

2015-16 CIRCUIT BOARD ANNUAL OVERVIEW REPORT

Instructions: This form should be completed for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Please submit via e-mail to Patrice.Richardson@djj.state.fl.us by **6/30/16**. If the information to complete a section is unavailable or if the section does not apply put N/A instead of leaving the section blank. Use additional space if necessary.

CIRCUIT #: 17 **Person completing form:** Marsha Ellison **Phone:** (954) 764-7604

PART I. CIRCUIT BOARD INFORMATION

1. BOARD MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

How many board members? 17

Demographic Information - Indicate the number of board members in each category:

Age: Less than 18 (youth) 0; 18-65 (adult) ___; 65+ (retirees) ___
 Gender: Male ___; Female ___;
 Race: Native American: ___; African American: ___; White: ___;
 Islander: ___; Hispanic: ___; Others: ___
 Disability: Are any members disabled? ___ If so, how many? ___

Indicate the number of board members in each occupation or affiliation (The number of entries should equal the number of board members. Please make one entry per board member):

___ Education; ___ Judicial; ___ Medical;
 ___ Provider; ___ Business; ___ Local Government;
 ___ Law Enforcement; ___ State Attorney; ___ State Government;
 ___ Public Defender; ___ Social Services; ___ Youth/Student;
 ___ Faith Community ___ Other, specify _____

2. MEETING INFORMATION

Number of board meetings this year 7 Average length of meetings (hours) 2hrs.

Average number of members in attendance 13

Meetings held in accordance with Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine Law? X Yes ___No

3. STATUTORY BOARD COMPOSITION

The Juvenile Justice Circuit Board is required to have at least one representative from each county within the circuit, in addition to the state attorney, public defender and the chief judge. Complete the table below by listing each county in the circuit and the number of board representatives from each county. Add additional rows, if necessary.

NAME OF COUNTY – SINGLE COUNTY	# BOARD MEMBERS
Broward County	17

Additional Members: If the board has more members than the county council representatives, please list the additional members, their county of residence and explain why they were added to the board.

BOARD MEMBER'S NAME	COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	REASON FOR ADDITION

Attach Circuit Board Membership Roster that includes: ATTACHED

Name:	Agency:	County Designation:	Address:	Email:	Phone:
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4. COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Please identify the categories that relate the closest to the committee types and provide the committee highlights. Examples of various committees are listed below: Use “other” for committees that are very unique and do not relate to one of the categories provided.

COMMITTEE NAME OR FUNCTION	HIGHLIGHTS
Annual Reports	N/A
Business Partners, Partnerships	Circuit Advisory Board school district board members conducted a series of Conversations with Law Enforcement – series of community conversations with students, school leaders, law enforcement, elected officials, attorneys, DJJ and others around how to improve relations, interactions and decision-making.
By-Laws / Procedural	No meeting
Executive / Administrative/ Steering	No meeting
Grants, Grants Review	Broward County only had one applicant to apply for the Invest In Children License Tag Request for Proposal.
Juvenile Justice Week	No activity
Legislative	We have an active legislative committee that has advocated for the expansion of the civil citation statute, creation of school based alternatives for minor acts of misconduct by students under the zero tolerance policy, and amendments to the sealing and expunction laws.
Membership /Nominating	No Meeting
Other Program areas, (i.e. Assessment Centers, Detention, Commitment)	See Highlights
Planning	No Meeting
Prevention/Diversion/ Intervention	See Highlights

Public Information, Public Relations, Outreach	See Highlights
Quality Assurance	N/A
Other	

PART II. COUNTY COUNCIL OVERVIEW FORM (Please complete separately for each county council within the circuit)

Name of county: Broward County (Single County)

Name of person completing form: Marsha Ellison, Chair

1. COUNCIL PARTICIPANT INFORMATION N/A

Important note: Membership structure varies among the county councils. For purposes of reporting the information on this form, the term "voting" member is used to denote those council members that can vote and/or take action to represent the council. Different councils may use different terms, i.e. executive member. The term "general" member is to denote others that are members of the council, but not in a voting or decision-making capacity. It is recognized that for some councils these numbers may be the same.

A. How many members are on the council? **N/A**

1. Voting Members: _____

2. General members: _____

Average number of council participants for the fiscal year: _____

B. Demographic Information - Record the percentage of council participants in each category: (Estimate, if necessary.) **N/A**

Age: Less than 18 (youth) _____; 18-65 (adult) _____; 65+ (retirees) _____

Gender: Male _____; Female _____; **Race:** Native American: _____; African American: _____; White: _____; Islander: _____; Hispanic: _____; Others: _____

Disability: Are any members disabled? _____ If so, how many? _____

2. MEETING INFORMATION N/A

A. Number of council meetings this year: _____

B. Average length of meetings (hours) _____

C. Average participants in attendance _____

3. COUNCIL PARTICIPATION The statute outlines that certain individuals and representatives of various groups participate in the county councils. In this section please put one check in either the yes or no column to indicate the individuals and other groups represented on the county councils. Examples:

- The Children and Families Regional Administrator is a regular attendee and someone else from that office also attends the council meetings regularly you should only check yes one time beside DCF Circuit or Regional representative.
- One regular participant represents two categories - the Sheriff is also a provider, check yes for each participant category.
- Keep in mind that for some of the categories, you may have several participants who qualify; you will only need to make one entry.

DESIGNATED INDIVIDUALS	Yes	No
County School District representative		
Board of County Commissioners representative		
Municipal Governing Body representative		
Department of Children and Families Circuit or Regional representative		
Local law enforcement agency representatives, sheriff or sheriff's designee		
Judicial system representative		
Faith community representative		
Victim services program or victims of crime representative		
Department of Corrections representative		
Business representative		
OTHER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES		
Children's services council representative		
Public or private providers of juvenile justice services		
Student / Youth/		
Parent/Advocate(s)		

Attach County Council Membership Roster for designated individuals and one alternate for each designee ONLY. Membership roster should include:

Name:	Agency:	Designation:	Address:	Email:	Phone:
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4. COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

If the county councils use committees, please identify the categories that relate closest to the committee types and provide the committee highlights. Examples of various committees are listed below: Use "Other" for committees that are very unique and do not relate to one of the categories provided.

COMMITTEE NAME OR FUNCTION	
Annual Reports	Membership /Nominating
Business Partners, Partnerships	Other Program areas, (i.e. Assessment Centers, Detention, Commitment)
By-Laws / Procedural	Planning
Executive/ Administrative/ Steering	Prevention/Diversion/ Intervention
Faith Committee	Public Information/ Public Relations
Grants, Grants Review	Quality Assurance
Juvenile Justice Week	Other
Legislative	

PART III. OBSERVATIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

1. OBSERVATIONS (Use additional sheets, if necessary.)

Provide any explanations that may help clarify the information provided for any of the previous questions.

2. BOARD AND COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES

Use this opportunity to showcase and explain the accomplishments, events, activities, initiatives or programs that the board and/or councils either developed or participated in during the fiscal year.

- Describe and highlight the board and/or councils' involvement or activities relating to juvenile justice week and other statewide activities. To provide a better picture of the board or councils' success, focus and elaborate on their actual involvement instead of on just the program's success. How did the board or council contribute?
- Emphasize the creative, exciting, fun, unusual, successful and productive happenings in which the board or council participated.
- Include the circumstances of each highlight, give some information about the results or impact of the event, i.e., new program established, number of people participating, improved juvenile justice statistics.
- Identify partners in the ventures. What entities collaborated to make the event a success?
- Be sure to include the full names of programs and initiatives instead of just the acronyms.
- Include the name and number of people who can be contacted about the event.

- **Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)/Zero Tolerance Committee** - Over the past year the DMC committee has met several times. A number of recommendations have been proposed.

The committee has prioritized implementing the law enforcement DMC specific training that was commissioned by DJJ. The committee conducted an exhaustive review of the proposed curriculum and made recommendations to the department to facilitate adoption in Broward. The DMC committee recommended that DJJ incorporate law professors from Nova and FAU into the law enforcement training curriculum so local norms will be incorporated into the presentations. The committee further recommended that a "role playing" component be incorporated into the training and such would be welcomed by law enforcement.

The committee has continued working with Josh Kuch, DJJ DMC Training Curriculum Coordinator on implementing the DMC training here in Broward. Five (5) sites were chosen throughout the state to start training law enforcement on how to better handle children of all races.

The committee further recommended pursuing a recordation training for law enforcement with the goal of more accurately capturing race information at the time of arrest.

- The Circuit Advisory Board, through various members and with the cooperation of the State Attorney's office, has, since 2007, held quarterly juvenile diversion expunction workshops at which youth who have successfully completed a diversion program can have the application for expunction completed and obtain all the necessary supporting documentation at absolutely no cost to them.

Volunteers from the State Attorney's office gather the supporting documentation, help the youth fill out the application, recruit local law enforcement volunteers to fingerprint the youth as required and provide explanation/information regarding the meaning and effect of expunction.

- The Circuit Advisory Board has been supportive and encouraging of an initiative in which our State Attorney's Office participates called Tutor Mate. Tutor Mate is a tutoring program facilitated by Innovations in Learning in conjunction with our local school district. A group or organization with a minimum of 10 volunteers is partnered with a local at risk school. Each volunteer is partnered with one first grade student. The school is provided with a computer and the required technology so that the volunteers can call in once a week and read with the student for ½ hour throughout the school year. Research establishes that students who have the opportunity to read one on one with an adult expand their vocabulary exponentially and improve their reading and comprehension abilities. The assistant state attorneys are able to participate in this program due to the flexibility and ease provided by the remote access to the students.

- This Circuit Advisory Board has been actively involved in improving the conditions of confinement at the local Juvenile Detention Center. Board members have contributed equipment, supplies, participate in educational presentations for the youth in the detention centers and continuously monitor the detention center and advocate for the improvement of the physical structure of the facility.

- The Circuit Advisory Board has been instrumental in lobbying local legislators regarding the expansion of the civil citation statute. The result of the efforts has been that the statute has been expanded to provide youth with three opportunities to receive a civil citation in lieu of arrest. Members of the Board have actively lobbied and called together local law enforcement agencies to encourage making the issuance of civil citation to qualifying youth a mandatory requirement for law enforcement. The Board continues to explore additional ways to use civil citations in the most effective and efficient way.

- Members of the Circuit Advisory Board participate in a Diversion Coalition which is a group of representatives from the over a dozen community organizations that provide services to youth referred to for treatment by the State Attorney's Office in lieu of having delinquent acts processed through the formal juvenile justice system. These diversion programs are used in addition to the civil citation program and the PROMISE program and collectively accomplish the goal of keeping youth engaging in problem behaviors from continuing or escalating the into more serious actions. These programs have been in existence for over 15 years and have handled, since fiscal year 2010-2011 to the present over 16,000 cases.

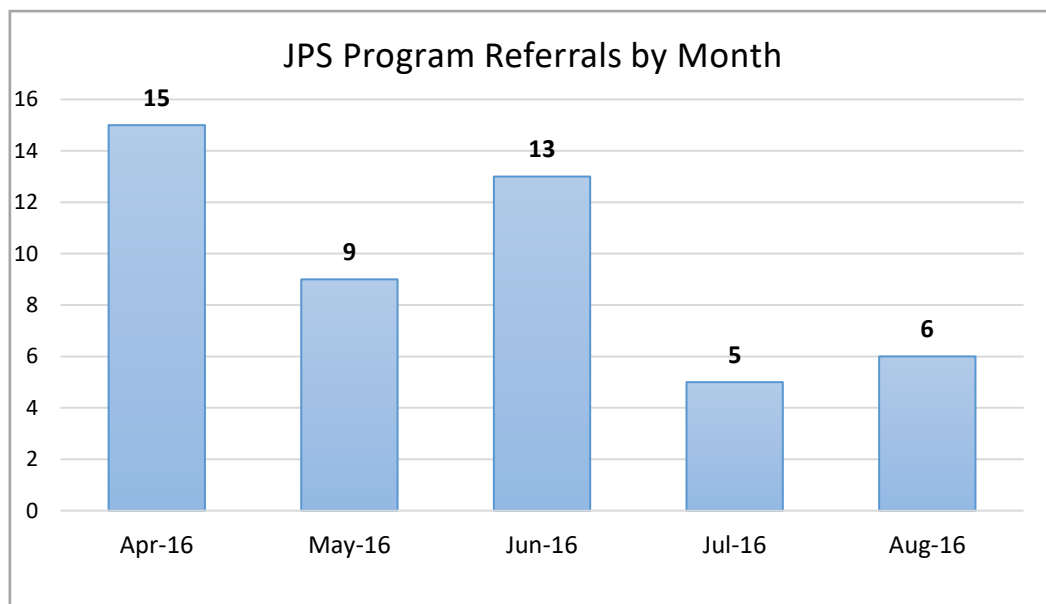
- The Juvenile Civil Citation (JCC) Program is a countywide initiative that offers all children under the age of 18 in Broward County the opportunity to avoid an arrest for committing a misdemeanor offense. *JCC program accomplished are as follows:*

- Broward County is currently ranked **3rd** in the State of Florida for issuing Civil Citations.
- Broward County Civil Citation process has saved Tax Payers an estimated \$4,909,296.00 in 2015.
- **As of August 31, 2016, 875 civil citation were issued.** This represents a 4% decrease from same period last year. The top three (3) offenses remain as petit theft, marijuana possession, and battery.
- Utilization rate for officers issuing civil citations to juveniles remain at around 71%.
- JCC continues to have a 90% successful completion rate.
- Recidivism remains steady at approximately 2%.
- We are requesting a legislative change to Florida State Statute juvenile civil citation statute, 985.12 (5). In this section, if a youth commits a subsequent misdemeanor, it requires DJJ to process the original delinquent act as a referral to the department and refer the report to the state attorney for review, which creates an arrest record for the youth defeating the purpose or intent of the civil citation statute and affording a youth three opportunities. We propose that the discretion of three subsequent misdemeanors be removed and the original offense not be processed as a referral; creating a mandatory three chance rule.
- The County is pursuing a contract to establish a Juvenile Civil Citation Network (database), which is a centralized web-based, single data portal that integrates law enforcement and partner stakeholder activities for straightforward management.

- The Juvenile Predisposition Services (JPS) Program is a collaborative project of the Broward County Human Services Department, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Broward Sheriff's Office, Children's Services Council and many other community stakeholders. JPS was created to close the gap on Broward County youth who are arrested and not linked to or engaged in community-based programs or services with intensive interventions while awaiting the disposition of their case. In working with youth who are pending disposition on their case(s), JPS is designed to build on the youth's individual strengths, community resources, and family engagement to redirect the youth. JPS staff have been trained and certified in Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), an evidence-based SAMHSA NREPP Registered Program. MRT is a systematic cognitive-behavioral treatment strategy that seeks to decrease recidivism among juvenile criminal offenders by increasing their moral reasoning, better decision making, and more appropriate behavior. MRT is designed to alter how youth think and make judgments about what is right and wrong. JPS youth participants attend MRT groups twice a week. *JPS program accomplishments are as follows:*

Since its launch on April 1st 2016, 48 youth were referred to JPS. Among the 48 youth, there were a total of 141 service days in secure detention with an average 2.93 service days per youth (*versus Broward's average of 8 service days and the State's*

average of 10 service days as reported in DJJ's Detention Utilization Study – Broward, County, June 2015 report).



Demographics of the youth:

- Sixty percent of the youth referred had no history of Civil Citation, Diversion, Probation, Commitment, Conditional Release placements.
- Eighty-seven percent were minorities (e.g., African American, 73%; Hispanic, 15%).
- Males accounted for 79% of the youth referred.
- The residing cities with the most referred youth are Deerfield Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Oakland Park, and Pompano Beach.

Risk Level to Re-offend and Referrals for Service

- Sixty-seven percent scored Low on the Pre-PACT Screening (Risk-to-reoffend).
- Eighty-one percent of the youth were not in services at the time of program referral.
- Youth were referred to the following service-provider agencies:
Banyan Health Systems, Camelot Community Care, Memorial Healthcare System, Multicultural Care Center, Our Children Our Future, PACE Center for Girls, PsychSolutions, Reflection Wellness Center of Broward, Smith Community Mental Health, SunServe

Program Compliance

- Out of the 48 referred youth, 81% did not pick up a subsequent law violation after program referral.
- Eighty-eight percent did not receive a home detention or electronic monitoring violations.
- Out of the 18 released, 17 (95%) youth were classified as satisfied the program requirements.

Program Invention Partner Roles

- Broward County JPS - Advocates for youth’s entry into the program and explain to the parents and youth the next step after the detention hearing, program guidelines, intervention services, and supervision requirements. Provides case coordination and linkages to community-based therapeutic services, and engagement in positive youth development activities, education services, and community programs.
- Juvenile Assessment Center - Perform initial youth intake & DRAI screening Provide list of eligible youth for JPS.
- Department of Juvenile Justice - Performs intensive field supervision.
- Broward Sheriff’s Office Juvenile Assessment Team - Performs an evidenced-based substance abuse/mental health assessment. Partners with JPS Case Coordinators in linking youth to recommended services.
- Community-Based Service Providers – Provides community-based mental health and substance abuse services. These service providers have a more hands-on involvement with the youth and their family to address their direct MH/SA needs.

17th Circuit Advisory Board – is provided monthly updates and progress reports on program activities.

- The Broward County School Board, in collaboration with the Circuit Advisory Board members, has participated in forming a Collaborative Agreement among the State Attorney's office, Public Defender's office, Department of Juvenile Justice, the Judiciary, the NAACP, the Sherriff's office, and the School Board to eliminate the school house to jail house pipe line. This agreement is a national model, and in October 2016, the first revision will be signed. It will include additional signatories to the agreement; additional municipalities will be joining us, as well as the Police Chief Association. We have worked with our state representatives for Civil Citation legislations. The Circuit Advisory Board have also worked to improve the conditions at the Detention Center. We have a collaborative relationship with the Children's Services Council, and have instituted diversion programs to meet the needs of our students.

- In collaboration with the Broward County School District, there is an increase in the number of students earning a standard diploma or GED by 25 percent.
- Broward County School District has an increased number of industry certifications awarded to youth in confinement; successfully transitioned hundreds of students

back into school that had not been previously enrolled, and included youth-in-confinement in all of our minority success field trips and mentoring programs.

- Broward has gone from having the highest number of school related arrests to being 60th in the state in the number of school related arrests.
- Five hundred credits awarded for youth in confinement in Broward County.
- One hundred thirty-one students earned industry certifications while incarcerated; eight students gained employment in their area of certification while incarcerated to begin working upon release.
- Five hundred seventy Broward County Public School students have successfully transitioned back to schools during 2014-2015 school year.
- Twelve high risk/DJJ involved students earned full scholarships to Broward College.
- Broward County School District conducted a series of Career Fairs – soft skill trainings, interviewing, on-the-spot hiring for our most fragile youth that are DJJ and high risk students.
- Broward County School District was recognized by the White House as a national leader in meeting the goals and objectives of the 6 goals of the MBK Community Challenge. The Broward County School District has collaborated with districts around the nation on our goals to Eliminate the School to Prison Pipeline.
- A collaborative of community stakeholders, including various members of the Circuit Advisory Board, formed a committee called the “Elimination of the School House to Jailhouse Pipeline” which is collectively responsible for partnering with the local school district to develop a program that allows for youth who have committed misdemeanors and other non-serious acts of misconduct to be disciplined within the school system rather than referred to law enforcement. The program also keeps youth in school rather than causing suspension or expulsion for these offenses. As a result, our school district has gone from having one of the highest rates of school based arrests in all of Florida to being one of the school districts with the lowest, if not the lowest, rate of school based arrests. This committee meets monthly or more often if necessary and oversees the implementation of the program which is called the PROMISE program.

PROMISE (Preventing Recidivism through Opportunities, Mentoring, Interventions, and Supports & Education) is an intervention-based program designed to correct student behavior that violate school district policy for Suspensions & Expulsion. PROMISE utilizes a comprehensive set of supports and education. The intent of PROMISE is to safeguard students from entering the judicial system.

- In collaboration with the Circuit Advisory Board the, Code of Student Conduct Matrix/policy was revised to reduce infractions that require police involvement. Revise agreements between the District and School Resource Officers to reflect an understanding that law enforcement should not be involved in incidents of minor school misbehavior and an intention to lower the number of misdemeanor arrests for school based behavior.
- A comprehensive transition plan is developed to ensure all students have access to educational services, particularly those students that are; DJJ-involved;

international students; over-age students; students exhibiting behavior and mental health needs; students in need of blended scheduling models to recover courses for opportunity to graduate within their four- year cohort.

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PART IV. ISSUES, CONCERNS, OR RECOMMENDATIONS - Provide any recommendations, issues or concerns that the board or council may have related to its role.