Kansas Supreme Court Seeks Public Comment

Court Accepting Comments on Proposed Rule 1801: Earned Discharge Credit for Juvenile Probationers

The Kansas Supreme Court is accepting public comment on proposed Supreme Court Rule 1801 regarding earned discharge credit for juvenile probationers. Comments may be mailed by email to publiccomments@kschiefjustice.org no later than 5 p.m. on November 25, 2017. The subject line must read Rule 1801. The proposed rule is available using this link. Click here . . . .

K.S.A. 38-2398 requires the Supreme Court to establish rules for earned discharge credit for juvenile probationers. If adopted, the rule would allow juvenile probationers to earn seven days of credit for each full month of complete compliance with probation.

Legal Issues Training on SB 367 and SB 42 for Juvenile Intake & Community Corrections Staff

KDOC-JS Attorney Jeff Cowger provided six half-day training sessions to inform staff and stakeholders on the Kansas Juvenile Code and statutory changes from the 2016 and 2017 Legislative Sessions. Presentations were held from October 16 – 26 in Garden City, Salina, Wichita, Pittsburg, Kansas City and Topeka and were attended primarily by juvenile intake and community corrections staff. Topics covered included:

- A juveniles first contact with the system
- Pretrial release – Juvenile Intake – JIP
- Pretrial matters
- Trial matters
- Sentencing
- Post sentencing (sentence modifications, registrations etc.)

Sedgwick County Pursuing Grant to Fund Programs to Help Troubled Youth

Last year, 54 minors in Sedgwick County ended up in juvenile correctional facilities. A new proposal from the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) would keep youth in the community and out of a correctional facility. Sedgwick County Commissioners approved the application and will receive funding for nearly $615,000. The money comes from funds that were saved when the state defunded a program that had placed juvenile offenders in out of-home facilities. Read more . . . .

County Ends Youth Group Home Housing

Sedgwick County will discontinue a group home program for male young offenders next month. It’s a result of juvenile justice reform at the state level that has shifted the focus from detention to treatment for many young offenders. The Sedgwick County Youth Program is a residential re-entry group home program for male juvenile offenders ages 16- and-a-half to 22 years old. The primary goal is to Read more . . . .

2017 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training:
- Topeka Friday November 17
- Salina Tuesday December 19
- Times: 9 am – 3:00 pm
All intake workers, supervisors and anyone who approves intakes and placement decisions must be trained in administering the KDAI. These trainings are reserved for intake workers and supervisors. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Crystal Trout at crystal.trout@ks.gov

New Officer YLS/CM Training:
- Location: Topeka Parole Office 2029 SW Western, Topeka, KS
- Dates Tuesday December 5 – 9 am – 5 pm
- Wednesday December 6 – 8 am – 5 pm
- Thursday December 7 – 8 am – 5 pm
To Enroll Email michelle.montgomery@ks.gov
- Participants Name: Judicial District, Phone Number and email address; and Supervisor’s name;
- Note Exam will be at approximately 1 pm Thursday,
- Participants may leave once they submit their exam.

Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ)

KJCC - The Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ) will be available for new employees from Judicial Districts to attend at Kansas Juvenile Correction Complex on the following dates:
- Thursday December 7 – 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
- Thursday December 7 – 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
If you have any questions or want to register for the training please contact LT. Johnathon Ashley at johnathon.ashley@ks.gov or 785-354-8920. KJCC will have MHTC-JJ training as a part of their basic training for new employees approximately every four weeks and it will take place on Thursdays.

Sedgwick County DOC and Johnson County DOC currently do not offer MHTC-JJ training. If you are interested in attending a future training at their location please contact:
- For Sedgwick County DOC – contact Steve Stonehouse at Steven石家house@sedgwick.gov
- For Johnson County DOC – contact Rachel Mestad at Rachel.mestad@jocgov.org

The Juvenile Justice Corner

By Audrey Cress, Director of Victim Services Kansas Department of Corrections

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), a month filled with purple ribbons, domestic violence trainings, fundraisers, marches and rallies. As I wind down from my fifth year as Director of Victim Services for KDOC, I can’t help but reflect on my days doing prevention work with a community domestic violence agency. In that role, I provided teen dating violence information to middle school students, high school students, juvenile detention centers, Girl Scout troops, young groups, and any other group of teens that I could find a slot for. In addition to that, I worked closely with teachers, parents, school counselors, school social workers, school administrators, student resource officers and juvenile corrections officers to provide content and resources for preventing or intervening in teen dating violence and sexual assault.

This year of time always reminds me of a mantra I live by and firmly believe, “teen dating violence in domestic violence that hasn’t grown up yet.” Domestic violence is a profound issue affecting our communities and it doesn’t start after folks grow into adulthood. In fact, we know that nearly 65% of domestic violence occurs by age 25. Teenagers are very open to new experiences and forming relationships. When it first shows up in their lives, they may not fully understand it or realize the impact it can have on their lives.

In my current role, I oversee KDOC’s Batterer Intervention Programs (BIP) where we work with domestic violence offenders to intervene in their abusive behaviors and work toward developing healthier relationships. The participants in our programs, when asked about the roots of their controlling behaviors – when it first showed up in their lives – see it point to their teen years. In these conversations, I wonder how their paths would have been impacted if someone had intervened during their teenage years, and provided more direction and support, modeling healthy relationships and non-controlling behaviors.

As you are reading this newsletter, and I assume you are in a position of influence with young people, I challenge you to honor DVAM this year by learning more about domestic violence and teen dating violence in order to open conversations about healthy relationships with youth about healthy relationships and provide them with resources to help prevent and deal with abuse.

http://www.lovetorespect.org is a site dedicated primarily to reaching young people, particularly teenagers, who experience dating violence. Their hotline (which includes a chat and text function, making them very accessible to young people) is staffed by trained peer advocates. Their website is full of quizzes, articles and other great resources relevant to teens.

http://www.breakthe-cycle.org/lovetonotabuse in addition to great info for teens, this site has wonderful resources for parents, educators and other adults to support teens in developing healthy dating relationships and friendships.

Additionally, the Kansas Crisis Hotline, 1-888-END-ABUSE (1-888-363-2287), provides assistance to victims and makes referrals to local programs and resources available throughout the state.

Thank you for your commitment to youth and support of DVAM this year! – Audrey Cress
Human Trafficking: Operation Cross Country XI

Recovering Underage Victims of Sex Trafficking and Prostitution

Operation Cross Country, the FBI’s annual law enforcement action focused on recovering underage victims of prostitution and dismantling the public’s attention to the problem of sex trafficking at home and abroad, has concluded with the recovery of 84 sexually exploited juveniles and the arrests of 120 traffickers.

Now in its 11th iteration, Operation Cross Country has expanded beyond the United States, with Canada, the United Kingdom, Cambodia, the Philippines, and Thailand undertaking similar operations. Their efforts were coordinated with the FBI and its local, state, and federal law enforcement partners—along with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)—during the four-day law enforcement action that ended October 15. Read more . . .

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, STATEMENT

Child Sex Trafficking Growing Concern in KC

A local sex trafficking victim is sharing her story after years of sexual abuse in hopes of helping other vulnerable teens. Christine McDonald left home at the age of 15 after several stints in the foster care system. Read more and watch video . . .

Human Trafficking – Kansas

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A local sex trafficking victim is sharing her story after years of sexual abuse in hopes of helping other vulnerable teens. Christine McDonald left home at the age of 15 after several stints in the foster care system. Read more and watch video . . .

National News

National Crime Isn’t the Epidemic the FBI Would Have Us Believe

Preliminary reports suggest the FBI’s annual crime report, expected to come out at the end of the month, will show an uptick in violent crimes for the second year in a row. Before various law-and-order pundits have a collective panic attack and declare a national emergency to combat a “violent crime wave”, it’s necessary to dig deeper into the numbers to understand what they mean. Read more . . .

Justice Cabinet Creates Incentive Fund to Provide Alternatives to Out-Of-Home Placement for Youth

The Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and the Department for Juvenile Justice are launching a new incentive fund for local programs that supervise youth in the community, cutting taxpayer costs and reserving secure facilities for only the most serious offenders. Read more . . .

Juvenile Justice Population Drops by 60%, State Closes Several Detention Centers

Fewer youth are ending up locked in detention centers across the state as a result of legislation passed in 2014 reforming the juvenile justice system in Kentucky. The Department of Juvenile Justice reports a 60 percent drop in the population of youth from the fall of 2013 through May of 2017. There have been three Read more and watch video . . .

Youth Incarceration Policy in the United States, Explained

After passing legislation through both the United States House and Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, Congress is now closer than it has been in 15 years to reauthorizing the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, a bill that would ensure the safe and equitable treatment of nearly 1 million kids who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Read more . . .

From Detention to Graduation: Examining Role of Education in U.S. Juvenile Justice System

At 7 a.m., teenagers are scurrying to dress and head to class. There are no parents or older siblings nearby to push them out of bed and out the door. And the commute isn’t long—it’s a short walk from prison bed to classroom. But these young men at the MacLaren Juvenile Detention Facility in . Read more . . .

DOC–JS Standards

Immediate Intervention Standards & JIAS Form

KDOC–JS is releasing one new and four amended Immediate Intervention Program (IIP) standards along with one amended JIAS form. The changes will go into effect November 1 and will be accessible on the KDOC website at that time at this link . . .

Amended & New RI Standards

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Amended JIAS Form

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Counsel of Juvenile Justice Administrators

PlS Kids Got Talent Finalist from KS: Derrius

Read about Derrius and watch video . . .

PlS Kids Got Talent Finalist from KS: Paul

Read about Paul and watch video . . .

PlS Kids Got Talent Winner: Inspired Youth from IYC Chicago Shares His Journey

Read about the winner and watch video . . .

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Funding Effective Implementation of Evidence-Based Programs in Child Welfare

Annie E. Casey Foundation - This brief shares eight strategies to help child welfare agency administrators and partners fund and sustain evidence-based programs that benefit children and families. These strategies — presented in the context of a stage-based framework — consider the costs, funding streams, partnerships and allocation of resources that are both specific to child welfare systems and necessary for effective implementation. Readers will also gain insights from agency leaders interviewed in nine jurisdictions across the United States, where evidence-based programs have been successfully implemented and sustained. These interviews reveal key child challenges and the methods that the leaders used to address these challenges. Read the brief . . .

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

California Tries Attempting to Implement 2 Major New Laws to Help Sex-Trafficked Kids

California is attempting to switch to a victim-centered approach for its sexually trafficked youngsters. But despite the passage of two important and well-intentioned new laws in the last two years, both of which affect youth who have been sexually exploited, change has not come easily or quickly Read more . . .

Plummeting Youth Crime Demands New Solutions, Thinking

In 1990, in California's 15 largest cities, 373 youths (in a population ages 10 to 17 of 850,000) were arrested for homicide. In 2015, in those same cities (now with 1.1 million you) in, only 21 were arrested for homicide — a rate decline of 94 percent. Read more . . .

Getting Restorative Justice Approved By Your State Political Body Is Worth the Trouble

It is becoming increasingly clear that diverting individuals from the juvenile justice system, which is consistent with public safety and still holds offenders accountable, is generally a best-practice concept. This can have a significant impact on public safety by increasing successful life outcomes for young people. A crime prevented is far better than a crime successfully adjudicated. Read more . . .

U.S. Child Maltreatment Statistics Show Slight Decline From Year to Year

Nearly 700,000 American kids were found to be victims of abuse or neglect in fiscal 2015, and the public ought to be just as worried that kids who haven’t been abused are being victimized by heavy-handed bureaucracy, a veteran child rights advocate says. Child welfare officials found evidence of “maltreatment” in more than 683,000 cases in fiscal 2015, data newly released by nonprofit research group Read more . . .

Arts Seen As Crucial to Healing Youth, Changing the Juvenile Justice System

For Jordan, growing up in Jamaica, Queens in New York City left much to be desired. One of the few places he could go after school were the youth arts programs in his neighborhood. "It was the thing to do after school instead of being outside or doing something that could possibly get you in . Read more . . .