



PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Volume 33, Number 8

August 2022

PLENARY SPEAKER ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2022 JAMES E. ANDERSON PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE



Chris Bijoux is a Senior Fellow at Georgetown University and Deputy Director for Equity and Racial Justice at the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR), where he advances a race equity and Community Development framework in all of CJJR's programs and initiatives, including its Certificate Programs, Crossover Youth Practice Model and Breakthrough Series Collaborative. He is a nationally recognized thought scholar and leader on race, equity, and anti-racism, and has wonderful experience working as the Director of the Dually Involved Youth Initiative in Santa Clara County, CA and as a program coordinator consultant with the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, where among other things, he facilitated equity and fairness workshops and co-chaired the DYS Family Advisory Council. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Newbury College, has a Master of Public Health and Master of Business Administration, and will be receiving his PhD in Social Policy at Brandeis University in 2022.

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See you in Harrisburg!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!!

Click [here](#) to register or visit the link below.

Hilton Harrisburg
NOVEMBER
2-4, 2022

2022 James E. Anderson
PENNSYLVANIA
CONFERENCE
ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

To register, visit <https://www.jcjcjems.pa.gov/cps/ConferenceDefault.aspx>.

CONFERENCE - HOTEL INFORMATION - At the **Crowne Plaza** the contracted rate varies based on room type starting at \$117.00 a night. This room block will close on October 3, 2022. You may visit the customized link to book online, [JCJC Conference](#) or call the hotel directly at 717-234-5021 (Voucher Counties call 717-920-1792) / **Group Code: CAL**. The hotel will confirm your reservation.

For general conference information, please contact us at ra-jcjcevents@pa.gov.

JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION OFFICERS



Judge David R. Workman, Chairman

Judge David Workman currently serves as the Chairman of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Judge Workman was elected to the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas bench in November 2003. He received his B.S. from Pennsylvania State University, his Master's degree in Judicial Administration from the University of Denver School of Law, and his Juris Doctorate from Widener University School of Law.

Judge Workman served as District Court Administrator of Schuylkill County and Director of the Lancaster County Domestic Relations Office in Lancaster County, as well as a Master for Dependency Matters in Lancaster County. He currently serves as the Administrative Lead Judge in Juvenile and Family Court in which he has served for his entire Judicial career.

Judge Workman is the past President of the Juvenile Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges and served as Chairman of the Family Law Section for eleven years. Chief Justice Saylor appointed Judge Workman to chair a committee to make recommendations to review Domestic Relations fees which resulted in Pa Supreme Court Rules expanding access to Pennsylvania citizens. Chief Justice Baer has appointed Judge Workman to serve as Co-Chairman of the statewide divorce fees committee.

Judge Workman was appointed by Governor Tom Wolf to serve as a member of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on October 20, 2015, and has served as its Secretary and Vice-Chairman since his appointment.

Judge Workman is the recipient of the President's Award and the Robert Stewart Award as statewide recognition from the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania and received the Distinguished Service Award for a Court Officer from the Pennsylvania Partnership for Juvenile Services in October 2020. Judge Workman and his wife have also received the United States Angels in Adoption Award.

Judge Stephen P.B. Minor, Vice-Chairman

Judge Stephen Minor currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Judge Minor was elected to the Potter County Court of Common Pleas in 2009. He is a graduate of Mansfield University and ORU Law School in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Judge Minor was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1986 and was an associate attorney in Washington, PA from 1986-1991. He served as a Juvenile Court Hearing Officer in McKean County for a period of thirteen years, working under then President

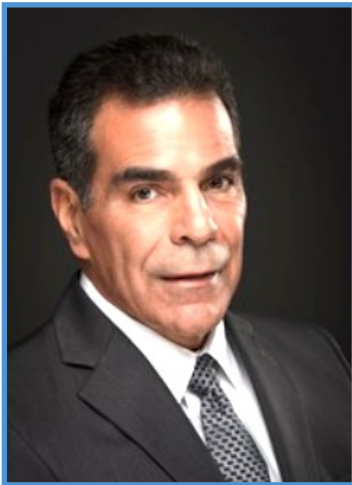


Judge John Cleland, and also served as Custody Mediator in that jurisdiction. He currently serves as President Judge in Potter County, having been elected to that position in 2010.

An active member of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, Judge Minor served as President of the Juvenile Court Section from 2019 to 2022 and is currently a member of the Judicial Ethics Committee. He also serves on the Supreme Court Autism in the Courts Taskforce and is a Judges Concerned for Judges volunteer.

Judge Minor was appointed by Governor Tom Wolf to serve as a member of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on June 7, 2017.

Judge Minor is Chairman of the Potter County Criminal Justice Advisory Board and has been a past and present member of many civic organizations including the American Red Cross and Rotary.



Judge Mitchell P. Shahren, Secretary

Judge Mitchell P. Shahren currently serves as the Secretary of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Judge Shahren was elected to the Beaver County Court of Common Pleas bench in November 2017 and began serving in this role in January 2018. He is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and received his juris doctor degree from the Western New England University School of Law. Judge Shahren was admitted to the Bar in October 1983.

Judge Shahren served as an associate with an attorney in Beaver County until 1992 at which time he engaged in the practice of law as a sole practitioner. His law practice provided him with a wide spectrum of legal experiences including hundreds of juvenile cases and thousands of adult criminal cases through his position as Conflicts Counsel for Beaver County. He also served as solicitor for a number of boroughs and the Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School.

Judge Shahren currently serves as the Juvenile Court Administrative Judge charged with the responsibility of overseeing the complete juvenile system in Beaver County. He has served in the position of Juvenile Court Administrative Judge since his first day of as a Court of Common Pleas Judge.

Judge Shahren was appointed by Governor Tom Wolf to serve as a member of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on June 8, 2021.

Judge Shahren is an advocate that the utilization of evidence-based practices at every stage and at every interaction of a juvenile case will lead to successful results. He is optimistic and embraces a never give up attitude toward juveniles and families that is backed by a commitment to dedicate himself to each and every assignment or appointment, especially when the task involves children and families.

ROBERT TOMASSINI APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION



Robert J. Tomassini was appointed Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) effective July 16, 2022. Mr. Tomassini began his career in 1987 as a juvenile probation officer in Adams County, PA and was promoted to Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in 1991. In 2008, Mr. Tomassini was recognized by the JCJC as Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year. In 2010, he was promoted to the position of Director of Juvenile Probation Services in that jurisdiction, where he remained until 2013.

In 2013, Mr. Tomassini was hired by the JCJC as Director of Administration and Grant Programs, overseeing the agency's operating budget as well as management of the agency's Juvenile Probation Services Grant Program, which provides nearly \$18 million of state funding to juvenile probation departments across the Commonwealth.

In July 2015, Mr. Tomassini was promoted to the position of Director of the JCJC's Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research (CJJT&R) located at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. The CJJT&R houses the agency's training, graduate education, data collection and analysis, research, balanced and restorative justice, and detention monitoring programs.

In 2016, Mr. Tomassini was promoted to the position of Deputy Director of the JCJC. This position is responsible for assisting the Executive Director in the development, implementation, and direction of programs in the areas of juvenile court policy and practice and juvenile probation policy and practice. In this role, Mr. Tomassini also served as the project coordinator of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), a statewide initiative introduced to sustain and enhance activities begun under Models for Change and to implement evidence-based practices at every stage of the juvenile justice process. Additionally, Mr. Tomassini currently serves in a leadership role with a team of statewide juvenile justice stakeholders participating in the Pennsylvania Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program delivered by Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform.

Mr. Tomassini holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Administration of Justice from Shippensburg University.

ANGELA WORK APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

Angela Tornatore Work was appointed Deputy Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) effective July 16, 2022. Ms. Work joined the staff of the JCJC on November 13, 2017, as the Director of Administration and Grant Programs. In this role, she was responsible for the administration of the annual JCJC Juvenile Probation Services Grant program, the agency's operating budget, and represented the agency at a variety of statewide committees and activities.



In 2019, Ms. Work was promoted to Director of Quality Assurance in Juvenile Justice. In this position, she was responsible for the statewide leadership, support, advice, and training relating to the implementation and sustainability of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), including the development, implementation, and sustainability of continuous quality improvement plans to reinforce desired evidence-based practices and fidelity of those practices. In each of these roles, she provided court consultant services including technical assistance and advice to juvenile court judges and chief juvenile probation officers. Additionally, Ms. Work has served the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) Leadership Team as Co-Leader to Stage 3 activities.

Ms. Work has sixteen years of experience in the juvenile justice system. Prior to joining the JCJC, Ms. Work was employed as a counselor at a juvenile sexual offender program, followed by employment in McKean County as a juvenile probation officer, and progressing to a Quality Assurance and Placement Specialist. At the 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, Ms. Work received the JCJC's Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year Award.

Ms. Work volunteers her time as Treasurer, Executive Board Member, and Member of the Board of Director's to the Pennsylvania Association of Student Assistance Professionals (PASAP). She also volunteers as President and Board Member of her neighborhood's Homeowners Association.

Academically, Ms. Work obtained a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh with a dual major in Administration of Justice and Sociology, and a Master of Science degree in Education from St. Bonaventure University. She can be reached at awork@pa.gov.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Act 1 of 2022 – Guidance from Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)

Act 1 of 2022 was signed into law by Governor Wolf on January 26, 2022 and amended the Public School Code by adding Section 1331.1 – Assisting Students Experiencing Education Instability. This Act mandates that whenever a school receives a student who has experienced educational instability, the school shall provide various supports to keep the student on track to graduate high school. Additionally, schools are required to designate a point person for the student who will review past transcripts and provide the essential supports needed to aid student graduation in a timely manner.

Earlier this year, juvenile probation departments were encouraged to contact their local school districts to identify the assigned point of contact established by the school entity. Additionally, it was reported that guidance was being prepared by PDE and would be distributed upon its release.

Information regarding Act 1 of 2022 was recently released through correspondence sent by PDE and placed on the department's website (<https://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>). The following links contain background information and school entity requirements included in Act 1 and additional guidance as prepared by PDE.

<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Pages/Act1of2022.aspx>

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Policy-Funding/BECS/Purdons/Pages/Act1of2022AssistingStudentsExperiencingEducationInstability--.aspx>

Questions regarding Act 1 of 2022 can be directed to either Bob Tomassini (rtomassini@pa.gov) or Angela Work (awork@pa.gov).

CONGRATULATIONS!

SETH BLOOMQUIST HONORED WITH JUVENILE CORRECTIONS AWARD

Reprinted with Permission by the Kane Republican

Kane Republican - 15 Jul 2022 - By Beth L. Koop, Editor

Seth Bloomquist, formerly of Kane, was recently honored as 2022 Juvenile Corrections Professional of the Year.

Bloomquist, who is the Director of Detention Monitoring for the Center for Juvenile Justice at Shippensburg University and works for the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, was presented with the award by the Pennsylvania Association on Probation, Parole and Corrections (PAPPC).



Seth Bloomquist, (right) formerly of Kane, was presented with the 2022 Juvenile Corrections Professional of the Year award from Gene D'Antonio, (left) Deputy Director, Greene County Juvenile Probation. (submitted image)

“Anytime you’re recognized is extremely nice, especially from your peers,” Bloomquist said about the honor.

Bloomquist works with justice practitioners (court administrators, wardens, judges and probation departments) in all 67 counties in the Commonwealth to ensure that any juveniles held in secure custody are held in compliance with the Pennsylvania Juvenile Act and the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Both the state and federal legislation states that juveniles arrested as adults must be treated as juveniles to protect them within the justice system from inappropriate placements and harm that can occur as a result of exposure to adult offenders.

Pennsylvania is one of three states in full compliance with the federal reporting requirements.

PAPPC Award Chair, Tonia Smith, congratulated Bloomquist. “Your work efforts for the growth and development of the criminal justice system is commendable.”

When he was living in Mckean County, Bloomquist also received the Pennsylvania Junior Probation Officer of the Year award in 1996. Bloomquist now resides in Shippensburg and is the head coach of wrestling at Shippensburg University.

HOLLY JOHNSTON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, RECEIVES CHILD & ADOLESCENT CHAMPION AWARD

Submitted by Columbia County



Juvenile Probation Officer Holly Johnston of Columbia County was recently recognized with a Child & Adolescent Champion Award for 2022 from Diversified Treatment Alternatives Centers (DTAC) during their 30th Anniversary celebration on July 31, 2022.

Holly has been a juvenile probation officer with Columbia County for 15 years and specializes in juvenile sex offenders. She has worked closely with many youth over the years and has invested herself in working with them to achieve their fullest potential. Our youth have been strongly impacted by her drive and determination. Congratulations Holly on this award and recognition!

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2021 JUVENILE COURT ANNUAL REPORT

Delinquency Dispositions – Most Serious Alleged and Substantiated Offenses

Most serious alleged offenses* in Pennsylvania have decreased by 15.0% from 2020 to 2021 and have decreased by 44.9% since 2017. The number of alleged offenses within the “Other” offense category has shown the largest decrease (20.1%) from 2020 to 2021, followed by Drug offenses (13.5%), Person offenses (12.9%), and Property offenses (12.0%). Since 2017, “Other” offenses have shown the sharpest decline (49.5%). Drug and Property offenses have also declined considerably, 47.4% and 42.0%, respectively. Person offenses decreased 40.7% over this five-year time period.

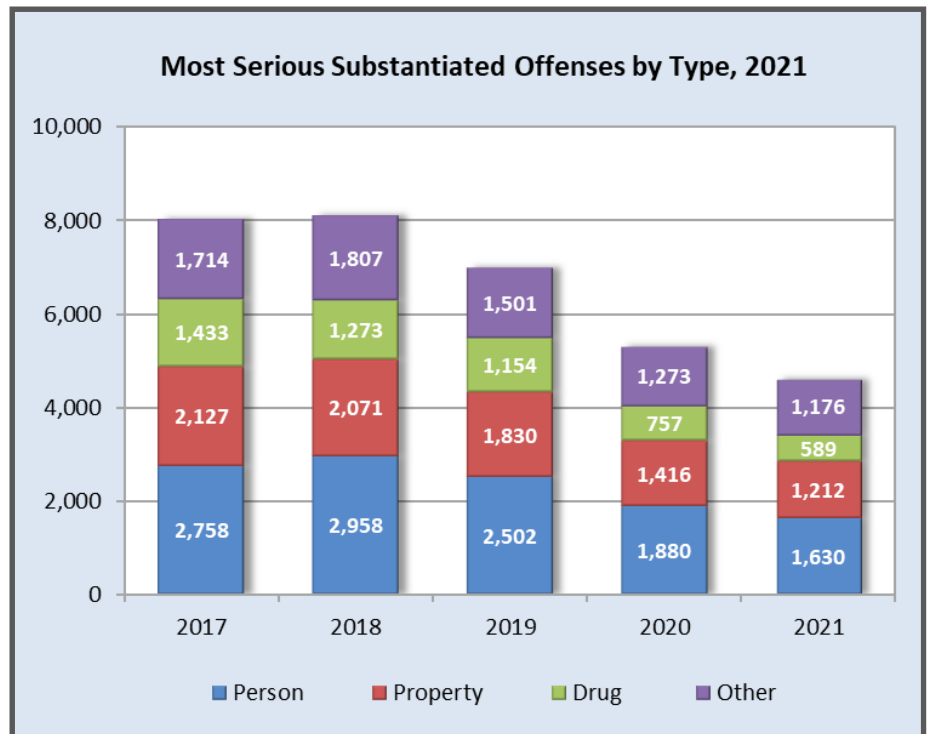
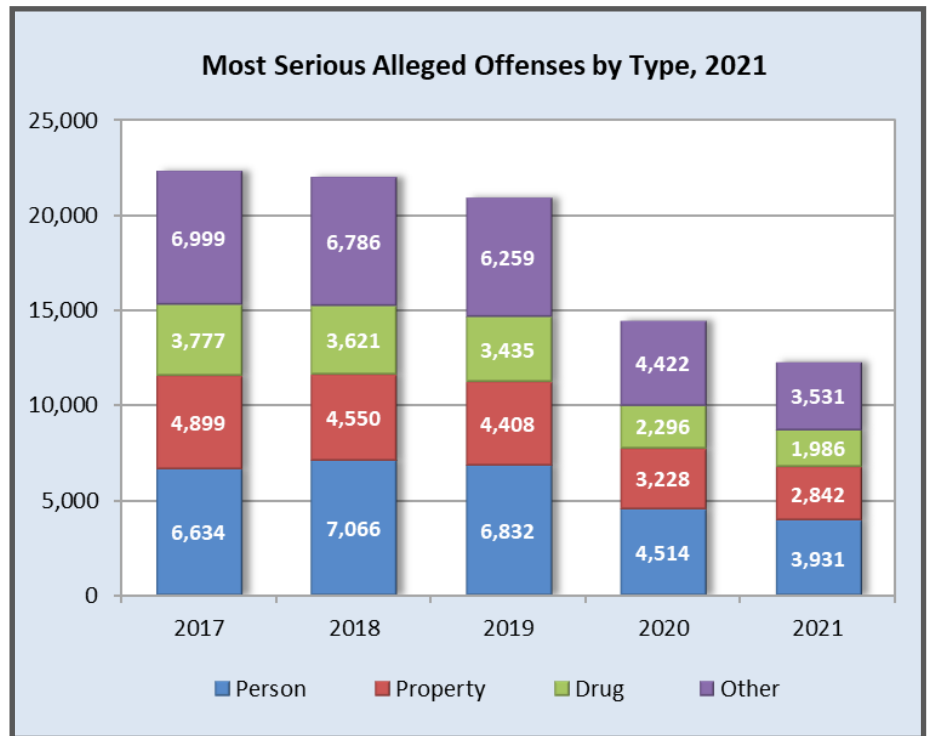
*Most serious alleged offenses are compiled based on the most serious alleged offense for each juvenile delinquency disposition.

Similar to the most serious alleged offenses, the number of substantiated offenses* also declined in this time period. From 2020 to 2021, the largest decrease occurred in the Drug offense category (22.2%), followed by Property offenses (14.4%), Person offenses (13.3%), and “Other” offenses (7.6%). The total number of substantiated offenses in 2021 remains well below 2017 levels. Similarly, each category of substantiated offenses (Person, Property, Drug, and “Other”) remained below their respective 2017 levels.

*A substantiated offense is any petitioned offense the court finds the juvenile committed.

County-specific data on Most Serious Alleged and Substantiated Offenses can be found in the appendices of Pennsylvania’s 2021 Juvenile Court Annual Report at:

<https://www.jjc.pa.gov/Research-Statistics/Disposition Reports/2021 Juvenile Court Annual Report.pdf>.



BUCKS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT HOSTS SCHOOL/POLICE SYMPOSIUM

On Monday, August 15th, Bucks County Juvenile Court hosted a Police/School Symposium, which included officials from county law enforcement and county school districts. This was a joint presentation with Bucks County Juvenile Probation and the Bucks County District Attorney's Office. The shared goal of the symposium was to increase communication and collaboration among all stakeholders as we embark on the start of a new school year.

Speakers included Judge Jeffrey Finley, Juvenile Court Administrative Judge; District Attorney Matthew Weintraub; Deputy District Attorney Kristi Hoover, Chief of Juvenile Prosecution; Juvenile Probation Chief Ted Rice; and Deputy Chief Will Chapman.

Presenters gave an overview of the Bucks County juvenile justice process, which included discussions on diversion programs, youth aid panels, and current juvenile justice enhancement initiatives.

Focus was placed on school safety and procedures utilized to address cases in an expedited manner, such as the use of the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) evaluation, the impact of Safe2Say reporting hotline, and Rule 163 release of information to schools.



2021 JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY RESULTS

In conclusion to a multi-part newsletter series, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is delighted to illustrate the progress of Stage Four of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) in Pennsylvania with the Performance Measures infographic.

Stage Four, the final stage of the JJSES, involves developing a system of measurement and feedback to ensure that evidence-based programs and practices are being fully implemented and are having their intended effect. Stage Four activities also seek to ensure that evidence-based practices that were once new and experimental become ingrained in the policies and everyday practices of juvenile probation departments. When a practice or procedure is formalized via a policy, it is much more likely to be embedded within the department's day-to-day business practices. Policies help to set clear expectations, in writing, for all members of the probation department. In turn, there is a clear roadmap for the "who", "what," "where," "why," and "how" of the various JJSES activities.

Juvenile probation departments are taking steps to embed evidence-based concepts in the organization's staff's performance-based decision-making and continuous quality improvement efforts. According to the 2021 JJSES Implementation Survey, nearly two-thirds (64%) of juvenile probation departments report that evidence-based practice knowledge is a consideration in staff hiring decisions, up from just 15% of departments in 2012. In addition, 48% of departments report staff proficiency in evidence-based practices being taken into consideration when conducting performance evaluations, up from just 9% in 2012. Finally, more than two-thirds (67%) of juvenile probation departments report that evidence-based practice proficiency is a consideration in staff promotion decisions, up from just 15% of departments in 2012.

The JCJC, Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (PCCJPO), and Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) are committed to supporting and sustaining the JJSES activities over time. As evidenced by the 2021 JJSES Implementation Survey results, Stage four activities continue to expand within juvenile probation departments throughout the Commonwealth, further refining the initiative and improving Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system.

JJSES IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY 2021

STAGE FOUR: REFINEMENT

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

21%

utilize the Juvenile Probation EBP Job Description Template for Supervisors.

21%

utilize the Juvenile Probation EBP Job Description Template for JPOs.

16%

utilize the EBP Juvenile Probation Performance Appraisal Form for Supervisors.

22%

utilize the EBP Juvenile Probation Performance Appraisal Form for JPOs.

19%

utilize the Performance Self-Appraisal for Supervisors.

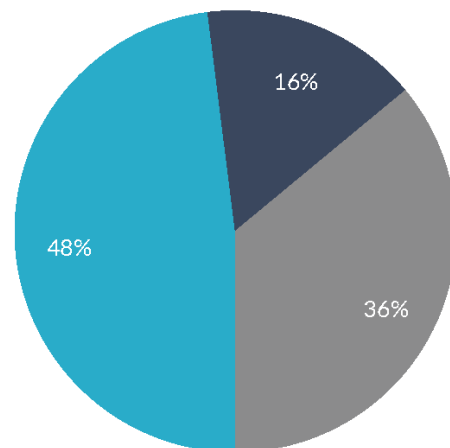
15%

utilize the Performance Self-Appraisal for JPOs.

64%

consider EBP knowledge in hiring decisions.

Consideration of EBP Staff Proficiency During Performance Evaluation



91%

post job positions on their county job board.

67%

consider EBP proficiency in promotion decisions.

63%

that are not utilizing the Juvenile Probation EBP Job Description Templates indicated their job descriptions reflect principles of EBP.

19%

who are not utilizing the EBP Juvenile Probation Performance Appraisal Form for Supervisors indicated their performance evaluations reflect principles of EBP.

19%

who are not utilizing the EBP Juvenile Probation Performance Appraisal Form for Probation Officers indicated their performance evaluations reflect principles of EBP.



pennsylvania
JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION



The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) Trends Report: Amount of Service

Through his research, Dr. Lipsey found amount of service delivery has an impact on positive youth outcomes. He subsequently identified the **median** amount of **weeks & hours** for each service classification associated with optimal recidivism reduction.

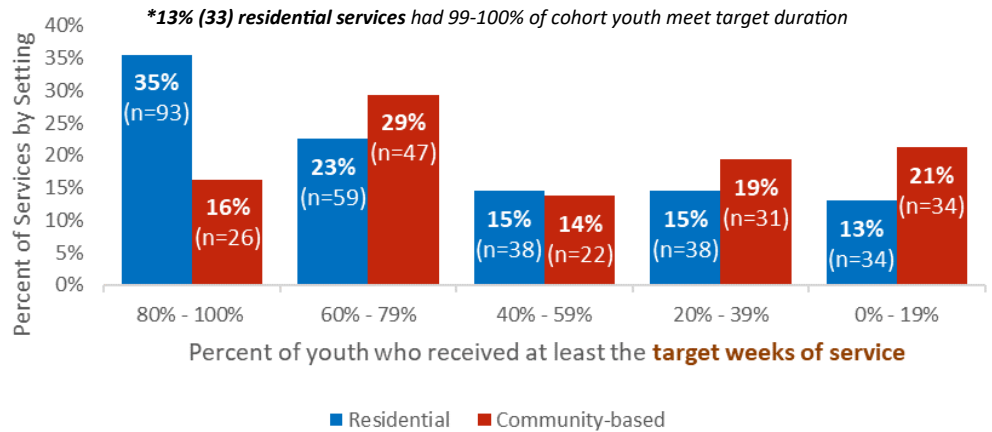
Each SPEP™ service category corresponds to an optimal duration & dosage of service in order to maximize recidivism reduction potential. Data shown here reflects SPEP™ assessments resulting in a Full Score. The graphs show the *total count of services* charted by the proportion of youth who received the recommended weeks & hours of service (i.e., *93 residential services had 80-100% of their youth receive the full recommended service duration*).

Juvenile probation departments & service providers are equal partners in the SPEP™ process, and service utilization by probation is a key driver for amount of service. The Courts, with recommendations from Probation, have significant influence over referral, continued stay and discharge directly impacting a youth's participation in a service.

The SPEP™ Learning and SPEP™ Informed Communities are leading discussions on ways in which more youth can receive the target amounts of service in residential & community-based settings. To get involved, please contact Kris Glunt at ktg10@psu.edu or Angela Work at awork@pa.gov.

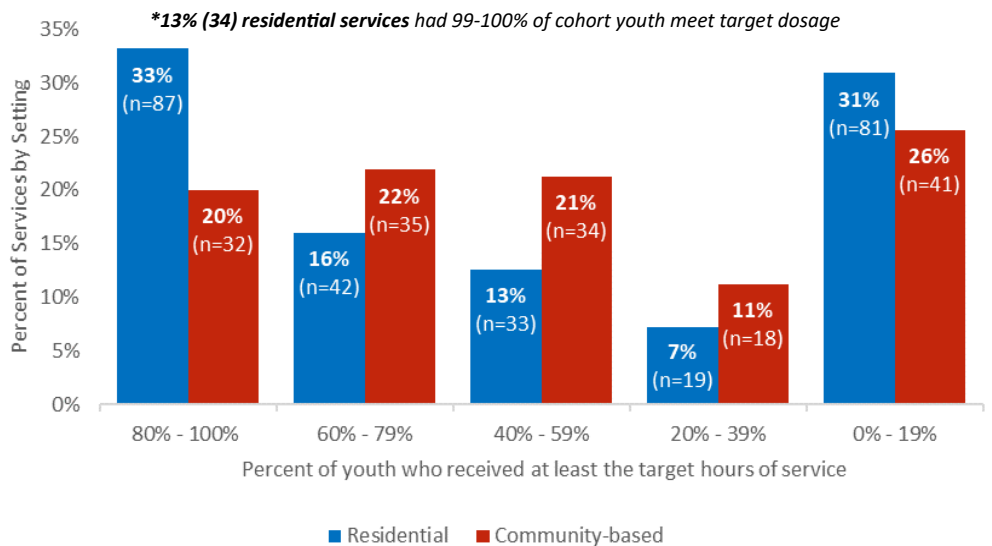
Duration

Time between the first day the primary service is provided to each juvenile and the last day it is provided to that juvenile (e.g., 12 weeks)



Dosage

Total number of face-to-face contact hours each juvenile has with the primary service



Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Position Announcement

Juvenile Court Policy and Program Development Specialist

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is seeking applicants for the position of Juvenile Court Policy and Program Development Specialist located in the administrative office of the JCJC in Harrisburg, PA.

Position Description: In this position, you will actively participate in the planning, development, and implementation of juvenile justice-related policies and programs, while also providing expert guidance and technical assistance to juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers, and juvenile justice stakeholders. You will represent the JCJC on various statewide committees and workgroups to develop policies, practices, and procedures intended to advance the use of evidence-based, juvenile justice practices, and improve the overall functioning of the Commonwealth's juvenile justice system. If you have experience and wish to explore a rewarding career with a nationally recognized leader in juvenile justice, the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission wants to hear from you!

Qualifications: Applicants must possess six years of professional juvenile justice experience which includes two years of experience developing, designing, or implementing juvenile justice programs as an administrator, supervisor, or consultant; and a master's degree in criminal justice, criminology, or the behavioral sciences.

- Civil Service Permanent Full-Time Position - *The examination announcement for this position is available at:*

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/3664162/juvenile-court-policy-and-program-development-specialist?keywords=juvenile%20justice%20specialist&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

PLEASE NOTE: All applicants are responsible for adhering to the application and posting requirements as described in the job posting to be eligible for consideration. Failure to exactly follow these requirements will eliminate a candidate from consideration. All questions on the application must be fully answered. No question should be answered as "see attachment", as attachments will not be considered as part of the formal application screening and scoring process.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Charles McIntyre at chmcintyre@pa.gov or (717) 787-6910.

Application Deadline: September 6, 2022



Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Position Announcement

Juvenile Court Consultant

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is seeking applicants for **three Juvenile Court Consultant** positions.

Position Description:

Juvenile Court Consultants are responsible for providing support and technical assistance to juvenile court judges, chief juvenile probation officers, juvenile justice agencies, and community organizations throughout the Commonwealth regarding programs, organizational procedures, and operations, and evaluating compliance with JCJC standards and JCJC endorsed best practices to improve juvenile court and juvenile probation services. These positions also represent the JCJC on various committees and workgroups. These positions will work remotely.

- These are Civil Service Permanent Full-Time Positions -
The examination announcement for this position is available at:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau> (link to go live soon!)

Qualifications:

Applicants must possess five years of experience as a juvenile probation officer and a master's degree in criminal justice, criminology, or the behavioral sciences.

PLEASE NOTE: All applicants are responsible for adhering to the application and posting requirements as described in the job posting to be eligible for consideration. Failure to exactly follow these requirements will eliminate a candidate from consideration. All questions on the application must be fully answered. No question should be answered as "see attachment", as attachments will not be considered as part of the formal application screening and scoring process.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Charles McIntyre at chmcintyre@pa.gov or (717) 787-6910.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

September

- 8 Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) Coaches Forum - State College
- 13 JCJC Technology User Group - Virtual
- 15 Leading with Purpose: How to Center Success - State College
- 19-23 Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) - Virtual
- 26-30 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professional - A Blended Learning Course - Camp Hill
- 28-29 Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist Training - Virtual

Registration available at www.jcjcjems.pa.gov

October

- 4 Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument: Version 2 (MAYSI~2) - Virtual
- 4-5 Probation Officer Well-Being: Officer Safety That Can Promote a Safe Working Environment - State College
- 6-7 Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification - Camp Hill
- 12 Motivational Interviewing (MI) Coaches Forum - State College
- 17 Organizational Leadership Development for Criminal Justice Professionals - Virtual
- 18 Learning Community for MAYSI~2 & CTS Coordinators in PA's Juvenile Probation Departments - Virtual

December

- 1 Getting Comfortable with Feedback - Virtual

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE FIFTH MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING COACHES' FORUM

Registration is now open for the **Fifth Motivational Interviewing (MI) Coaches' Forum**. The event, open to all Motivational Interviewing Coaches, will take place on October 12th, 2022, at the Hyatt Place in State College, PA.

The full day event will consist of large group discussion and activities aimed at providing a venue for MI coaches from around the state to network and exchange ideas on MI implementation, addressing consistency in quality assurance mechanisms (including booster training, observation, coding and providing feedback), coaching fundamentals, and self-care for coaches. The fundamental premise of the forum is to advance the standardized use of MI in the PA juvenile justice system.

The MI Committee of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy Leadership Team is also excited to share that it has partnered with several recognized MI experts to facilitate the event!

- Michael Clark, nationally recognized MI trainer and Director of the Michigan-based Center for Strength-Based Strategies.
- Marilyn Stein, long-time MI trainer and owner of MSG Consulting.
- Dr. Kelly Waltman, author, organizational leadership trainer, and owner of SLR Leadership Consulting.

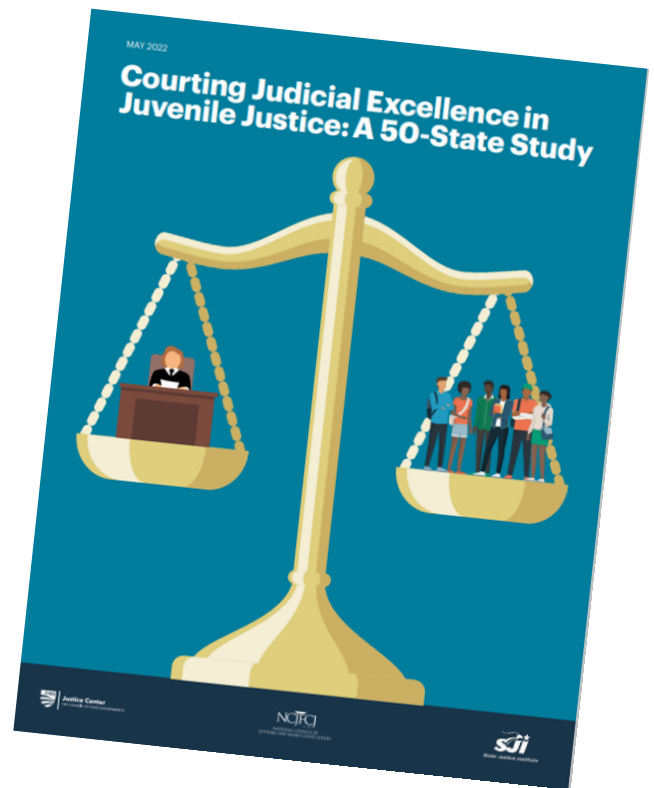
Motivational Interviewing Coaches can now register for this event in the JCJC Events Management System (JEMS) at www.jcjcjems.pa.gov.

HOW STATES CAN SUPPORT THEIR JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

The Council of State Governments Justice Center and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges recently released *Courting Judicial Excellence in Juvenile Justice: A 50-State Study*. The researchers, funded by the State Justice Institute, assessed how states structure and operate their juvenile courts and found inconsistencies in many areas, from juvenile court judge requirements, selection, rotations, and caseloads to the tools provided to judges.

Based on surveys, focus groups, interviews, and a literature, policy, and statute review, the report recommends the following five ways to strengthen juvenile court systems:

1. Establish specialized, dedicated juvenile and family court judges responsible for hearing delinquency cases.
2. Ensure that judges have the information, tools, and data needed to make decisions based on research to improve public safety and youth outcomes.
3. Require all judges who hear delinquency cases to receive training on adolescent development and juvenile justice research prior to taking the bench and annually thereafter.
4. Establish dedicated forums, initiatives, and supports specifically for strengthening the juvenile court, including a new federal court improvement project targeting juvenile justice court improvements.
5. Identify statewide performance measures for juvenile court judges and collect and use data to strengthen decision-making transparency, research alignment, and accountability.



Each recommendation is followed by a rationale based on study findings, key policy and practice improvements, state best practices, and suggested innovations. Recommendation #4 highlights Pennsylvania's Juvenile Court Judges' Commission as a state best practice, emphasizing its role in research-based policy, practices, administrative standards, and tools, such as training and data. Pennsylvania provides many resources and supports that the report suggests, such as new juvenile court judge orientations, annual training, bench cards, risk and needs assessment tools, and performance measures.

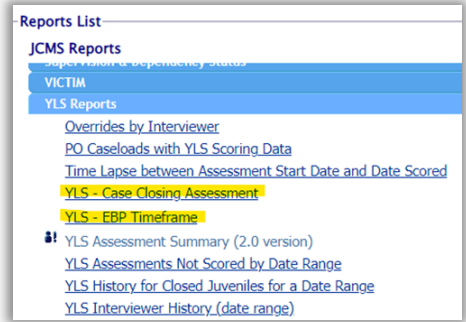
The report is available online at <https://csgjusticecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Courting-Judicial-Excellence-in-Juvenile-Justice-A-50-State-Study-2.pdf>.

In addition to this report, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges passed a resolution to strengthen the roles of judges who handle juvenile justice cases, which is at https://www.ncjfcj.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/FinalResolution_StrengtheningtheRoleofJudges_Adopted053122.pdf.

The National Center for Juvenile Justice's Geography, Policy, Practice, and Statistics (JJGPS) online tool was updated to reflect juvenile court practices, including judicial selection, judicial specialization, caseload assignment, and judicial experience, training, and tools. View JJGPS's juvenile court information at <http://www.jjgps.org/juvenile-court>.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

The Youth Level of Service (YLS) assessment tool has been in use in the Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) for quite some time now. The very first YLS was entered into the database on March 23, 2009. Since then, the YLS has become an integral part of managing juvenile probation. Recently, JCJC has been researching the adherence of counties to the YLS evidence-based practice policies in place to assure the best use of the tool and what it represents. As a result, two new reports were created and released into PaJCMS to help counties track the YLS information they have entered or have missed.



The first report, YLS – Case Closing Assessment, pulls all juveniles who were closed for services within the chosen timeframe and had one of the following experiences during their supervision period: 1) A disposition of consent decree, probation, or placement; or 2) An adjudication of delinquency; or 3) A disposition of informal adjustment, and the youth had been under supervision for 3 or more months (calculated from date of disposition to date of closure). The YLS assessment that was marked as a closing assessment that occurred closest in time to the juvenile’s closure (up to 180 days prior or 30 days after) is displayed. If there is no closing assessment entered, the Assessment Date field will be highlighted in orange. If the assessment was entered, but is outside the policy range, the Days Closing Assessment to Close will be highlighted in yellow.

YLS EBP Closing Assessments
Juvenile Closed 03/22/2022 to 03/28/2022

JUVENILE NAME	COUNTY JID	SUPERVISION INFORMATION	CASE INFORMATION	DISPOSITION INFORMATION	YLS INFORMATION
		Date: 06/11/2021 to 03/28/2022 Supervision Length: 290	Referral Date: 06/11/2021 Case Number: Most Serious Charge: Adjudicated? Charge Status:	Disposition Date: 10/28/2021 Disposition: Consent Decree Days Disposition to Close: 151	Initial Assessment Date: 11/18/2021 Assessment Type: Initial Risk: Low Total Score: 7 Assessment PO: Closing Assessment Date: 04/04/2022 Days Closing Assessment to Close: Assessment Type: Closing Risk: Low Total Score: 3 Assessment PO:

Initial Assessment Date: 10/28/2021
Assessment Type: Initial
Risk: Moderate
Total Score: 20
Assessment PO:
Closing Assessment Date: 04/21/2022
Days Closing Assessment to Close: -30
Assessment Type: Closing
Risk: Low
Total Score: 2
Assessment PO:

Disposition	Adjudicated	None	After Close	0-30 DAYS	91-120 DAYS	Total
Consent Decree	0	5	2	0	7	
Total	0	5	2	0	7	
Extended Service	2	0	2	0	4	
Total	2	0	2	0	4	
Placement	Yes	0	3	5	1	9
Total	0	3	5	1	9	
Probation	Yes	0	1	3	0	4
Total	0	1	3	0	4	
Total	2	9	12	1	24	

This report also includes a breakdown of the time it took to complete an assessment based upon disposition and adjudication.

The second report, YLS – EBP Timeframe, pulls all initial dispositions of Informal Adjustment, Consent Decree, Probation, or Placement that occurred within the chosen timeframe. The Initial or Review YLS assessment that occurred closest in time to the disposition (up to 180 days prior to or 30 days after) is displayed. Like the first report, if an assessment is missing, the Assessment Date field will be highlighted in orange. If the assessment was entered, but is outside the policy range, the Days YLS to Disposition will be highlighted in yellow.

Juveniles Who Had a First Disposition*
06/23/2022 to 06/30/2022

JUV NAME	COUNTY JID	CASE INFORMATION	DISPOSITION INFORMATION	YLS INFORMATION
		Referral Date: 06/07/2022 Case Number: Most Serious Charge: 183701A1iif1 Adjudicated? Yes Charge Status: SUBSTANTIATED	Disposition Date: 06/23/2022 Disposition: Placement	Assesment Date: 05/09/2022 Days YLS to Disposition: 45 Assessment Type: Review Overall Risk Level: Moderate Total Score: 20 PO:

This report also includes a table that is broken out by length of time to assessment by disposition and adjudication status.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the reports, please contact your PaJCMS Helpdesk at RA-JCICHELPDESK@pa.gov.



July 28, 2022

Applications are now being accepted for the following position in Centre County Government. Those who qualify and are interested should apply at the Human Resources Office, Room 334 Willowbank Building, Bellefonte, PA or call (814) 355-6748 for an application. This posting can be viewed and an application downloaded from our website at www.centrecountypa.gov.

JUVENILE PROBATION SUPERVISOR

PC #02

Position Overview

Department:

Probation & Parole
Courthouse - 4th Floor
102 S. Allegheny Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Base Pay:

Salary Grade: 13
\$26.88/hour
Exempt

Shift Available:

Full—Time (40 Hours)
8:30am-5:00pm

Required Education:

- Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, law enforcement, social or behavioral science or related field.
- Must successfully pass firearms and in-service training.

Required Experience:

- Two to three (2-3) years working experience in probation/parole and knowledge of justice and court system, with some supervisory experience or any equivalent combination of acceptable training and experience.

Other Requirements:

- Must possess a valid Pennsylvania driver's license and a willingness to travel as needed.

Applications:

Applications for this position will be accepted **until a suitable candidate is selected.**

Summary of Job Functions

- Supervises and trains Probation Officers within the department.
- Supervises and maintains the function of the Probation Officers.
- Supervises a designated caseload of offenders and counsels offenders, as needed, to help in their personal, social, and economic adjustments to the community.
- Conducts intake interviews and/or investigations of juvenile offenders; interviews offenders, victims, police, and others regarding knowledge of the offense.
- Prepares reports and memos on investigations, pre-sentences, and court reviews.
- Refers offenders to various agencies for needed assistance and coordinates and confers with those agencies on offenders needs and progress.
- Appears and testifies as an expert witness at court hearings.
- Enforces court orders and makes arrests or re-arrests as necessary.
- Schedules hearings before the courts.
- Collects fees, fines, costs, and restitutions from offenders.
- Maintains records and statistics for various state reports.
- Assists Director of Probation with input for budgetary purposes.
- Serves as a member of the Advisory Team of Centre County and other task forces as required.
- Reviews placement lists monthly with Director of Probation.
- Attends meetings or training sessions as required
- Performs other job-related duties as required.

Equal Opportunity Employer



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

OJJDP/NIJ FACT SHEET REPORTS DECLINE IN ARRESTS OF YOUTH FOR VIOLENT CRIMES

OJJDP and the National Institute of Justice have released [Trends in Youth Arrests for Violent Crimes](#).

The fact sheet describes a decline since the mid-2000s in the estimated number of youth arrests for violent crimes, including murder, robbery, and aggravated assault. "These data reflect an encouraging trend—one that has in fact been developing over the last three decades—and offer a welcome counter-narrative to claims that youth crime is on the rise," said OJJDP Administrator Liz Ryan.

The fact sheet draws on data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Overall, arrests of youth have been on the decline for more than a decade, but patterns vary by demographic group and offense.

Key findings include:

- By 2020, the number of violent crime arrests involving youth reached a new low—78 percent below its 1994 peak.
- In 2020, there were an estimated 424,300 arrests involving youth younger than 18, a 38 percent drop from the previous year.
- The proportion of violent crime arrests involving youth fell from 14 percent in 2010 to 7 percent in 2020.

RESOURCES:

- See OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) for new a [Data Snapshot](#) that draws on national estimates to document trends in youth arrests through 2020.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

NCJFCJ RELEASES INFOGRAPHIC ON COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVES TO YOUTH CONFINEMENT

The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) has released an [infographic](#) for judicial leadership and juvenile justice stakeholders on the benefits of community-based alternatives to secure confinement for justice-involved youth as well as for the communities where they live. The infographic offers strategies for implementing community-based alternatives to youth incarceration, explains which youth should be considered, details possible outcomes, and more.

In a recent [blog](#) post, OJJDP Administrator Liz Ryan discusses OJJDP's support of community-based alternatives to juvenile justice facilities, including OJJDP's [FY 2022 Community-Based Alternatives to Youth Incarceration Initiative](#).

RESOURCES:

- Read about Administrator Ryan's [priorities](#) for OJJDP.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).



NEW BLOG HIGHLIGHTS OJJDP'S PRIORITIES

In a new [blog](#) post, Administrator Liz Ryan discusses three [priorities](#) that will guide the work of OJJDP:

- Treat children as children.
- Serve children at home, with their families, in their communities.
- Open up opportunities for young people involved in the justice system.

"The priorities I set for OJJDP are deeply informed by my work with stakeholders in the juvenile justice field and reflect their concerns and aspirations," Administrator Ryan writes. "Underpinning these collective priorities is a strong foundation of research and data on what works, and what does not work, in the area of youth justice." The blog also highlights OJJDP's current [listening sessions](#) and upcoming youth town halls that will inform and help shape OJJDP's work moving forward.

RESOURCES:

- Read about OJJDP's [priorities](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

NIJ FACT SHEET ADDRESSES THE PREVENTION OF MASS SHOOTINGS IN SCHOOLS

The [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) has released "[Five Facts About Mass Shootings in K–12 Schools](#)," a fact sheet highlighting research on mass shootings in school settings and ways to detect, prevent, and respond to them.

The five facts are:

- Most people who commit a mass shooting are in crisis leading up to it and are likely to leak their plans to others, presenting opportunities for intervention.
- Everyone can help prevent school mass shootings.
- Threat assessment is a promising prevention strategy to assess and respond to mass shooting threats, as well as other threats of violence by students.
- Individuals who commit a school shooting are most likely to obtain a weapon by theft from a family member, indicating a need for more secure firearm storage practices.
- The overwhelming majority of individuals who commit K–12 mass shootings struggle with various aspects of mental well-being.

RESOURCES:

- See [OJJDP's Model Programs Guide](#) to learn about programs promoting school safety.
- View the [SchoolSafety.gov](#) federal school safety website.
- Read NIJ's "[Five Things](#)" series for research and evaluation on a variety of topics.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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.

To subscribe to Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice, please send your request to ra-oajcnews@pa.gov to be added to the distribution list. You will receive an e-mail alert each month when the latest edition is available.

