Check the JDCAP website additional breakout sessions

**Conference registrations (online only) can be made at [2019 Annual Conference](#)**



**Call 877-253-5466 for reservations use room block code JDCAP 2019 to receive the discounted room rates. Deadline for reservations is September 1. Four water park passes per room/per night included in the room rate.**



# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2019 GLOBAL YOUTH JUSTICE CONFERENCE

On December 3-5, 2019, [Global Youth Justice](#) will host its 2019 [Global Youth Justice Conference](#) in Las Vegas, NV. Participants will learn strategies to enhance and expand local volunteer-driven juvenile justice and youth justice diversion programs called Youth/Teen/Student/Peer Court or Peer Jury. Conference sessions, panels, and presentations will address administrative, operational, programmatic, funding, grant writing, and peer-to-peer learning related to expanding and enhancing these early intervention diversion programs. [Register](#) for this conference.



## OJJDP BLOG DISCUSSES PARTNERSHIP AND VISIT WITH THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

In a new [blog](#) post, OJJDP Administrator Caren Harp discusses the agency's critical partnership with the [National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#) (NCMEC), and highlights a recent visit to NCMEC's new office space in Alexandria, VA. OJJDP annually provides funding to NCMEC to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation, recover missing children, and prevent child victimization. Since its founding in 1984, NCMEC has helped recover more than 296,000 missing children.

The blog also highlights NCMEC's achievements and resources, including the AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution Program, the CyberTipline for reporting suspected child sexual exploitation, and law enforcement training. "Here at OJJDP, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the center and supporting the important work they do every day to safeguard the lives of children," says Administrator Harp.

### RESOURCES:

[Access](#) resources related to missing and exploited children.

## APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR JUVENILE PROBATION SYSTEM REVIEW

The [Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice](#) is accepting applications from jurisdictions for a Probation System Review project. Three jurisdictions will be selected to receive technical assistance for a review of current probation and juvenile justice system practices. The project will be funded through the [OJJDP FY 2018 Second Chance Act Ensuring Public Safety and Improving Outcomes for Youth in Confinement and While Under Community Supervision](#) grant and will be conducted during fiscal years 2020-2021. [Learn more](#) and [apply](#) by October 11, 2019.

## OJJDP NEWS @ A GLANCE, JULY/AUGUST 2019

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), July/August 2019. This issue's [top story](#) discusses the first convening of OJJDP's Restorative Justice Working Group in Washington, DC.

Other features in this issue—

- [OJJDP-Supported Training for Juvenile Prosecutors Held in Columbia, SC](#)
- [OJJDP Hosts First National AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium](#)
- [OJJDP Participates in National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Conference](#)
- [Nearly 1,700 Suspected Child Sex Predators Arrested During Operation Broken Heart](#)  
[Staff Spotlight: Cynthia Pappas, Senior Policy Advisor](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [News in Brief](#)
- [New Publications](#)
- [News From the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#)
- [News From the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice](#)

### RESOURCES:

OJJDP News @ a Glance, July/August (NCJ 252941) is available [online](#).

## OJJDP/NIJ BULLETIN SUMMARIZES JUVENILE ARRESTS

OJJDP and the National Institute of Justice have released "[Juvenile Arrests, 2017](#)." This bulletin documents recent trends in juvenile arrests using data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Report. Overall, juvenile arrests have declined for more than a decade, but patterns vary by demographic group and offense. Findings show that in 2017, law enforcement agencies arrested more than 809,700 persons younger than 18 years old. This was the lowest number since at least 1980—and 70 percent below its 1996 peak of nearly 2.7 million. However, juvenile arrests for certain offenses increased. In addition, relative declines in arrests have been greater for boys than for girls across many offenses. As a result, the female share of juvenile arrests has grown since 1980.



### RESOURCES:

[Learn more](#) about OJJDP's data analysis tools.

This publication is produced monthly by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Guest articles are welcome; please submit by e-mail to [ra-oajcnews@pa.gov](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov).

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