




**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 29, 2018 PCI-17-002

TO: Regional Directors, Chief Probation Officers

FROM: Paul Hatcher, Assistant Secretary, Probation and Community Intervention 

SUBJECT: Prolific Juvenile Offender (PJO) Supervision Program – **Amendment I**

What is the PJO Supervision Program?

Prolific Juvenile Offender (PJO) supervision is a highly structured program emphasizing the close monitoring of PJO eligible youth that are in the community pending disposition. PJO eligible youth may be on straight intake, intake with a corresponding home detention placement or they may be on supervision (i.e. probation, post commitment probation, conditional release, and commitment minimum-risk non-residential.)

Primary Objectives of PJO Supervision:

To protect the public, reduce recidivism, and increase accountability by closely monitoring PJO eligible youth, engaging families, schools and other supporting agencies, including, but not limited to, law enforcement partners, mental health agencies, and other social service agencies.

Eligibility:

The youth is a PJO if he/she:

1. Is charged with a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult;
2. Has been adjudicated or had adjudication withheld for a felony offense, or delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, before the charge under subparagraph 1.; and
3. In addition to meeting the requirements of subparagraphs 1. and 2., has 5 or more of any of the following, at least 3 of which must have been for felony offenses or delinquent acts that would have been felonies if committed by an adult:
 - a. An arrest event for which a disposition, as defined in s. 985.26, has not been entered;

- b. An adjudication; or
- c. An adjudication withheld.

As used in this subparagraph, the term "arrest event" means an arrest or referral for one or more criminal offenses or delinquent acts (misdemeanor or felony) arising out of the same episode, act, or transaction.

Contact Requirements:

Participating youth shall be seen by a JPO within 24-hours of the youth being ordered on home detention. The initial face-to-face contact can be made after the 24-hour detention hearing. The purpose of the initial contact is to review and amend, if necessary, the home detention and electronic monitoring (EM) agreements with the youth and parent. All other youth, shall be seen face-to-face 24 hours after being identified PJO and in the community.

After the initial 24-hour contact, the youth and parent shall be contacted as follows, until the youth no longer meets the PJO eligibility criteria:

- 3 contacts weekly face-to-face with youth (**LEO contacts** with youth **DO NOT** count);
- 1 face-to-face contact with the parent biweekly;
- 1 weekly evening telephone call with the parent to verify curfew (weekly curfew checks by **LEO** for the purposes of monitoring curfew **DO** count); and
- PJO eligible youth in secure detention shall be seen by a JPO once a week.
- PJO eligible youth that are in the community with no supervision status of any kind, and are on **Intake-Held Open Status for Incompetency**, shall be seen face-to-face **bi-weekly**. The JPO is only required to make one monthly contact with the parent (by telephone, email, text, or face-to-face).
- PJO eligible youth that are in the community with no supervision status of any kind, and are on **Intake-Adult Processing Status**, shall be seen face-to-face **bi-weekly**. The JPO is only required to make one monthly contact with the parent (by telephone, email, text, or face-to-face).

During the initial 21-days of PJO supervision, at least one face-to-face contact with the youth shall occur on a Saturday or Sunday.

All participating youth shall participate in a law enforcement curfew program, if available.

A JPO shall ensure that if the eligible PJO youth is wearing an EM bracelet, that all requirements of PCI-16-004 are followed, including the handling of EM alerts.

A JPO shall make the necessary mental health and other social services referrals, if applicable.

Law Enforcement Contact:

Each week, circuit management shall provide the appropriate law enforcement agency(s) the most up-to-date listing of PJO eligible youth for the circuit/ county.

A JPO shall immediately contact the designated law enforcement liaison if a PJO eligible youth fails to appear for a court proceeding or absconds from supervision.