

# **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT and PUBLIC EDUCATION**

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION QUARTERLY MEETING**

#### **February 20, 2014**

#### **Reno, Nevada**

The Planning, Development and Public Education Committee devoted time to refining a template for usage statewide to comply with SB 107, use of corrective room restriction on a child detained in a state, local, or regional facility when all other less-restrictive options have been exhausted.

As specified in this legislation, a state, local or regional facility for the detention of youth shall report monthly to the Juvenile Justice Programs Office of the Division of Child and Family Services; the Juvenile Justice Programs Office does not serve as a compliance monitor regarding corrective room restriction. Monthly reports include the number of youth subjected to room restriction during the month and the length of time each youth was in corrective room restriction. Further, corrective room restriction for 72 consecutive hours must be addressed in the report.

Included in your meeting packet is the first “...Youth in Room Confinement” report for October, November, and December 2013. In all likelihood, a copy of this and future reports will be provided to Nevada’s Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice.

In preparation of development and submission of Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission’s Three-Year Plan, Formula Grant Program Areas as established by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will be circulated statewide to ascertain the top 3 or even 5 priority areas around which Formula Grant funding is focused.

Today, the Commission will be surveyed to determine their priority Program Areas. Other entities, organizations, and groups will also be surveyed; these include the Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA), registered tribes, faith based organizations, and community coalitions. The Commission’s Three-Year Plan is due to OJJDP by the end of March 2014.

As Robert Browning (1812-1889), poet, once wrote “... a man’s reach should exceed his grasp...” This statement aptly describes the Coalition for Juvenile Justice’s “*The National Standards for the Care of Youth Charged with Status Offenses*”. These standards provide policy and practice recommendations for limiting or avoiding court involvement for youth who commit non-criminal offenses—such as truancy or running away—and calls for an end to all secure detention for these youth. Instead, *The National Standards* promote system-reform and the adoption of research-supported policies, programs, and practices that address the needs of youth, their families, and their communities.

Development of these standards involved collaboration between the Coalition, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the Vera Institute of Justice, and the Public Welfare Foundation.

Providing an overview today of these standards are Planning, Development and Public Education Committee members Paula Smith, Elizabeth Florez, John Martin, Fernando Serrano, Lisa Hibbler, and Michael Beam. Their overview comprises the following:

Key Principles  
Principles for Responding to Status Offenses  
Efforts to Avoid Court Involvement  
Efforts to Limit Court Involvement  
Recommendations for Policy and Legislative Implementation  
Definitions

The Planning Committee recommends that the Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission endorse “*The National Standards for the Care of Youth Charged with Status Offenses*” and, if approved, notification be made by the Chairman to the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, DC, of the Commission’s action.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel G. Coppa, Chairman  
Planning, Development and  
Public Education Committee