JJPOC Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division

December 17, 2015

Juvenile Court Hears Four Types of Cases

- 1. Delinquency
- 2. Family With Service Needs (FWSN)
- 3. Child Protection
 - Abuse/Neglect
 - Uncared for Petition
 - Termination of Parental Rights
- 4. Emancipation

What Constitutes a Delinquency? (Generally)

- Violation of a criminal statute
- Willful failure to appear
- Violation of a court order other than a FWSN order

Processing Juveniles through the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters

ARREST THROUGH DISPOSITION



ARREST

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST



- Upon a Police Officer's determination that there is sufficient evidence to charge a juvenile with a crime the Officer can;
 - Divert the matter from court by releasing the child to the parents for discipline or referring the child to community based services
 - Release juvenile to a parent, responsible person or the child's own custody and issue a summons or
 - Transport the juvenile to one of the state's two detention centers.

Handling Decision

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST HANDLING DECISION Non-Judicial Judicial Detention / Release to Home Plea Pre-Trial Trial Pre-Dispositional Study and Assessment Disposition

INTAKE PROCESS

- Each summons/referral is reviewed by a Juvenile Probation Supervisor, assigned to a Juvenile Probation Officer and assigned an initial handling decision.
- Handling decisions are initially assigned based on criteria outlined in the Connecticut Practice Book.
- Section 27-4A lists eligibility for non-judicial handling

DETENTION

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST



DETENTION RELEASE HEARING

- Juvenile must be presented to court within 24 hours of admission to detention unless;
 - Detention release hearing is waived by juvenile and attorney.
 - Juvenile is admitted on weekend, probable cause finding made by a Judge.
- Detention Release Options

PLEA

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST



PLEA HEARING

- Juvenile with advice of council enters a plea, before the court admitting to or denying the alleged charge.
- If the juvenile admits the juvenile is convicted as a delinquent and the case is continued for disposition.
 - The juvenile may or may not be placed on interim/ pre-dispositional court orders.

PRE-TRIAL

Arrest through Disposition



PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE

- If the juvenile denies the charge, the case is continued for a <u>pre-</u> <u>trial</u>.
 - □ Conducted by the prosecutor
 - □ Attended by juvenile's atty.
 - Attended by child and parent/ guardian
 - Probation Officer should be present and participate in any dispositional recommendation discussions
 - □ Facts of the case are discussed
 - Offer with acceptance deadline
 - Written statement of responsibility
 - Next court date set

TRIAL

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST



- If no agreement can be reached at the pre-trial the matter may be scheduled for trial.
 - Court makes a finding of guilty or not guilty.
 - If found non-guilty case is dismissed and erased.
 - If found guilty case is continued for predispositional study and evaluations if ordered.

PRE-DISPOSITIONAL STUDY & ASSESSMENT

Arrest through Disposition

ARREST



INTAKE INTERVIEW

- Pre-dispositional Study
- Mental Health Screening
- Risk/Needs Assessment Process
- Court-Ordered Evaluations



Program Referral Process

- Officers are highly trained
- Several screening and assessment tools
 - Age sensitive
- Multimodal programs
 Clear target populations and eligibility criteria
- Referral matrices
 - Supervisory approval for exceptions
- Additional supports available
 - Clinical Coordinators, Court-Based Assessments, Intermediate Evaluations, etc

Eight Principles for Effective Treatment

Measure Outcomes

Provide Ongoing Support

Provide Positive Reinforcement

Provide Quality Assurance Address Cognitive-Behavioral Functioning **Emphasizing Skill Acquisition**

Target Interventions

Enhance Intrinsic Motivation

Assess Risks, Needs and Strengths

Client-Service Matching Process



Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project

- Georgetown's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform
- Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP)
 - Type of Service40%
 - **Treatment Amount** 25%
 - Duration (10%)
 - Contact Hours (15%)
 - Risk of Juvenile 20%
 - **Quality of Service** 15%

Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP)			
Model	Benefit to Cost Ratio	Benefits Minus Cost	Probability of Positive Net Value
MST	\$ 3.03	\$15,611	88%
ART	\$10.25	\$14,562	93 %
Mediation	\$ 6.41	\$ 3,271	78 %
Scared Straight	(\$200.84)	(\$13,571)	4%

Opportunity for Excellence

- Legislative and Judicial Branch commitment to innovation and continuous quality improvement
- Appropriations to develop programs and services to address client needs and those of public safety
- Empirical and local data, and a vast body of scientific literature
- Judicial Branch procures contracted services to respond to its specific needs
 - Rebids occur at least every 5 years

Calculated Risk Levels

Calculated Risk Levels for Clients Starting Supervision 2013



Recidivism Rates by Risk

One Year Recidivism for Clients Starting Supervision by Calculated Risk Level



Judicial Branch CSSD Contracted Service Network Overview

- Clinical Evaluation and Treatment
- Educational Services
- FWSN Diversion and Center-Based Services
- Community Programs
- In-Home Models
- Detention and its Step Down Programs

Judicial Branch CSSD Systems of QA & Measurement

- Internal and contracted staff offer
 - continuous quality assurance,
 - system improvement planning and
 - process and outcomes measurement
- JB CSSD tracks contractor performance, but has not been positioned to conduct much true program evaluation

Discussion or For More Information

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