

**Florida Department of Juvenile Justice**  
**DJJ Informational Conference Call**  
**Friday, March 2, 2012**  
**Minutes**

## **Welcome and Call to Order**

Conference call came to order at 3:30pm. Assistant Secretary Wanda Finnie welcomed everyone on the call.

## **Legislative Update**

### **Ana Sanchez, DJJ Legislative Affairs Director**

Session ends on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. This morning they finally closed out our budget. There were certain issues that got bumped up to the big budget appropriations, but on the lower level the House and the Senate came to agreements on all of their items except for a \$10 million allocation that the Senate wants to provide us for use in prevention, redirection, PACE, and CINS/FINS. The Senate wants the money used in the beginning stages to prevent those kids from progressing deeper into the Juvenile Justice system. It was a \$10 million allocation, but it went down to \$6 million. The House has not picked it up so it has been bumped up to the higher budget conference committee. The only issue left open was some money from maintenance for a facility. That issue remained opened and will be bumped up.

- This past week DJJ House Bill 173 that dealt with the mother/infant language and the funeral expenses language, was passed out of the House. It should be in messages sent over to the Senate.
- This morning in the Senate, we had one more stop for Senate Bill 504. It was withdrawn from its last committee of reference, which was budget, so now it will proceed immediately to the floor.
- We are hoping that once the House version of the bill gets sent over to the Senate, the Senate will lay down the Senate bill and pick up the House bill and pass it for its final passage and get it over to the governor for his signature.
- Regarding the respite beds issue, once the legislature has passed a law into the counties for a \$3 million savings on the front end when it comes to the county cost share, the counties will see a \$3 million decrease and then the kids that are currently in detention centers that have a misdemeanor domestic charge will be placed in respite instead of detention.
- The counties will not be paying for those kids because they will not be in detention. The \$1.8 million that the legislature gives us, DJJ will use to pay for those kids to go into respite beds. We are working with some of those counties that had an issue because of a misunderstanding as to the conforming bill language.

## **Questions/Comments**

Question: *Any action on the 1886 Zero Tolerance?*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *No there hasn't been any. On the House side there has not been any action.*

Question: *Regarding the respite bed situation, you're stating that there has been a \$3 million decrease in the cost share fund component that the counties have to pay?*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *Right. So there's going to be a \$3 million decrease. The reason that they are doing that is for the respite beds. So they are giving you a \$3 million decrease and then the state is putting \$1.8 million into a different pot.*

Question: *Regarding the \$3 million decrease, this is money that the counties are no longer going to have to pay?*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *Exactly.*

Comment: *There were some questions about whether the counties have to pay for the respite.*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *The counties don't pay for the respite. The \$1.8 million that the legislature is giving us is for the respite beds. So the counties don't get billed for it. DJJ pays for it out of the \$1.8 million that they gave us to pay for it.*

Question: *There's no expansion of civil citation coming through?*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *No. Right now civil citation is the way it is. I have not heard of any expansion. We have not touched that issue because we believe that what we passed last year is working. We know that there are certain circuits and counties that are coming online. We've seen it more than double from 14 programs to almost all the circuits having it or coming online. As of this moment, there's nothing out there that has been filed that would expand civil citation.*

Question: *Regarding respite, do you know how it's going to look in the future?*

Response: Ana Sanchez – *No. The department gets the funding then we need to go through that contracting process. We do not know the price or what it is going to be. We know that the state is allocated \$1.8 million.*

**Next conference call: Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30pm**