



# PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Volume 33, Number 2

February 2022

## GOVERNOR WOLF APPOINTS JUDGE ROYCE L. MORRIS TO THE JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION



On January 29, 2022, Governor Tom Wolf appointed the Honorable Royce L. Morris to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC). Judge Morris serves on the Court of Common Pleas in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He is currently in his fifth year on the bench, where he supervises family and juvenile court. He also presides over cases in orphans court and handles criminal trials.

Prior to his election to the bench, Judge Morris accrued more than 25 years of distinguished service as an attorney and civil servant in his community. He began working for the Dauphin County Public Defender's office in 1991 and served as Chief Deputy in that office from 1996-1999. In 1999, Judge Morris joined the law firm of Goldberg Katzman and was elevated to Partner in 2002. Throughout his legal career, Judge Morris represented individuals and corporations in criminal matters, and municipalities as solicitor and general counsel, often litigating complex and politically sensitive matters on behalf of those clients in county, state, and federal courts.

Judge Morris has provided numerous Continuing Legal Educations Seminars for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, having previously served that organization as president, vice president and treasurer. He was an adjunct professor at Harrisburg Area Community College teaching criminal law and criminal evidence for more than ten years. Judge Morris is currently an adjunct professor at Penn State and teaches in their Criminal Justice program. He also serves as the Jurist in Residence for Widener University Commonwealth Law School.

Judge Morris received a gubernatorial appointment to serve on the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing and served on the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Task Force on the Code of Judicial Conduct. Judge Morris served on the House of Delegates for the Pennsylvania Bar Association and is the former chair of the Equal Professional Opportunity Committee for the Dauphin County Bar Association and the Capital Area Managing Partners Diversity Initiative. Named by Philadelphia Magazine as a "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer" from 2008-2017, he was rated at the highest level of professional excellence by his peers at Martindale Hubbell. He is a graduate of Temple University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland. He also completed an intensive program at the National Criminal Defense College at Mercer Law School in Macon, Georgia.

Judge Morris's appointment fills a vacancy on the Commission created by the resignation of Judge Joy Reynolds McCoy (Lycoming County). Judge McCoy left the bench in January of this year to take a position as Senior Vice-President and Chief Legal Officer of Little League International. Welcome to the JCJC, Judge Morris!

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## COUNTY SPOTLIGHT



### BERKS COUNTY WELCOMES CHIEF DANIEL HEYDT

On January 5, 2022, Daniel Heydt was appointed Chief Probation and Parole Officer in Berks County by the Honorable Thomas G. Parisi, President Judge.

Mr. Heydt joined the Berks County Juvenile Probation Department in 2000 as a juvenile probation officer. He served in many positions within the office, including aftercare probation, electronic monitoring, and the community service program. Mr. Heydt was instrumental in the initial implementation of the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) and the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project (JJSIP), an Evidenced-Based initiative Berks County participated in prior to the development of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). In 2009, Mr. Heydt was promoted to the position of Assistant Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. In this position, he was responsible for the coaching of probation officers, ensuring staff adhered to departmental standards and requirements as outlined in the Juvenile Act, and oversaw a not-for-profit program that focused on job readiness skills for juvenile offenders. In 2013, he was promoted to the position of Deputy Chief Adult Probation/Parole Officer. In this position, he was responsible for and oversaw all facets of the Adult Probation/Parole Department. He currently oversees both the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments.

Mr. Heydt holds a Bachelor's Degree in Administration of Justice from Pennsylvania State University. He also holds a Master of Science Degree in Administration of Justice in 2008 through the JCJC-sponsored Graduate Education Program at Shippensburg University, in addition to a Master's in Public Administration in 2014 from Kutztown University.

In his free time, Mr. Heydt enjoys coaching youth sports in his local community. He resides in Oley, PA with his wife, Lauren, who is a school social worker. He is also the proud father of two children, Connor (7) and Carter (5). He is also the father to Boomer (5 months), their Labrador Retriever puppy.



## TECHNOLOGY CORNER



The Juvenile Courts Judges' Commission (JCJC) held the **JCJC Technology User Group** meeting via Zoom on Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> with over 151 participants in attendance. This meeting was expanded to cover not only changes and enhancements to our Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) but to include all JCJC's technology applications. The opening session covered IT Projects & Processes, Frequently Reported Data Questions, PaJCMS Enhancements, Professional Development, and Research. The three breakout sessions included Data Reporting which talked about reports and iDashboards, the Data Integrity breakout covered scenarios within the Procedures Manual on Reporting Juvenile Court Dispositions, and the PaJCMS breakout provided updates on the most significant and active projects within PaJCMS. All breakouts were interactive question/answer sessions. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of any of the presentations or handouts, please contact the PaJCMS help desk at [RA-JCJCHELPDESK@pa.gov](mailto:RA-JCJCHELPDESK@pa.gov).

# Juvenile Court Judges' Commission Position Announcement

## Research Analyst

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) is seeking applicants for the position of Research Analyst.

### **Position Description:**

This position works directly under the Director of Research and Analytics to provide data analysis and research to support the development and implementation of juvenile justice policy and practice. This position entails working extensively with large administrative datasets and juvenile justice performance measures, frequent writing assignments, and the regular use of the statistical package STATA. Some travel may be required.

The position is grant-funded through the Shippensburg University Foundation and is based at the JCJC's Administrative Office in Harrisburg. The annual salary range for this position is \$44,362 - \$87,844 to be commensurate with the candidate's education, work experience, and qualifications. A comprehensive benefits package is also included.

### **Qualifications:**

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of a master's degree within the social science field and at least two years of direct data analysis and research experience. Individuals with a bachelor's degree and the relevant experience may be considered.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to Justine Fowler, JCJC Director of Research and Analytics, at [c-jufowler@pa.gov](mailto:c-jufowler@pa.gov).

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**





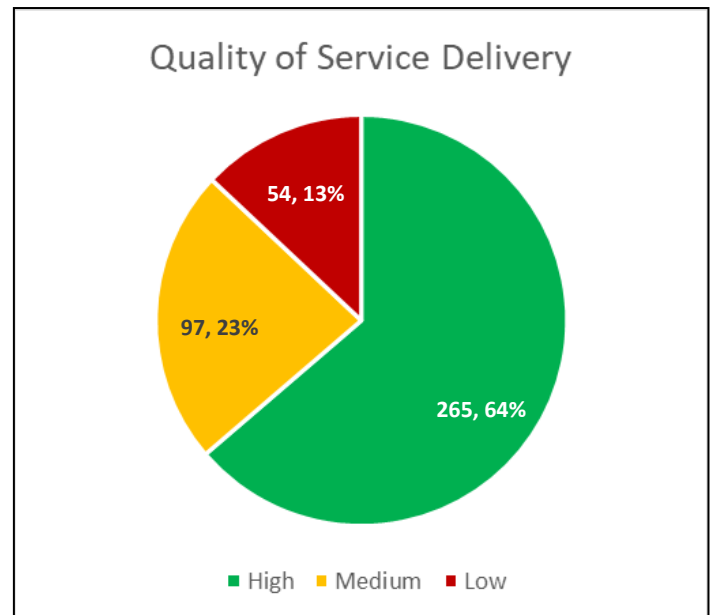
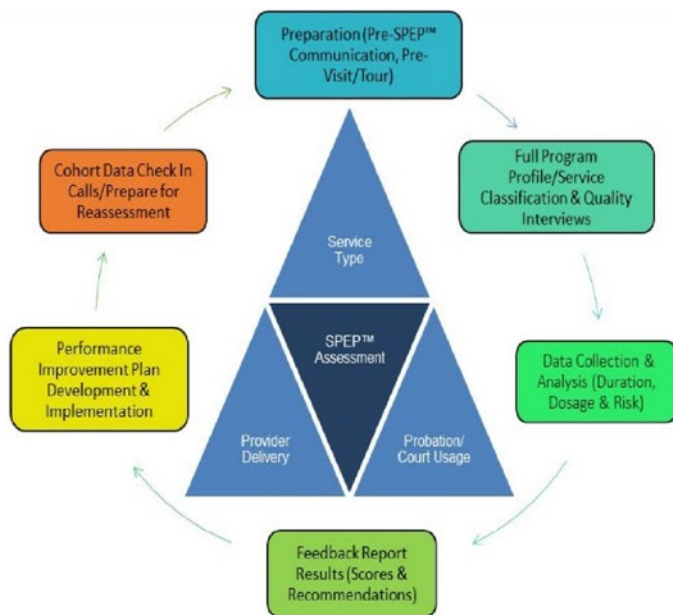
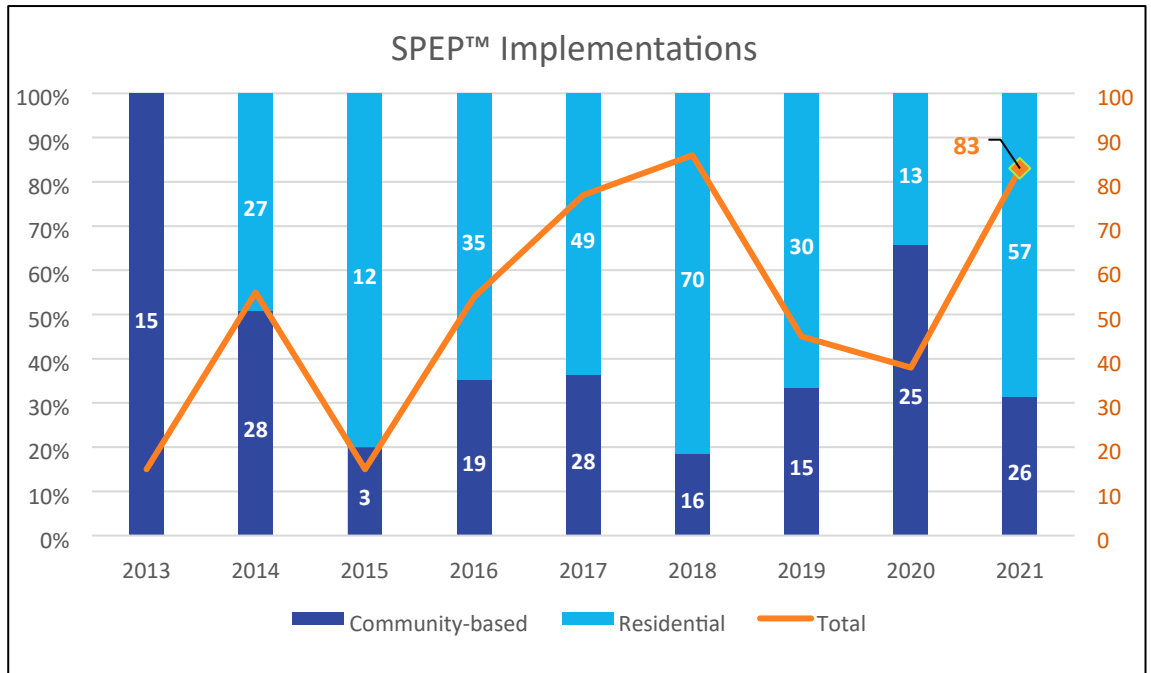
# EPIS

Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support

## The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™): Annual Review

A **SPEP™**

**Implementation** is defined as any contact a service has with an aspect of the **SPEP™ Lifecycle**. There have been **468 SPEP™ Implementations** between 2013 and 2021. **416 Quality Interviews** have been conducted during this same timeframe. The majority of these interviews demonstrate providers are facilitating services with high quality.



# OJJDP RELEASES “DELINQUENCY CASES IN JUVENILE COURT” FACT SHEET

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recently released a National Report Series Fact Sheet, titled “[Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2019](#)”, to describe the national trends and characteristics of delinquency cases in the juvenile justice system.

## National Trends

Overall, the data indicate that juvenile delinquency cases are down. In fact, the decline in juvenile court caseloads since the mid-1990s is the most substantial decline since 1960. (See Figure 1)

Over the last 15 years (2005 – 2019), the number of incoming delinquency cases declined 56%, with decreases seen across all four offense types: property offense cases (down 65%), public order offense cases (down 59%), drug law violation cases (down 47%), and person offense cases (down 45%). Additionally, all individual offense categories saw a decline in this time period as well, with the exception of criminal homicide, which increased 1% over the last 15 years (and 49% over the last 5 years). (See Figure 2)

The proportion of delinquency cases diverted vs. petitioned for formal processing has not changed much over the last fifteen years. Additionally, among those cases that are petitioned and ultimately adjudicated, the proportion resulting in probation vs. residential placement has not changed since 2005. In 2005, 63% of adjudicated cases were ordered to probation, compared to 65% in 2019. Similarly, in 2005, 28% of adjudicated cases were ordered to residential placement, compared to 27% in 2019.

There have been similar decreases in male and female caseloads (both down 56%). The decline in property cases, however, was greater for females than males, and the decline in drug cases was greater for males than females. Males continue to account for three-quarters of all delinquency cases.

Finally, the use of secure detention is down. Between 2005 and 2019, the number of delinquency cases in which the juvenile was detained decreased 54%.

## Case Characteristics

In 2019, approximately one in five (19%) of all delinquency cases were dismissed at intake. An additional one in four were handled informally, and in about half of all cases (54%), authorities filed a petition and handled the case formally. Finally, about 1% of all cases resulted in the juvenile being transferred to criminal court.

It was previously noted that secure detention is down. In general, juveniles with delinquency cases are not likely to be detained. In 2019, only 26% of juvenile cases involved detention, though the likelihood of being detained varied by the offense committed. Person offense cases were the most likely to involve detention (31%), followed by public order offense cases (27%). In comparison, juveniles were less likely to be detained in property offense cases (23%) and drug offense cases (16%).

Figure 1

(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)

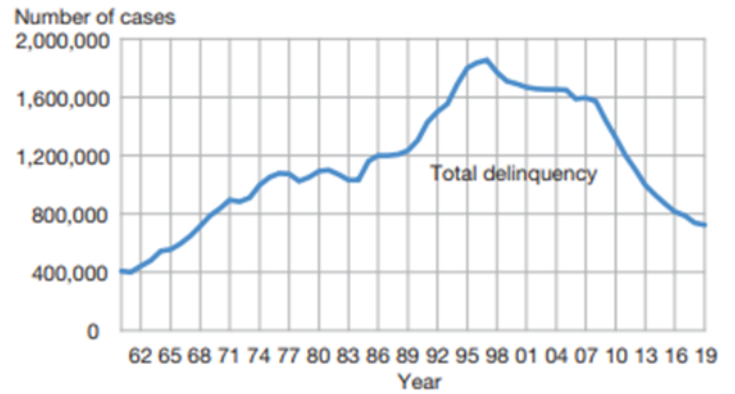


Figure 2

(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)

Most serious offense	Number of cases	Percent change		
		2005–2019	5-year 2015–2019	1-year 2018–2019
<b>Total delinquency</b>	722,600	-56%	-17%	-2%
<b>Person offenses</b>	237,000	-45	-2	3
Criminal homicide	1,100	1	49	10
Rape	8,300	-24	12	7
Robbery	18,600	-28	1	0
Aggravated assault	25,700	-46	2	1
Simple assault	153,100	-45	-4	5
Other violent sex offenses	7,500	-45	1	-1
<b>Property offenses</b>	214,500	-65	-28	-4
Burglary	38,600	-61	-26	-7
Larceny-theft	89,600	-67	-38	-7
Motor vehicle theft	15,300	-53	16	3
Arson	2,100	-71	-23	-1
Vandalism	35,900	-65	-17	1
Trespassing	19,500	-63	-26	-4
Stolen property offenses	7,000	-66	-17	-4
<b>Drug law violations</b>	101,000	-47	-12	-4
<b>Public order offenses</b>	185,100	-59	-20	-5
Obstruction of justice	90,500	-58	-26	-9
Disorderly conduct	48,000	-63	-17	0
Weapons offenses	16,400	-62	-14	-1
Liquor law violations	3,900	-73	-32	3
Nonviolent sex offenses	11,100	-7	9	5

Finally, racial and ethnic disparities existed in the delinquency cases handled in 2019. More specifically, White youth and Asian youth were less likely to be involved in the juvenile justice system compared to their overall share of the U.S. juvenile population, but Black youth were substantially more likely to be involved with the juvenile justice system. Hispanic youth were also disproportionately over-represented in the system as well, though to a lesser degree. To illustrate, the referral rate (per 1,000 youth at risk of juvenile court involvement) for delinquency cases involving Black youth (53.9) was about three times the rates for White (18.3) and Hispanic (17.6) youth, and cases were more likely to be petitioned for formal processing for Black youth (60%) than White (48%) or Hispanic (52%) youth. (See Figure 3)

Figure 3  
(Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)

Race	Race profile of cases, 2019				
	Most serious offense				
	Total delinquency	Person	Property	Drugs	Public order
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
White	43	41	42	53	41
Black	35	38	38	19	37
Hispanic	19	18	17	24	20
American Indian	2	2	2	2	1
Asian	1	1	1	1	1

For more information on this Data Snapshot, please visit OJJDP's recent publication at: <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/publications/delinquency-cases-2019.pdf>.

See you  
in Harrisburg!

# SAVE *the* DATE

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

**NOVEMBER  
2-4, 2022**

2022 James E. Anderson  
**PENNSYLVANIA  
CONFERENCE  
ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**

## CONFERENCE - HOTEL INFORMATION

We are pleased to announce the room blocks at the **Harrisburg Hilton and Towers** and **Crowne Plaza** are open. Early reservations are encouraged to secure the contracted rates, rooms are available on a first come basis. Please see below for reservation details.

At the **Harrisburg Hilton and Towers** the contracted rate is \$157.00 a night. This room block will close on October 14, 2022. You may visit the customized link to book online, [2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice Booking Link](#) or call 1-800-HILTONS or 717-233-6000 / **Group Code: JJC22**. The hotel will confirm your reservation.

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-jcicevents@pa.gov](mailto:ra-jcicevents@pa.gov).



# Call for Presentations

## The 2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

**November 2 - November 4, 2022**

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers

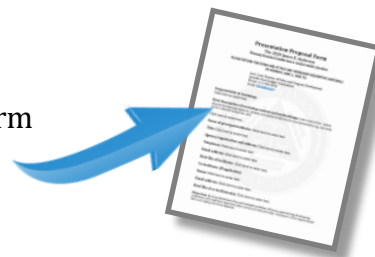
The 2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice, sponsored by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Juvenile Court Section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges will be held November 2-4, 2022 at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers.

Each year the Conference includes workshops that highlight practices, programs and initiatives that exemplify best-practices related to the various components of Pennsylvania's Balanced & Restorative Justice mission and our Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES). This year's workshops will take place on Thursday, November 3, 2022. The workshops will be 90 minutes in length and will be repeated via morning and afternoon sessions.

We enthusiastically welcome submissions for presentations. Interested parties can complete and submit the following presentation proposal form. Please note that up to two facilitators from each selected workshop will receive free Conference registration and meals (facilitators are responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses).

Submissions for presentations are due by **Friday, April 8, 2022**, and can be directed to Leo J. Lutz, Director of Policy and Program Development, at [lelutz@pa.gov](mailto:lelutz@pa.gov).

Presentation Proposal Form  
Click here to download  
or visit:



<https://www.icjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/AnnualConference/Documents/Call%20for%20Presentations%202022.docx>

# JOIN US! JCJC GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSES

## Attention Chiefs

Chiefs, please join this Open House to learn more about the benefits of the JCJC Graduate Education Program. During this hour, we will discuss how to share this information with your departments, encourage anyone eligible and interested to apply to the program, offer support to juvenile probation officers currently enrolled in the program, and answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding the program.

**March 9, 2022 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting -  
<https://ship.zoom.us/j/99195903944>

Meeting ID: 991 9590 3944

Passcode: Please contact [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu)

Mobile: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York)

## Prospective Students

Juvenile Probation Officers, please join this Open House to learn more about the JCJC Graduate Education Program. During this hour, we will share more information about the program including the application process.

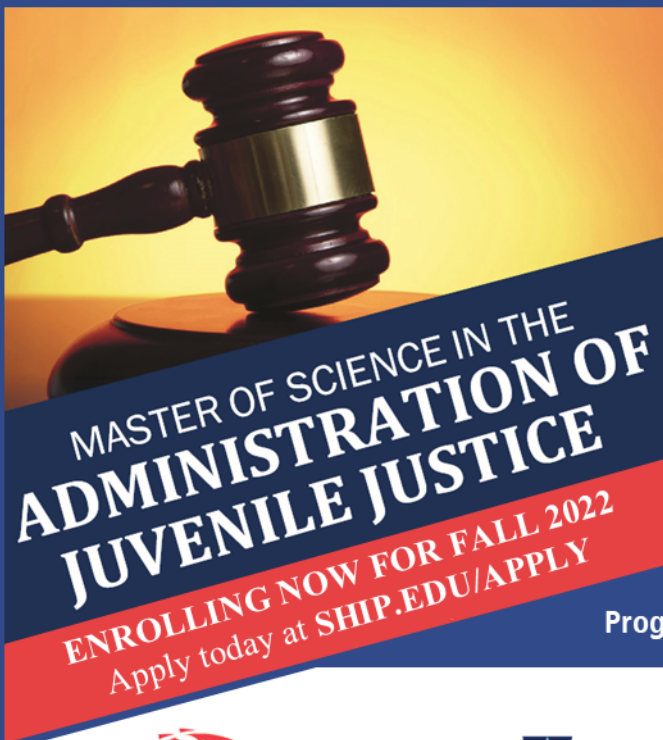
**March 14, 2022 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting -  
<https://ship.zoom.us/j/96974131621>

Meeting ID: 969 7413 1621

Passcode: 000611

Mobile: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York)



### Key Program Features:

- Nationally recognized program, taught by highly qualified and experienced faculty.
- Free tuition and lodging provided by the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.
- A hybrid 33-credit program.
- Summer coursework fully online and 3 face-to-face weekend sessions during the fall and spring semesters.
- A cohort-based program designed to enhance professional networking across the Commonwealth.
- Practical courses designed for juvenile justice professionals with an emphasis on evidence-based practices.

Program Contact: Sonya Stokes at [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu)



For program information,  
visit:

[www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/Graduate-Education](http://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Program-Areas/Graduate-Education)



## STAFF DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### March

- 9-11 Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum Training for Facilitators - Virtual
- 17 Emotional Intelligence for Juvenile Justice Professionals - Virtual
- 31 Adolescent Mental Health Issues and Intervention Strategies - Virtual

### April

- 5 Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument: Version 2 (MAYSI~2) - Virtual
- 6-7 Level 1 SPEP™ Specialist Training - Virtual
- 26 - 5/4 Orientation for the New Juvenile Probation Professional - A Blended Learning Course - Virtual

### May

- 16-20 Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) - Virtual

### September

- 19-23 Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) - Virtual

### October

- 4 Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument: Version 2 (MAYSI~2) - Virtual

Registration available at [www.jcjcemis.pa.gov](http://www.jcjcemis.pa.gov)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) has released another new online training through Brainier, *The Art of Authenticity*. Based on the best-selling and award-winning book by Dr. Karissa Thacker, *The Art of Authenticity* is a micro-learning performance support tool that can transform you and your team to achieve higher levels of engagement and productivity. The training objectives of this course are:

- Understand the definition of “authenticity” at work
- Learn why authentic behavior is important for success today
- Discover why your quirks can actually be positive attributes
- Uncover the secrets of your various “selves”
- Learn how to balance and process input from your team
- Learn how to have “honest conversations”
- Find out how to encourage others to be more open and transparent
- And more



The **Peer Trainer Network** was developed in 2013 to support the training needs across several JJSES activities. JCJC is working to revitalize and enhance the use of the Peer Trainer Network to better meet training and sustainability needs across many evidence-based practices. Currently, the Peer Trainer Network is comprised of 81 trainers, representing 30 contributing entities (juvenile probation departments, EPIS, PaCCJPO, JCJC), in support of training and implementation of 17 curricula. As we begin to re-engage the Peer Trainer Network, we are hosting two virtual informational sessions in March to which peer trainers have been invited to participate. During these sessions, peer trainers will hear the JCJC’s vision for the regeneration of the Peer Trainer Network.

JCJC continues adding to the spring training schedule. Please refer to the Staff Development Highlights calendar at the top of this page for the training events that are currently opened for registration in [JEMS](#).

Please contact Sonya Stokes, Director of Professional Development, [systokes@ship.edu](mailto:systokes@ship.edu) if you have any questions regarding professional development.



# NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

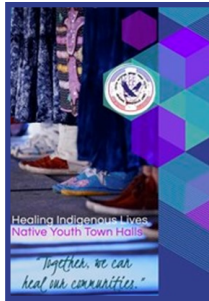
The following announcements are reprinted from JUVJUST, an OJJDP news service:

## THE NATIVE YOUTH TOWN HALLS REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE

The [Healing Indigenous Lives: Native Youth Town Halls](#) report is available online. The report highlights juvenile justice and public safety concerns and recommendations from Tribal youth ages 14–24.

Held in July 2020, the youth-led town hall meetings are part of the Healing Indigenous Lives Initiative, supported by OJJDP and [United National Indian Tribal Youth \(UNITY\)](#). More than 155 Native youth participated and provided feedback. Their input will help OJJDP develop programs to improve outcomes for Native youth, enhance public safety, promote accountability, and empower communities.

In fiscal year 2021, OJJDP awarded \$14.2 million for Tribal youth initiatives. OJJDP continues to support Tribal youth programs and initiatives, including the [Tribal Youth Program](#) and [Juvenile Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts](#) under the Department of Justice’s [Fiscal Year 2022 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation](#).



### RESOURCES:

- Learn more about [OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Programs](#).
- Visit the redesigned [OJJDP Tribal Youth Resource Center](#) website.
- View the Tribal Youth Initiatives [fact sheet](#).
- [Access resources](#) from OJJDP’s Tribal Consultation webpage.
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## OJJDP NEWS @ A GLANCE, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), January/February 2022.



This issue’s Message from the Acting Administrator reviews OJJDP’s achievements from the past year. The top story highlights the Office’s nearly \$344 million in discretionary awards for fiscal year 2021. Another article covers Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Amy L. Solomon’s remarks at the National Mentoring Summit.

Other features in this issue—

- [Early Preparation Essential for Successful Child Recoveries](#)
- [OJJDP Mourns the Death of Advocate and Writer Marion Mattingly](#)
- [Staff Spotlight: Program Manager Lou Ann Holland](#)
- [News in Brief](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [New Publications](#)

### RESOURCES:

- [OJJDP News @ a Glance](#), January/February 2022 (NCJ 303954) is available [online](#).
- Follow OJJDP on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

## FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

President Biden [proclaimed](#) February as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

Teen dating violence can include physical or sexual assault, stalking, coercive and controlling behavior, emotional abuse, harassment, and exploitation. Teen dating violence occurs in person, online, or through technology. There can be long-lasting effects from teen dating violence, including future victimization. These effects are compounded for girls and young women of color.



In his proclamation, the President highlighted new resources and programs for communities to prevent and address teen dating violence. The President also cited Title IX protections for students based on gender identity and sexual orientation to support transgender students who experience higher rates of violence.

OJJDP provides research and resources to identify and prevent teen dating violence, including OJJDP’s [teen dating violence literature review](#). In addition, OJJDP’s [Statistical Briefing Book](#) includes a [data snapshot](#) on the trends and characteristics of teen dating violence.

### RESOURCES:

- Visit OJJDP’s webpage on [Children Exposed to Violence](#).
- Access [teen dating violence resources](#) from the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#).
- 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](mailto:ra-oajcnews@pa.gov).

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