

MISSISSIPPI'S

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Plan

2018

2017-2020

Division of Public Safety Planning
Office of Justice Programs
1025 Northpark Drive
Ridgeland, MS

3. PROGRAM NARRATIVE

Description of the Issue

1. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION: Structure and function of the juvenile justice system

As the designated state administrative agency, the Division of Public Safety Planning (DPSP), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has recognized that state laws, the use of close custody secure placements, limited alternatives to detention and the lack of resources may have a significant impact on Mississippi juveniles. However, Mississippi is committed to working toward making systemic change in juvenile justice.

Mississippi has 82 counties. Each county is governed by its elected board of supervisors. Currently, there are an estimated total of 15 juvenile detention facilities, three (3) temporary holding facilities and one (1) youth development center within the state.

Legislation was passed in 2009 which provided DPSP the authority to obtain compliance with the JJCPA of 2002. Mississippi Code §43-21-325 has allowed DPSP sanctioning authority for agencies which refuse to comply with reporting requirements. Fortunately, DPSP has not had to impose any sanctions against any agency for non-compliance with reporting requirements.

The Mississippi State Advisory Group also known as the Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee appointed by the governor serves as an advisory board to help assist in developing system improvements, evaluate funded programs, make annual recommendations, conduct grant reviews, and assisting with the planning and implementation of statewide training for juvenile justice practitioners to work toward a complete system of care.

There are several agencies that play a major role in how services are provided to the juvenile offenders. DPSP works closely with the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services, as well as the Mississippi Department of Education and the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. The Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of

Youth Services provides direct care services to youth at varying levels of the juvenile justice system.

Department of Human Services

As a single state executive department, the Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services (DYS), administers most services to delinquent youth in Mississippi, which encompasses delinquency intake, diversion, juvenile probation, commitment, and aftercare. However, secure detention is administered at the local level, as are juvenile probation services.

The Division of Youth Services (DYS) administers the community services and institutional programs for juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent in Mississippi Youth Courts or who are at risk of becoming delinquent. The Division provides professional counseling, probation supervision and related services to children in their home communities, as well as education, rehabilitation and treatment services to children committed to institutional care.

In Mississippi, the juvenile justice system has exclusive jurisdiction over youth under the age of seventeen (17) and not serving in the Armed Forces or married. However, there are several exceptions (i.e., traffic offenses, capital offenses, hunting and fishing violations, alcohol possession charges, and cases transferred to the circuit court) in which the juvenile justice system no longer maintains exclusive jurisdiction.

Youth Court

Subsection 43-21-107 of the Mississippi Code 1972, annotated, establishes a youth court in every county. The Mississippi Youth Court Act was passed in 1979. Other state statutes regarding juveniles are scattered throughout the Mississippi Code. Matters dealing with juveniles also must comply with federal law. Abuse and neglect of juveniles, as well as

delinquent acts committed by juveniles, are matters within the jurisdiction of the Youth Court. The structure of Youth Courts varies across the state, and practices vary by jurisdiction. In the 20 counties which have a County Court, those judges also serve as Youth Court judges. In counties which do not have a County Court, the Chancery Judge appoints a lawyer to act in a judicial capacity as Youth Court Referee, or in a few counties, the Chancery Judge hears Youth Court cases.

However, the judicial level at which each youth court and youth court division is created differs from county to county. Example: If a county does not have a family court and there is a county court, then the county court judge becomes the youth court judge. If there is neither a family nor a county court, then the chancery court judge becomes the youth court judge. Only one municipal youth court and one family court exist in Mississippi. Of the eighty-two (82) counties in the state nineteen (20) have established County Youth Courts. Youth Court responsibilities for the remaining counties reside within one of the state's twenty (20) Chancery Court Districts.

Family, county, and chancery court judges are all elected officials. They are also all law school graduates and have extensive legal experiences and training within the legal system. The judge of a municipal youth court is an appointed position. Youth court judges maintain original and exclusive jurisdiction in all proceedings concerning delinquent children, dependent children, and children in need of supervision or special care.

Additionally, Mississippi law allows judges to appoint referees to help with the youth court operations. Referees perform the same duties as judges. They conduct hearings and make rulings in cases concerning children. Referees are usually attorneys (though not a requirement) who have

interest in the youth court. The appointment of referees is more prevalent at the chancery court level because they cover larger geographical areas.

Youth Court Task Force

The Mississippi Supreme Court has rule-making authority over all state courts. The Supreme Court in October 2007 created the Task Force for Youth Court Rules of Procedure and charged it with overseeing development of a set of uniform rules of procedure. The 12-member Task Force included judges and representatives of the Department of Human Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Education, and the Administrative Office of Courts. The Mississippi Judicial College drafted the proposed rules. The Task Force submitted its recommendations to the Supreme Court on July 1, 2008.

The Youth Court Task Force includes two DYS staff members that helped developed the *Uniform Rules of Youth Court Practice*, under the leadership of the Mississippi Supreme Court, in 2007. The rules were adopted and became effective January 8, 2009. DYS was able to request that language be inserted throughout the *Rules* that will not only assist the State in compliance with the agreements with the DOJ, but also provide for best practices of care of youth in the training school. Under *Federal Requirements in the Uniform Rules of Youth Court Practice*, “Pursuant to the United States District Court’s Order Regarding the Suicide Prevention Action Plan, youth court judges must review the federal requirements for dispositional hearings for youths that are to be committed to a training school. The Division of Youth Services must have all medical and mental records prior to accepting a youth into a training school. The youth court should review the medical and mental records prior to the youth’s commitment. Failure to have the medical and mental records will result in the youth not

being admitted to the training school. See Order Regarding Suicide prevention Action plan, Civil Action No.:3:03-cv-1354-HTW-JCS (S. Miss. Apr. 30, 2008).

The Task Force for Youth Court Rules of Procedure made extensive recommendations to the Supreme Court stating the critical need for uniformity to assist litigants and practitioners. The uniform rules will also help ensure that Youth Court orders are consistent with the requirements of federal law.

The Supreme Court Rules Committee revised the recommendations and sought public comment. At the request of the Rules Committee, the Task Force convened again in December 2008 to address issues raised in public comments. The Task Force made additional recommendations, and the Supreme Court made modifications. The Supreme Court by unanimous vote adopted the Uniform Rules of Youth Court Practice on Dec. 11, 2008.

The adoption of Uniform Rules for Youth Court Practice by the Mississippi Supreme Court became effective Jan. 8, 2009. There has never previously been one comprehensive set of rules to complement the statutes and guide judges, attorneys, social workers, law enforcement and others who deal with the interests of children.

System Flow

In Mississippi, youth are referred to the youth court from a variety of sources. They may be referred from law enforcement, parents, public agencies, or citizens. A youth's first point of contact with the youth court system is at intake. During intake, a case may be handled officially or unofficially. A case is considered official when a petition is filed and placed on the court calendar by the judge or referee. A case is considered unofficial when no petition is filed.

Once a case has been officially processed, only the judge can decide what is to be done with a youth who appears before the court. Dispositional alternatives may range from release of the youth to placement in a state training school.

The Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services is the state agency that is charged with aiding the youth court through counseling and operation of rehabilitation programs. Employees of DYS usually perform the functions of counselors, probation officers, and intake officers. DHS also have statutory responsibility to collect and report information annually regarding the number and disposition of Youth Court

Detention

In the 2002 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature House Bill 974 was introduced and subsequently passed. This law mandated that minimum standards for Mississippi's juvenile detention centers be established; that health screening take place for juveniles upon admission to juvenile detention facilities; that all juvenile detention facilities develop written procedures for juveniles who are new to the system; and that certain programs be provided at all juvenile detention facilities. In addition to these mandates, the Mississippi Legislature called for the creation of a Juvenile Detention Facilities Task Force. The Task Force was charged with developing uniform standards for juvenile detention facilities in the State. While developing minimum guidelines for the operation of Mississippi Juvenile Detention Facilities, the Task Force saw the need for a compliance unit which would inspect these facilities with regard to the minimum basic standards of operation, training and programmatic services. Consequently, the Task Force recommended that a unit should be established in the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Division of Public Safety Planning (DPSP) under the Office of Justice Programs which would have authority to inspect and certify Mississippi's juvenile detention facilities based on the recommended minimum

standards. In 2007 the Juvenile Detention Facilities Monitoring Unit was moved under the Office of Standards and Training.

The Juvenile Detention Facilities Monitoring Unit is responsible for inspecting all juvenile detention facilities in the state on a quarterly basis. The unit reviews the facilities with regard to the defined minimum standards for operation. The unit certifies that juvenile detention facilities are in compliance with established standards. Further, the unit provides technical assistance and advice to facilities which will assist the facilities in further compliance with minimum standards.

Secure detention in Mississippi is organized and administered at the local level with some facilities having regional catchment. The majority of Mississippi detention centers that currently exist in the state are administered by county and city government, county boards and commissions, youth courts, and local law enforcement departments.

Youth services counselors screen referrals for pre-adjudication/disposition custody in secure detention and make recommendations for the court's approval at the detention hearing, under state statutes guiding the use of detention.

In addition to using secure detention prior to a delinquency case adjudication and disposition, by statute, youth can be sentenced to secure detention or placed in detention as a sanction for violating probation not to exceed 90 days. Youth may also be held in secure detention while waiting a placement in a state training school or other state placement.

Currently, a statewide screening tool is not used to make detention decisions. State statutes provide general guidelines for detention decisions in. These provisions provide a good deal of latitude for detaining juveniles. Specifically, a youth may be detained when a youth is at risk of harm or harming others, to insure attendance at court, when no custodian or guardian is available to provide care for the youth, or when “there is no other reasonable alternative to custody.”

Local youth courts are responsible for developing alternatives to detention. However, DYS and local authorities bring resources to bear in terms of intensive supervision and electronic monitoring to reduce the need for secure detention.

Law Enforcement

There are eighty-two (82) counties in Mississippi and each is presently served by its own sheriff's department. Additionally, within the state there are approximately 294 incorporated areas. These areas are mostly served by municipal police departments. However, some of these areas do not have police departments, and consequently, law enforcement is provided by the county sheriff's department. In those areas that have both, the police department is charged with providing primary law enforcement functions such as traffic control and criminal investigations within city limits. The sheriff's department provides civil processing and other secondary functions. The sheriff's department is responsible for and provides full law enforcement services to the unincorporated areas. The role of law enforcement in the juvenile justice system is focused on arrest. However, actions by law enforcement officers are limited by the Youth Court Act.

Refer to section labeled charts for charts of Mississippi Youth Court and Mississippi Juvenile Justice Process.

2. Analysis of juvenile delinquency problems and needs

In 2017 (81 counties and the Municipality of Pearl), Black juveniles were more likely than White juveniles to be referred to juvenile court (2.14), be placed in pre-trial detention (1.18), have cases resulting in confinement in secure juvenile correctional facilities (1.19), and have their cases transferred to adult court (1.61). Black juveniles were less likely to have their cases diverted (0.90) than their White counterparts. RRIs were also computed for Hispanic/Latino and Asian youth. Hispanic/Latino juveniles were less likely to be referred to juvenile court (0.61) than were white juveniles. Because of their relatively small population, an

RRI could only be calculated for Asian youth at the point of referral to court. Compared to White youth, Asian youth were less likely to be referred to juvenile court (0.23).

Over the course of a three-year period between 2015 and 2017, the presence of DMC among Black youth relative to White youth remained consistent at three points of contact (see Table 1). Over this period, Black youth remained more likely to be referred to juvenile court, more likely to be placed in pre-trial detention, and less likely to have their case diverted. There were fluctuations across the three-year period at the five other points of contact. Continuing the trend set in 2016, there was no significant difference in the rate in which cases were formally petitioned between Black and White youth. Statistically significant differences remain between Black and White youth with respect to delinquent findings; however, in 2015, Black youth were less likely to be found delinquent while they were more likely to be found delinquent compared to White youth in 2016 and 2017. Over this three-year period, 2016 was the only year in which there were no significant differences between Black and White youth with respect to probation placement and cases resulting in confinement in secure juvenile correctional facilities. Contrary to previous years when there were no differences between Black and White youth, Black youth were more likely to have cases transferred to adult court in 2017 compared to White youth.

Table 1. RRIs for Black Youth Relative to White Youth, 2015 -2017

	2015	2016	2017
Refer to Juvenile Court	2.23	2.17	2.14
Cases Diverted	0.95	0.88	0.90
Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.19	1.20	1.18
Cases Petitioned	0.99	1.02	1.03
Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	0.91	1.13	1.10
Cases resulting in Probation Placement	1.07	0.99	0.91
Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	1.31	1.04	1.12
Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0.89	1.23	1.61

Statistically significant results: **Bold font**
 Results that are not statistically significant: Regular font

RRIs were calculated for courts that handled cases for 400 or more unique individuals in 2017. These courts include Desoto, Harrison, Hinds, Jackson, Jones, Lauderdale, Lee, Rankin, Warren, and Washington counties. With the exception of juvenile court referrals – all courts referred Black youth at a higher rate than White youth – the selected youth courts varied along the other points of contact both in comparison to one another and to the state as a whole (see Appendix F for more information).

Referral to Youth Court: Taking population proportions into consideration, we find a statistically significant difference in the rate at which Black youth were referred to juvenile court compared to their White counterparts. Black youth were referred at a disproportionately higher rate than White youth in all of the selected youth courts. In 2017, the Rankin County youth court had the lowest RRI at 1.25. Jackson (2.14), Lee (1.84), and Warren (1.86) counties also had rates that were less than or equal to the state level of 2.14. Washington County (4.32) had the highest RRI. Desoto (2.4), Harrison (2.36), Hinds (3.71), Jones (2.84), and Lauderdale (3.59) counties had rates above the state level of 2.14. There were no statistically significant differences at the point of referral between White youth and Hispanic/Latino or Asian youth at the county level.

Diversion: Four courts, Harrison County, Hinds County, Lauderdale County, and Washington County, had significant disproportionality at this point of contact. In Harrison County (0.87), Hinds County (0.84), and Lauderdale County (0.71), similarly to the state as a whole, Black 12

youth were less likely to be diverted than White youth. Washington County was the only court in which Black juveniles were more likely to have a case diverted than White juveniles (RRI of 1.16). There were no statistically significant differences in diversion in Desoto, Jackson, Jones, Lee, and Rankin counties. Warren County did not have enough cases to calculate a reliable RRI.

Detention: Five counties showed evidence of disproportionality. In Harrison County (RRI of 1.50), Lauderdale County (RRI of 1.30), Lee County (RRI of 1.69), and Rankin County (RRI of 1.24), Black youth were more likely to be held in pre-trial detention than White youth. On the other hand, Black youth in Hinds County (0.92) were less likely to be held in pre-trial detention compared to White youth. There were no statistically significant differences in pre-trial detention in Desoto, Jackson, Jones, and Warren counties. Washington County did not have enough cases to calculate a reliable RRI.

Petitioned/Filed Charges: Four counties had disproportionality at the point of contact for petition. In Harrison (RRI of 1.25), Lauderdale (RRI of 1.39), and Washington (RRI of 1.16) counties, Black youth were more likely to have their cases formally petitioned compared to White youth. There was one statistically significant instance in which Black youth were less likely to be petitioned than White youth (Jackson County; RRI of 0.78 in 2017). There were no statistically significant differences in pre-trial detention in Desoto, Hinds, Jones, Lee, Rankin, and Warren counties.

Delinquent Findings: There were no statistically significant differences in delinquent findings in eight counties: Desoto, Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lauderdale, Lee, Rankin, and Warren. Hinds and Washington Counties did not have enough cases to calculate a reliable RRI.

Probation: There were no statistically significant differences in the rate at which Black and White youth are placed on probation in seven counties: Desoto, Harrison, Jackson, Jones, Lee, Rankin, and Warren. Hinds, Lauderdale, and Washington counties did not have enough cases to calculate a reliable RRI.

Confinement in Secure Correctional Facilities: Among those counties that had enough juveniles ordered to confinement in secure juvenile correctional facilities (Harrison, RRI of 2.83; Jones, RRI of 1.86), Black youth were more likely to experience confinement in secure juvenile facilities relative to White youth. There were no statistically significant differences in delinquent findings in eight counties: Desoto, Lee, and Rankin. Hinds, Jackson, Lauderdale, Warren and Washington counties did not have enough cases to calculate a reliable RRI.

Transfer to Adult Court: There were not enough cases in any of the counties to calculate a reliable RRI.

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics of Assessment Variables

2017				
White			Black	
N	%		N	%
Gender				
Female	1,657	36.4%	2,700	32.7%
Male	2,895	63.6%	5,548	67.3%
Total	4,552	100.0%	8,248	100.0%
Age				
Mean	15.07		15.10	
Crime Severity				
Status	1,288	28.7%	1,454	18.0%
Minor	139	3.1%	192	2.4%
Moderate	1,759	39.3%	4,058	50.2%
Serious	1,221	27.2%	2,241	27.7%
Very Serious	74	1.7%	143	1.8%
Total	4,481	100.0%	8,088	100.0%
Contempt of Court				
Yes	262	5.7%	371	4.5%
Prior Arrest in 2013				
Yes	1,159	25.4%	2,618	31.6%
Offenses Per Case				
Mean	1.37		1.38	
Range	1 - 30		1 - 22	

Referral to Youth Court

In 2017, there were significant differences in referrals to youth court between Black and White youth among four of the six independent variables (see Table 3). Black youth referred to youth court were also more likely to have committed an offense in the prior year compared to White youth. A higher proportion of males were referred to youth court among Black youth (67.3%) whereas a higher proportion of females were referred among White juveniles (36.4%). Black youth also had significantly higher severity scores (1.93) relative to White youth. There were no statistically significant differences between Black and White youth with respect to the number of offenses per case and age.

Table 3. Race-Based Differences in Referrals, 2017

White	Black
Prior Referral	
No	74.6%
Yes	25.4%
Sex	
Male	63.6%
Female	36.4%
Contempt Status	
Not in Contempt	94.3%
Held in Contempt	5.7%
Mean Severity Score	1.7
Mean # of Offenses per Case	1.37
Mean Age	15.07

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Diversion

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between each predictor variable and diversion (see Table 4). Black youth (37.9%), males (35.6%), individuals held in contempt (27.1%), and individuals with prior offenses in 2016 (30.6%) were less likely to be diverted. Older age (15.10), a higher number of offenses per case (1.53), and more severe offenses (2.00) were also associated with a lower likelihood of being diverted. When controlling for offender characteristics and legal factors in a multivariate logistic regression, race was no longer a statistically significant predictor of diversion. All other variables remained statistically significant predictors of diversion.

Table 4. Differences in Rates of Diversion, 2017

Bivariate			Multivariate
	Not Diverted	Diverted	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	56.7%	43.3%	
Priors	69.4%	30.6%	
Sex			0.000
Female	52.5%	47.5%	
Male	64.4%	35.6%	
Contempt Status			0.005
Not Held in Contempt	59.7%	40.3%	
Held in Contempt	72.9%	27.1%	
Race			0.062
White	57.9%	42.1%	
Black	62.1%	37.9%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.53	1.15	0.005
Mean Age	15.10	15.04	0.000
Mean Severity Score	2.00	1.59	0.001

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Petitioned/Filed Charges

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between several of the predictor variables and rates of formal petition (see Table 5). Males (55.6%), individuals held in contempt (67.8%), and individuals with prior offenses (59.9%) were more likely to be formally petitioned. Those with a higher number of offenses committed per case (1.57) and those with higher severity scores (1.98) were more likely to be formally petitioned. Race and age were not significant determinants. When controlling for offender characteristics and legal factors, the significance changed for only one variable. At the multivariate level, age became a significant predictor of whether a case was formally petitioned.

Table 5. Differences in Rates of Formal Petitioning, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Petitioned	Formally Petitioned	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	52.4%	47.6%	
Priors	40.1%	59.9%	
Sex			0.000
Female	57.5%	42.5%	
Male	44.4%	55.6%	
Contempt Status			0.000
Not Held in Contempt	49.7%	50.3%	
Held in Contempt	32.2%	67.8%	
Race			0.638
White	49.5%	50.5%	
Black	48.2%	51.8%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.17	1.57	0.000
Mean Age	15.06	15.09	0.000
Mean Severity Score	1.66	1.98	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Secure Pre-Adjudication/Trial Detention

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between each predictor variable and pretrial detention (see Table 6). Black youth (25.9), males (26.3%), individuals held in contempt (43.1%), and individuals with prior offenses in 2016 (34.8%) were more likely to be held in pretrial detention. Older individuals (15.25), those with a higher number of offenses committed per case (1.63), and those with higher severity scores (2.37) were more likely to be held in pretrial detention. When analyzed using multivariate logistic regression, five of the predictors – prior referral, contempt status, race, offenses per case, and severity score – remained a statistically significant indicator of whether a youth was held in pretrial detention.

Table 6. Differences in Rates of Secure Pre-Adjudication/Pretrial Detention, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Held in Pretrial Detention	Held in Pretrial Detention	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	80.2%	19.8%	
Priors	65.2%	34.8%	
Sex			0.849
Female	79.7%	20.3%	
Male	73.7%	26.3%	
Contempt Status			0.000
Not Held in Contempt	76.8%	23.2%	
Held in Contempt	59.6%	43.1%	
Race			0.016
White	78.0%	22.0%	
Black	74.1%	25.9%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.30	1.63	0.000
Mean Age	15.02	15.25	0.409
Mean Severity Score	1.65	2.37	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Delinquent Findings

With the exception of one variable, bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed significant relationships between the predictor variables and whether a youth was found delinquent (see Table 7). Males (48.0%), older individuals (15.20), individuals held in contempt (49.4%), and individuals with prior offenses (51.1%) were more likely to be found delinquent. Those with higher severity scores (2.46) and a higher number of offenses per case (1.83) were also more likely to be found delinquent. Race was not a significant predictor. Multivariate logistic regression analysis reveals that gender, prior offenses in 2016, mean number of offenses per case, and mean severity score remained significant factors in determining whether a juvenile is found delinquent when controlling for offender characteristics and other legal factors. Age, significant factors at the bivariate level, was not a significant predictor of delinquent findings at the multivariate level. On the other hand, race was not a significant predictor of delinquent findings at the bivariate level but became a significant factor at the multivariate level when controlling for other variables.

Table 7. Differences in Rates of Delinquent Findings, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Delinquent	Delinquent	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	59.4%	40.6%	
Priors	48.9%	51.1%	
Sex			0.000
Female	65.8%	34.2%	
Male	52.0%	48.0%	
Contempt Status			0.150
Not Held in Contempt	56.3%	43.7%	
Held in Contempt	50.6%	49.4%	
Race			0.016
White	56.7%	43.3%	
Black	55.1%	44.9%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.42	1.83	0.010
Mean Age	14.96	15.20	0.205
Mean Severity Score	1.62	2.46	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Probation

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between several predictor variables and placement on probation (see Table 8). Black youth (66.3%), males (67.2%), those with a higher number of offenses per case (1.8), and those with a higher severity score were more likely to be placed on probation. Prior referrals, contempt status, and age were not significant predictors. Multivariate logistic regression analysis revealed the significance of each variable on the likelihood of being placed on probation. Prior referrals became a significant predictor while race was no longer a predictor of probation placement in the multivariate analysis. All other factors were unchanged.

Table 8. Differences in Rates of Probation, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Placed On Probation	Placed on Probation	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.024
No Priors	34.7%	65.3%	
Priors	36.1%	63.9%	
Sex			0.008
Female	42.1%	57.9%	
Male	32.8%	67.2%	
Contempt Status			0.164
Not Held in Contempt	35.1%	64.9%	
Held in Contempt	36.7%	63.3%	
Race			0.215
White	38.1%	61.9%	
Black	33.7%	66.3%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.48	1.80	0.027
Mean Age	15.09	15.10	0.124
Mean Severity Score	1.70	2.24	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Confinement in Secure Correctional Facilities

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between all of the predictor variables and placement in a secure correctional facility (see Table 9). Black youth (19.9%), males (20.4%), individuals held in contempt (36.3%), and individuals with prior offenses (27.4%) were more likely to be held in post-adjudication detention. Older youth (15.42), those with a higher number of offenses committed per case (2.41), and those with higher severity scores (2.64) were more likely to be placed in post-disposition detention. Multivariate logistic regression analysis reveals that, with the exception of race, all of the variables remained significant factors in determining whether a juvenile was placed in confinement in a secure correctional facility. Race was no longer a significant factor when controlling for offender characteristics and other legal factors.

Table 9. Differences in Rates of Confinement in Secure Correctional Facilities, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Placed on Probation	Placed on Probation	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	87.0%	13.0%	
Priors	72.6%	27.4%	
Sex			0.016
Female	87.9%	12.1%	
Male	79.6%	20.4%	
Contempt Status			0.000
Not Held in Contempt	83.1%	16.9%	
Held in Contempt	63.7%	36.3%	
Race			0.055
White	84.8%	15.2%	
Black	80.1%	19.9%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.53	2.41	0.000
Mean Age	15.02	15.42	0.013
Mean Severity Score	1.92	2.64	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Transfer to Adult Court

Bivariate analyses of cases in 2017 showed a significant relationship between several predictor variables and certification to adult court (see Table 10). Males (0.6%), older individuals (16.38), and individuals with prior offenses (1.0%) were more likely to be certified to adult court. Those with a higher number of offenses committed per case (3.79) and those with higher severity scores (3.00) were more likely to be certified to adult court. Contempt of court status and race were not significant predictors. Multivariate logistic regression analysis reveals the same results as the bivariate analysis.

Table 10. Differences in Rates of Certification, 2017

	Bivariate		Multivariate
	Not Certified	Certified	Sig.
Prior Referral			0.000
No Priors	99.8%	0.2%	
Priors	99.0%	1.0%	
Sex			0.025
Female	99.9%	0.1%	
Male	99.4%	0.6%	
Contempt Status			0.991
Not Held in Contempt	99.5%	0.5%	
Held in Contempt	100.0%	0.0%	
Race			0.082
White	99.7%	0.3%	
Black	99.5%	0.5%	
Mean Number of Offenses Per Case	1.37	3.79	0.000
Mean Age	15.07	16.38	0.000
Mean Severity Score	1.83	3.00	0.000

Bold Font: Statistically significant

Bivariate analyses suggest that there were several points of contact in which Black and White youth were moved through the juvenile justice system at disproportionate rates. Black youth were more likely to be referred to youth court, less likely to be diverted, more likely to be held in pretrial detention, more likely to be placed on probation, and more likely to be held in confinement in a secure correctional facility.

Over the next three years the Office of Justice Programs will focus its Title II funding on increasing the number of detention alternatives in counties that have excessive compliance monitoring violations and/or youth court referrals which will lead to a reduction in Mississippi JJDP core violations rate. Program and services funded under Title II must demonstrate the ability to provide immediate detention relief to law enforcement agencies and/or youth courts by providing safe, non-secure placement alternatives.

Targeted Programs and Services

1. Detention Centers
2. Reporting Centers
3. Youth Courts
4. Electronic Monitoring Programs
5. Home Detention Programs (with or without electronic monitoring)
6. Non-secure Shelter/Group home (most have a contract or MOA in place with the youth court).
7. Community Service Program ((most have a contract or MOA in place with the youth court).
8. Law Enforcement Programs focusing on Jail removal
9. Submit annual DMC report to OJJDP.

Such programs, if residential in nature meaning the facility is designed and/or is intended to keep juveniles overnight, must be staff-secure settings, which are free of jail or jail-like hardware and where juveniles are under constant visual supervision by facility staff until such time appropriate placement can be arranged, such as release to a parent or legal guardian or return to the juvenile home jurisdiction.

Deinstitutionalization of Status and Non-Offenders

The state has been experiencing DSO violations in adult jails, adult lockups, and juvenile detention centers. In adult jails and lockups, status offenders and non-offenders are being held inappropriately and in inappropriate locations in the facilities. In the juvenile detention centers the DSO violations are occurring due to status offenders being held beyond the 24 hour limit.

Monitoring priority will be given to identify facilities that securely detain juveniles and/or utilize their residential capabilities when detaining juveniles. Facilities with high violation incidents will receive more frequent site visits until the problems are corrected.

In 2014 the state had 21,632 referrals and in 2015 the state had 19,971 referrals to youth court. This clearly shows a need for additional resources to fund local municipalities and non-profit groups to develop non secure hold over programs, reentry programs, mentoring programs, and electronic monitoring programs for status and delinquent offenders so reduces the number of youth being detained in juvenile detention centers and adult jails and lockups, which will help decrease the DSO and Jail Removal Rate, and more importantly place these types of youth in better environments where their needs can be addressed more promptly, and decrease their chances of being mentally and/or physically abused, or learning criminal behavior.

Separation of Juveniles and Adults

The types of sight and sound violations the state is experiencing are the facilities building design not set up correctly to hold juveniles securely while maintaining sight and sound separation, and other agencies that are unaware of the separation requirement that utilize the county jail for secure detainment. However, these types of violations are very few, and since JJ-Unit has been monitoring with a full staff, secure facilities have been made aware of the federal and state law that pertains to separation. The presence of the compliance monitor at the violating facilities will allow for technical assistance to the officers and staff on an as-needed basis. This training along with all the available resource should have a great effect on the officers and staff to help them achieve compliance at their facility as soon as possible.

Jail Removal

The jail removal rates for the past three years have been on a continuous decline. The jail removal violation rate for the 2013 CMR was .66, a major decrease from the and in 2012 the rate was .53. Frequent monitoring trips and training keep violations at a minimum. The lack of reporting and inaccurate reporting along with removal violations in adult jails and lockups and status offenders and non-offenders being held inappropriately has resulted in violations encountered by the state in some facilities.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

In 2014 the state still lacks an adequate mechanism for compiling data to make an empirical determination that disproportionate minority contact exists. However, a review of the youth court data from the Department of Youth Services reveal that more African American juveniles are referred to juvenile courts in Mississippi than any other group. African American juveniles are referred at a rate of more than twice that of Caucasian juveniles. They constitute, on an average, nearly 68 percent of the youth court referrals, while Caucasian youth make up, on an average, approximately 31 percent of the referrals. It should be noted that minority youth make up approximately 45 percent of the population under the age of 18 in the state while Caucasian youth make up approximately 52 percent. Based on this data, the obvious conclusion is that African American juveniles are referred to juvenile courts in the state disproportionately, when compared to the population make up of juveniles in the state. Additional resources are needed to develop and implement programs that address the needs of minority juveniles, especially African Americans, to reduce the level of contact with various components of the juvenile justice system.

Alternatives to Detention and Diversion

The priority focus of Formula Grants funds will be to address alternatives to detention and

diversion. Few alternatives to detention exist in the state. Mississippi has a great need and few resources for Alternatives programs. Most secure facilities are not equipped to provide the services needed to address mental health and emotional needs of youth. Increased reliance on detention has led to overcrowding and mistreatment of juveniles in some facilities. Youth are often exposed to violence, abuse and unhealthy conditions that exacerbate their conditions of confinement. The state will continue to fund its pilot project Hope Home for Girls to lower the number of female status and delinquent offenders.

There is an urgent need for the development and implementation of more community based services, that are specific to the needs of female offenders and 13 to 14 years old offenders whose numbers are growing at an alarming rate. The Department of Youth Services has made positive strides in expanding Adolescent Offender Programs into a majority of the counties across the state, however, additional resources are needed to provide treatment and rehabilitation services for juveniles in their own communities.

- The Office of Justice Programs Division does not have any High Risk Programs.
- The State Advisory Group has one member involved with programs that are alternatives to confinement, including organized recreation activities.
- The agency does not have any pending applications for federally funded grants or sub-grants to support the same project.

b. Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Mississippi is in compliance with the Core Requirements of the JJDP Act (Program areas 19, 21, 26, and 30)

Mississippi will continue to remain in compliance with the core protection and continue to reduce status offenders being detained by:

1. Monitor all public/private facilities in the state that have public authority to hold juveniles (facility classifications in the act include adult jails, adult lockups,

- correctional facilities, juvenile detention facilities, and other types of secure and or non-secure facilities);
2. Identify, classify, inspect, collect and verify data for the monitoring universe;
 3. Develop and maintain monitoring universe data and generate reports to facilities and the Department of Justice/Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention;
 4. Create and update policies and procedures for compliance monitoring.

FY 2018 UPDATE

Mississippi monitored and collected data on its 15 detention centers, 3 temporary holding facilities and its sole youth development center as well as over 350 facilities that hold or house juveniles according to public authority through its jail/detention logs and technology-based pilot project.

Goal 2: The State Advisory Group (Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee) provides statewide training opportunities through informed and effective alternatives to detention. (Program areas 24, 27, 28, and 31)

1. Prevent juveniles from being held in inappropriate places by having a compliance monitoring representative in all areas of the state for the necessary training to prevent these situations.
2. Train facilities that hold juveniles pursuant to public authority to hold juveniles in the correct areas in their facilities to prevent future criminal behavior until placement in an alternative to detention program comes available.
3. To provide juvenile justice professionals and local community-based organizations with information and methods that could be implemented to reduce minority youth contact with the juvenile justice system.

FY 2018 UPDATE

The State Advisory Group (Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee) is expected to host a statewide training that will address the state's issue of disproportionate minority representation in the juvenile justice system, best practices, conditions of confinement, mental health, DSO, Jail Removal, Sight and Sound, human trafficking, gender specific issues, and alternatives to detention.

Goal 3: To provide training and local funding for effective local community projects that assist in identifying and reducing minority youth contact with the juvenile justice system.

1. Provide funding for projects that seek to reduce the number of status offenders placed in secure detention facilities.
2. Teach staff at detention facilities to hold status and non-offenders in non-secure areas if available.
3. To provide training and technical assistance to juvenile justice professionals and local community-based organizations on "how to" effectively address disproportionate minority contact issues.
4. Identify programs throughout the state that provide services to youth who have entered the juvenile system or providing preventive/mentoring services in this state. Once services or programs have been identified, the State Advisory Group will partner local youth courts/youth facilities with those programs in hopes given them additional resources for juveniles in there county or city.

FY 2018 Update

The Hope Home for Girls in Hinds County for the past several years has been funded through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. The program provides services to run away and low risk female youth which prevent them from being housed in secure detention. Over the next few years the state will continue to work with Hope Home for Girls.

c. Implementation

Mississippi has continued to work to achieve full compliance with the JJDP act of 2002 core requirements. There were several years prior to 2007 where Mississippi had lost and/or had federal formula grant funds restricted due to non-compliance. The primary reason for Mississippi's non-compliance with the four (4) core requirements during this time was due to over-reliance on the use of secure custody placements; specifically, too many delinquent youth

and status offenders were held securely in adult jails and lockups, juvenile detention centers, temporary holding facilities and what was previously known as Oakley Training School.

Unfortunately, the lack of community-based resources and detention alternatives available to youth court judges and law enforcement, especially at the point of arrest often means that the only placement option is secure detention. Over the next three years the Office of Justice Programs will focus its Title II funding on increasing the number of detention alternatives in counties that have excessive compliance monitoring violations and/or youth court referrals, which will lead to a reduction in Mississippi JJDP core violations rate. Program and services funded under Title II must demonstrate the ability to provide immediate detention relief to law enforcement agencies and/or youth courts by providing safe, non-secure placement alternatives as well as training initiatives to juvenile justice practitioners specifically detention staff and law enforcement.

Targeted Programs and Services

- Detention Centers
- Reporting Centers
- Youth Courts
- Electronic Monitoring Programs
- Home Detention Programs (with or without electronic monitoring)
- Non-secure Shelter/Group home (most have a contract or MOA in place with the youth court).
- Community Service Program ((most have a contract or MOA in place with the youth court).
- Law Enforcement Programs focusing on Jail removal

Proposed Projects under Title II to lower the States DSO, Sight and Sound, and Jail Removal Violations:

1. Greenville Reporting Center (DSO, Sight and Sound and Jail removal)
2. Hinds County Reporting Center (DSO, Sight and Sound and Jail removal)
3. Non-secure Shelter/Group home to help reduce DSO violations at Henley Young (8 to 10 beds need to be contracted strictly to the county)
4. Rankin County JDAI Program
5. Youth Court Electronic Monitoring

6. AOC Data Collection System (To verify youth court records for potential DSO violations).
7. Forrest County (pending)
8. Meridian (pending)
9. Hattiesburg (pending)
10. Harrison County (pending)
11. Desoto County (pending)
12. Vicksburg P.D. (Jail Removal)

Population-specific Plan

Each juvenile detention center is operated by the individual counties of its location and are administered by their board of supervisors and elected county judge. The state has no jurisdiction over county funded facilities. The state will work through Department of Public Safety, Mississippi State University, Department of Mental Health, and Department of Human Services and Family Services to conduct research and programs that address the needs of young women. Through research conducted by Mississippi State University, our goal is to help each county to develop programs to handle the assessment, adjudication, placement, case planning, treatment services and supervision of youth under the courts supervision.

Not all youth are delinquent females and depending on their circumstances so will be able to receive services through DHS Child and Family Services. The state has also supported funding of a pilot project called Hope Home for Girls at the largest county youth detention center for the past two years funded by Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. The program provides services to run away and low risk female youth which prevent them from housed at the detention center. The state goals will continue to be:

1. To develop programs that provide a variety of interventions--behavioral, cognitive, affective/dynamic and systems perspectives--in order to fully address the needs and strengths of girls at each juvenile facility/county.
2. To implement services and treatment which addresses program participants' practical needs such as family, transportation, childcare, school, GED preparation, and vocational training and job placement.

3. To identify opportunities to develop skills in a range of educational and vocational areas.
4. To implement a program to recruit role models and mentors that reflect the racial/ethnicity and cultural backgrounds of the program participants.
5. To implement gender-responsive assessment tools and individualized treatment plans that match appropriate services with the identified needs/assets youth involved in the program.
6. To partner with the Mississippi Attorney General's Office in implementing the JDAI model statewide.
7. To conduct statewide training for law enforcement, social workers, juvenile detention officers, youth court judges, juvenile practitioners, school administrators and other juvenile professionals.

As a member of the Juvenile Detentions Alternative Initiative Task Force, DPSP OJP representatives and the SAG-MSJJAC have collaborated with the Mississippi Attorney General's Office and Annie E. Case Foundation to implement JDAI efforts in five specific rural areas around the state. During this time, services for key areas of the state specifically in the North, Central and Southern regions were selected as pilot sites. These sites were used to help guide juvenile justice reform in the state of Mississippi. As a result of the collaboration, legislation was passed which resulted in uniform detention standards for the juvenile detention facilities throughout the state. The initial goal of the of the Mississippi JDAI efforts was to 1) eliminate inappropriate use of secure detention, 2) minimize re-arrest, and 3) failure-to-appear rates pending adjudication, 4) ensure appropriate conditions of confinement in secure facilities, 4) redirect public finances to sustain successful reforms, 5) and reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

The ability to work with other entities and in an effort to leverage additional funds will provide services such as mentoring, gender specific, group homes, reporting centers, mental health and substance abuse treatment programs. The counties that are currently a part of the JDAI project are still working and over the next few years will begin to implement programs targeting reducing

youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system, through intervention programs, mentoring, treatment, tutoring, and counseling services as well as begin piloting a risk assessment instrument. This will allow the State to focus on:

1. Diversion
2. Alternatives to detention

Each county facility has in-house counselors assigned by the Department of Human Services to supervise the youth on probation and responsible for meeting the youth and family following the court hearing, preparing a Strength Based Case Plan in collaboration with the family, completing a risk and supervision assessment, referrals for other assessments including mental health, psychological and drug and alcohol, providing educational advocacy, supervising the collection of restitution, monitoring the completion of court ordered sanctions and providing other court related services. The counselors also collaborate with the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Department of Mental Health and other community agencies in providing services to the youth and their families.

Consultation and participation of units of local government

The Mississippi Division of Public Safety Planning, Office of Justice Programs collaborates with various local and state agencies to address juvenile justice issues. The Juvenile Justice Specialist serves as a liaison between OJP the administrative agency of Title II funds and other agencies by being an active member of various task forces and committees associated with juvenile justice issues throughout the state. Not only does the Juvenile Justice Specialist serve in this capacity but other members of the juvenile justice staff serve in the same regard as well as provide technical assistance to agencies in and out of the field. By working on various task forces and committees the Juvenile Justice Specialist and staff are able to address and incorporate the needs and requests of units of local government into day to day operations, bring

any pressing issues to the attention of the State Advisory Group-Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (MSJJAC), provide training/technical assistance, provide funding when relevant and/or is available.

Collecting and sharing juvenile justice information

At the present time most of Mississippi's, juvenile justice agencies utilizes the Mississippi Youth Court Information Delivery System (MYCIDS) to gather juvenile justice information and data. MYCIDS is the most universal data collection tool used to improved tracking and gathering information regarding juvenile offenders. Where there is an unwillingness or reluctance to use MYCIDS by state or local entities, youth court judges have the authority to order the agency to release the records.

The primary barrier that had been an issue for the state in terms of information sharing was associated with not having a uniform system, once obtaining a system not recognizing its full reporting capacity/uses as well as in a few rare instances of agencies failing to report adequate data. Fortunately, agencies in most instances have been willing to comply. There are tools in place to ensure that agencies report and share data.

d. Formula Grants Program Staff

Juvenile Justice Specialist—Vacant

Funding Source: Title II

Percentage of Time: 50%

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Supervise, direct, support and monitor the activities of the Juvenile Justice Division staff in administering the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Formula and Block Grant program and the Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws Block Grant program.
 1. Interview and make hiring recommendations;
 2. Establish work priorities for the staff that are in line with division management;
 3. Provide professional development training opportunities for division staff;
 4. Assist staff in setting priorities and timelines for completing tasks;

5. Meet regularly with staff to discuss concerns, challenges, opportunities, and to resolve problems/conflicts; and
 6. Conduct staff performance appraisals and provide positive/constructive feedback and guidance to continued improvements.
- Administer and direct the implementation of federal formula, block and discretionary grant programs.
 1. Consult with senior staff to develop grant program guidelines, policies and procedures;
 2. Notify potential applicants of the availability of funds and funding area requirements;
 3. Direct the grant application review and award process;
 4. Schedule project implementation conferences for successful applicants;
 5. Organize and provide sub-grantees financial reimbursements and programmatic reporting processes;
 6. Supervise and provide technical assistance to sub-grantees/other entities; and
 7. Prepare federal and state programmatic and financial reports.
 - Direct and supervises the development of applications for major federal formula, block, discretionary and state programs administered by the Juvenile Justice Division.
 1. Formulate policies and procedures for administering grant programs;
 2. Develop and implement strategic plans and applications for public safety;
 3. Direct the sub-grant application and review process for new grant award;
 4. Review and approve sub-grant reimbursement requests;
 5. Direct sub-grant monitoring and sub-grant process;
 6. Review and implement federal legislation guidelines for federal grant programs;
 7. Consult with state and local units of government, non-profit organizations and elective staff about the state's grant application/plan, policies and procedures; and
 8. Prepare program budget for grant awards.
 - Direct and manage budgeting and fiscal accounting activities for federal and state grant programs.
 1. Prepare program budgets for federal and state grant programs;
 2. Manage and supervise, through subordinates, financial reimbursements to sub-grantees.
 3. Reconcile grant awards and expenditures with program budgets to avoid overspending; and
 4. Maintain fiscal accounting for programs.
 - Direct and supervise activities to measure the effectiveness of programs administered the Juvenile Justice Division.

1. Develop and implement in consultation with the bureau director and subordinates policies and procedures for sub-grant awards;
 2. Develop and implement, through subordinates and the bureau director, policies and procedures for evaluation program effectiveness;
 3. Review and approve external program evaluation; and
 4. Draft, compile and submit to federal funding agencies, the state Legislature and governor's Office all required annual reports, semi-annual reports, categorical progress reports (when applicable) and annual evaluation reports.
- The Juvenile Justice Specialist coordinates the compilation and development of reports that fulfill compliance with the JJDP Act and state mandates, including the state's 3-year Juvenile Justice Plan and the update Plan, annual program reports, and annual performance reports. Additionally, the JJ Specialist makes recommendations for the development of state budget for Office of Justice Programs. (no federal funds are spent on lobbying).
 - Works closely with the SAG to address state Juvenile Justice issues

DMC Coordinator—Vacant

Funding Source: Title II

Percentage of Time: 50%

Position Description: The DMC Coordinator (Coordinator) staffs and coordinates all activities of the DMC Advisory Committee and its workgroups. The Coordinator plays a key role in cultivating working partnerships between judges and masters; law enforcement; prosecutors and public defenders; DJS probation and intake; school officials; community groups and service providers; parents and youth.

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Data Collection & Analysis
 1. Collect and prepare snapshot analyses of the detention population at identified detention facilities;
 2. Regularly collect and prepare data analyses on detained youth at various points of the juvenile justice system such as detention, court, and other placement decisions; and
 3. Provide quarterly and annual data to the Advisory Committee on Mississippi detention admissions and other trends.
- Project Administration
 1. Report regularly to the DMC Advisory Committee and the SAG DMC subcommittee
 2. Coordinate special meetings of the DMC Advisory Committee and Taskforces
 3. Provide written progress reports to grant funding sources, and attend required meetings and special events as required by funding sources
- Activity Coordination

1. Conduct DMC Education workshops in identified target communities with parents, community-based service providers, neighborhood associations, faith-based initiatives, etc.
 2. Conduct DMC Training with identified traditional stakeholders such as local agency staff, community-based service providers, etc.
- Establishing DMC Connections
 1. Facilitate DMC dialogues between the DMC Advisory Board, JDAI stakeholders and community members regarding the resource needs to reduce DMC, and to engage community in all aspects of detention reform.
 2. Represent DMC in the local JDAI delegation at Annie E. Casey conferences and meetings
 - Compliance Monitoring

Works with the federal and state compliance monitors to achieve and maintain full compliance with all three of the four core provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency.

Compliance Monitor—Anslem Palmer

Funding Source: Title II

Percentage of Time: 100%

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- The compliance monitor works to achieve and maintain full compliance with all three of the four core provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002:
 1. Deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO);
 2. Separation of juveniles from adults in institutions (Separation); and
 3. Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups (Jail removal);
- Monitoring responsibilities:
 4. Monitor all public/private facilities in the state that have public authority to hold juveniles (facility classifications in the act include adult jails, adult lockups, correctional facilities, juvenile detention facilities, and other types of secure and or non-secure facilities);
 5. Identify, classify, inspect, collect and verify data for the monitoring universe;
 6. Develop and maintain monitoring universe data and generate reports to facilities and the Department of Justice/Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention;
 7. Create and update policies and procedures for compliance monitoring.
- Administrative responsibilities:
 1. Develops and maintains a record keeping system for the compliance universe;

2. Develops a compliance guidance manual;
 3. Creates sample policies and procedures manuals for the facilities;
 4. Trains facility staff on juvenile jail log reporting and compliance for each facility in the universe; and
 5. Verifies all violations on-site.
- The compliance monitor not only identifies and classifies the facilities, but he/she also inspects secure facilities for accurate reporting.

Formula Grants Coordinator and Monitor: Jackie Ledger

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with private organizations, the community and other state agencies to reduce juvenile delinquency in the state.
 1. Review and interpret federal guidelines
 2. Communicate applicable information to sub-grantees/potential sub-grantees
 3. Attend meeting/trainings
- Implement and manage funded programs
 1. Review grant applications
 2. Complete Implementation/Work Sessions as needed
 3. Develop work plans to ensure compliance
 3. Review and approve reimbursement requests for fiscal compliance
 4. Monitor the activities of sub-grantees (site visits)
 5. Complete federal reports and closeouts as required
- Administrative duties
 1. Provide technical assistance, as needed
 2. Respond to request verbally and in writing
 3. Attend training/meetings as required
 4. Review monthly progress reports and updates and compile data for federal reports.

Administrative/Data Entry Assistant: Vacant

Funding Source: Title II

Percentage of Time: 100%

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Completes documents by entering data, completing reports, and filing.
- Prepares work to be accomplished by gathering and sorting department documents and information.

- Determines priority, format, and other requirements by reviewing instructions or references (jail logs, compliance monitoring policies and procedures manual, manual for web based reporting system).
- Verifies information by comparing information to original source; recalculating totals.
- Completes documents by entering/typing data from source materials or recordings.
- Revises documents by entering/retyping edited data.
- Verifies documents by proofreading and rechecking requirements.
- Maintains historical records by filing documents.
- Secures information by completing data base backup and making record updates when initiated by reporting facilities.
- Maintains supplies inventory by checking stock to determine inventory level; anticipating needed supplies; placing and expediting orders for supplies; verifying receipt of supplies.
- Provides information to facilities and answers questions and requests.
- Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.

Skills/Qualifications

Data Entry Skills, Word Processing, Thoroughness, Supply Management, Organization, Typing, Attention to Detail, Decision Making, Informing Others, Internal Communications, Results Driven

4. PLANS FOR COMPLIANCE

The state of Mississippi applied for and received a 30 day extension of May 2, 2018. The required compliance and DMC plans, compliance and RRI data, and supporting documentation for the period of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017 was submitted electronically to OJJDP's online compliance reporting tool by May 2, 2018.

5. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS—APPENDIX I

Appendix I is a separate attachment.

6. PLAN FOR COLLECTING DATA FOR PERFORMANCE MEASURES

PROGRAM AREA: 19 Compliance Monitoring

Problem Statement: States must provide for an adequate system for monitoring jails, lockups, detention facilities, correctional facilities, and non-secure facilities to ensure requirements pursuant to Section 223(a)14 paragraphs (11),(12), and (13) of the JJDP Act of 2002 are met for the annual reporting of monitoring results to the Administrator of OJJDP.

Program Goal(s):

- Maintain existing self-reporting compliance monitoring system.
- Test and implement the online reporting system.
- Provide regional trainings and technical assistance to jurisdictions to decrease violations.
- Maintain compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP Act of 2002.

Program Objectives:

- To determine Mississippi's compliance with section 223(a) (11), (12), and (13) of the JJDPA and state laws.
- To verify monthly self-reporting data and conduct inspections of facilities detaining juveniles.
- Pilot testing at different types of facilities throughout the state.
- Monitor juvenile detention facilities and temporary holding facilities monthly as well as adult jails/lockups, and other facilities that may hold juveniles pursuant to public authority at least once per year.
- Lower violations for all three core requirements.
- Conduct regional trainings to jails/lock-ups and other facilities that may hold juveniles pursuant to public authority.

Activities and Services Planned:

The Juvenile Justice Unit of the Office of Justice Programs has a team of 5 staff members that perform monitoring functions. Each staff member has their own districts in the state which allows for the staff member to have more frequent monitoring visits to the potential violating facilities. These efforts should reduce violations in all three core requirements due to the constant presence in these areas. The implementation of the online system should reduce violation numbers in all types of facilities in the monitoring universe. This system will allow for more accurate reporting which will result in a decrease in violations.

The monitors verify data collected, conduct on-site inspections of facilities, the classification of facilities, provide technical assistance as needed, heighten public awareness of the problem of children in jails, monitoring and review of proposed legislation that could impact compliance with the JJDPA mandates. Also, OJP will conduct regional trainings across the state for newly hired and elected officials to ensure that they understand the requirements for holding or housing youth.

Performance Measures:

Mississippi will collect and report data on each performance measure for each applicable program area for each year of the award period through the Office of Administration Courts MYCIDS data tool system along with the assistance of Mississippi State University. OJP will collect data from sub-recipients on a quarterly basis. Quarterly/annual reporting and annual evaluations are used to collect mandatory data and is a condition of the sub-grants OJP administers. OJP will review and report the mandatory data. Also, analyses will be conducted at the case level. In the event that a case had multiple associated offenses, the most serious offense was selected for inclusion. Using data entered into MYCIDS in 2017, we examined eight of the nine points of contact outlined by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP): (1) referral to juvenile court, (2) diversion, (3) pre-trial detention, (4) formal petition or filing of charges by the county prosecutor, (5) adjudication or finding that the child is delinquent, (6) probation, (7) confinement in secure correctional facilities, and (8) transfer of the case to adult court. According to OJJDP, the first point of contact, arrest, occurs when a law enforcement agency apprehends, stops, or otherwise contacts a youth suspected of having

committed a delinquent act or criminal offense. In Mississippi, there is no centralized database for capturing juvenile arrests as defined by OJJDP. With the data we have available, we are only capable of reporting the number of juveniles referred to youth court.

The racial categories used in MYCIDS are White, Black, American Indian, Asian, Other, and Unknown. Hispanic ethnicity is a separate variable within the system. We recoded the racial categories to include Hispanic as an option by grouping all individuals who identified with the ethnicity, regardless of what they marked as their race, in a new “Hispanic” racial category. In all, 271 cases in 2017 did not have a race/ethnicity reported. These cases were dropped from the analyses.

Output Measures

Funds allocated to adhere to section 223(a) (14) of the JJDP of 2002.

Number and percent of program staff trained.

Number of activities that address compliance with Section. 223(a) (14) of the JJDP of 2002.

Outcome Measures

Submission of complete Annual Monitoring Report to OJJDP.

Number and percent of program staff with increased knowledge of program area.

PROGRAM AREA: 21 Disproportionate Minority Contact

Problem Statement:

States must address specific delinquency prevention and system improvement efforts to reduce specific minority groups’ rate of contact with the juvenile justice system if that rate is significantly greater than the rate of contact for whites or other minority groups. The state will solicit in the 2018 Request for Proposals, the development of projects that are designed to meet the needs of minority youth. More specifically, this will include development of community-based alternatives to secure detention and correctional facilities.

Program Goal(s):

To achieve full compliance with Section 223(a) (22) through creative and innovative development projects designed to decrease minority youth contact in the state’s juvenile justice system. Also fund programs, research, or other initiatives designed to reduce the number of status offenders placed in secure detention facilities Collaborate with the Mississippi Department of Human Services Division of Youth Services and Administration Office of the Courts in developing a uniform data collection system which will allow for accurate collection of data. Develop a DMC Youth Task Force to provide awareness of the State’s DMC issues.

Program Objectives:

- To provide funding for effective local community projects that assist in identifying and reducing minority youth contact with the juvenile justice system. Provide funding for projects that seek to reduce the number of status offenders placed in secure detention facilities. Teach staff at detention facilities to hold status and non-offenders in non-secure areas if available.
- To provide funding for effective local community projects that assist in identifying and reducing minority youth contact with the juvenile justice system.
- To provide juvenile justice professionals and local community-based organizations with information and methods that could be implemented to reduce minority youth contact with the juvenile justice system through a DMC State Conference.
- To provide training and technical assistance to juvenile justice professionals and local community-based organizations on “how to” effectively address disproportionate minority contact issues.
- To establish a pilot Institute of Juvenile Research Consortium designed to enhance the capacity of the state to development an adequate research, training, and evaluation center.
- The DMC Youth Task Force will play a key role in coordinating a plan involving all stakeholders in the juvenile justice system in select areas that will enable the development of effective practices in collecting data and reducing DMC issues that can be disseminated to other counties throughout Mississippi.

Activities and Services Planned:

Projects implemented will specifically address the efforts to decrease minority youth contact with Mississippi’s juvenile justice system. Funded projects will address prevention, intervention, diversion activities, and cultural competency training and education for juvenile justice practitioners. This program will target minority youth at-risk of entering the juvenile justice system. Currently, there are no other state/local programs that address DMC.

Performance Measures:

Output Measures

- Number of programs implemented.
- Number of program youth served.
- Number of onsite monitoring and/or technical assistance visits.
- Average length of stay in program.
- Number of service hours completed by program youth.

Outcome Measures

- Number of agencies with improved data collection systems.
- Number and percent of program youth who offend or re-offend.

Number and percent of program youth exhibiting desired change in targeted behavior.

Number and percent of program youth completing program requirements.

Percent of contact points reporting reduction in disproportionality at the state level.

Percent of contact points reporting reduction in disproportionality at the local level.

Number of youth with a decrease in substance abuse.

Number of program youth with an increase in school attendance.

PROGRAM AREAS:

3 Alternatives to Detention

6 Delinquency Prevention

20 Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders

26 Jail Removal

31 Separation from adult inmates

Problem Statement:

The state's use of detention is constantly increasing and facilities are overcrowded with youth who are detained for non-violent offenses. However, it has been shown that detention adversely impacts the lives of juveniles and consequently, has the potential to do more harm than good. Research suggests that the detention experience may increase the likelihood that youth engage in delinquent behavior that results from grouping delinquent youth together and from exposing non-violent youth to delinquent youth.

Program Goal(s):

To provide alternatives to detention and reverse the negative impacts of detention. Also, to provide funding for programs, research, or other initiatives designed to reduce the number of status offenders placed in secure detention facilities. Provide funding for projects that seek to reduce the number of status offenders placed in secure detention facilities. Teach staff at detention facilities to hold status and non-offenders in non-secure areas if available.

Program Objectives:

- To solicit community-based alternatives that provides a safe and nurturing environment for youth.
- To offer evidence based programs that address the emotional, mental and psychological needs of juveniles.
- To enhance community collaboration that increase opportunities that promote behavior modification.

- To provide youth courts opportunities to develop and implement services to use probation, mediation, restitution, community services, treatment, home detention, intensive supervision, electronic monitoring, reporting centers, translation services and similar programs.

7. **Budget and Associated Documentation.**

See attachment.

8. **Indirect Cost Agreement**

Not applicable.

9. **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire**

Completed and submitted appropriate forms as separate attachment.

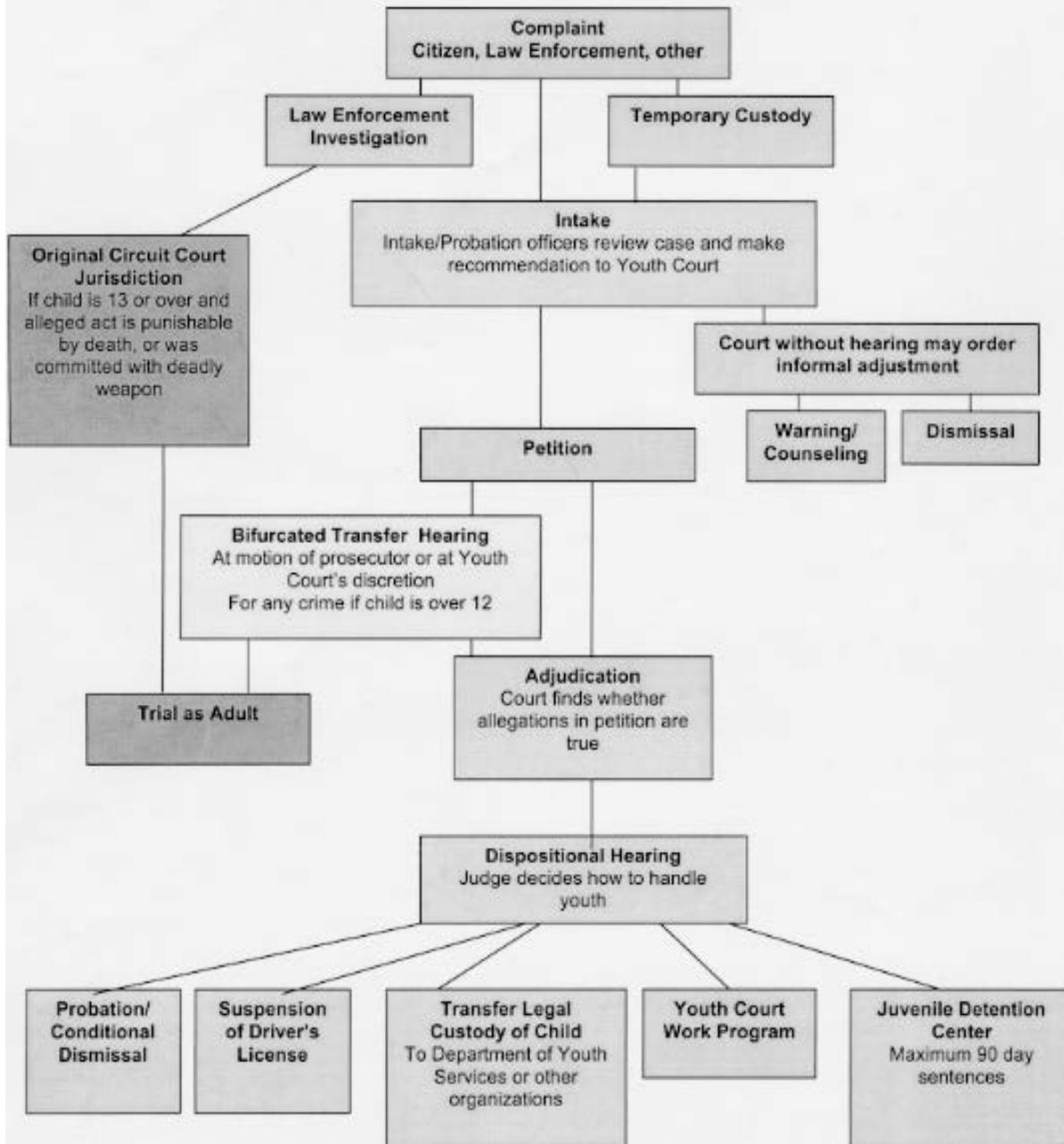
10. **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

No federal funds are used for lobbying.

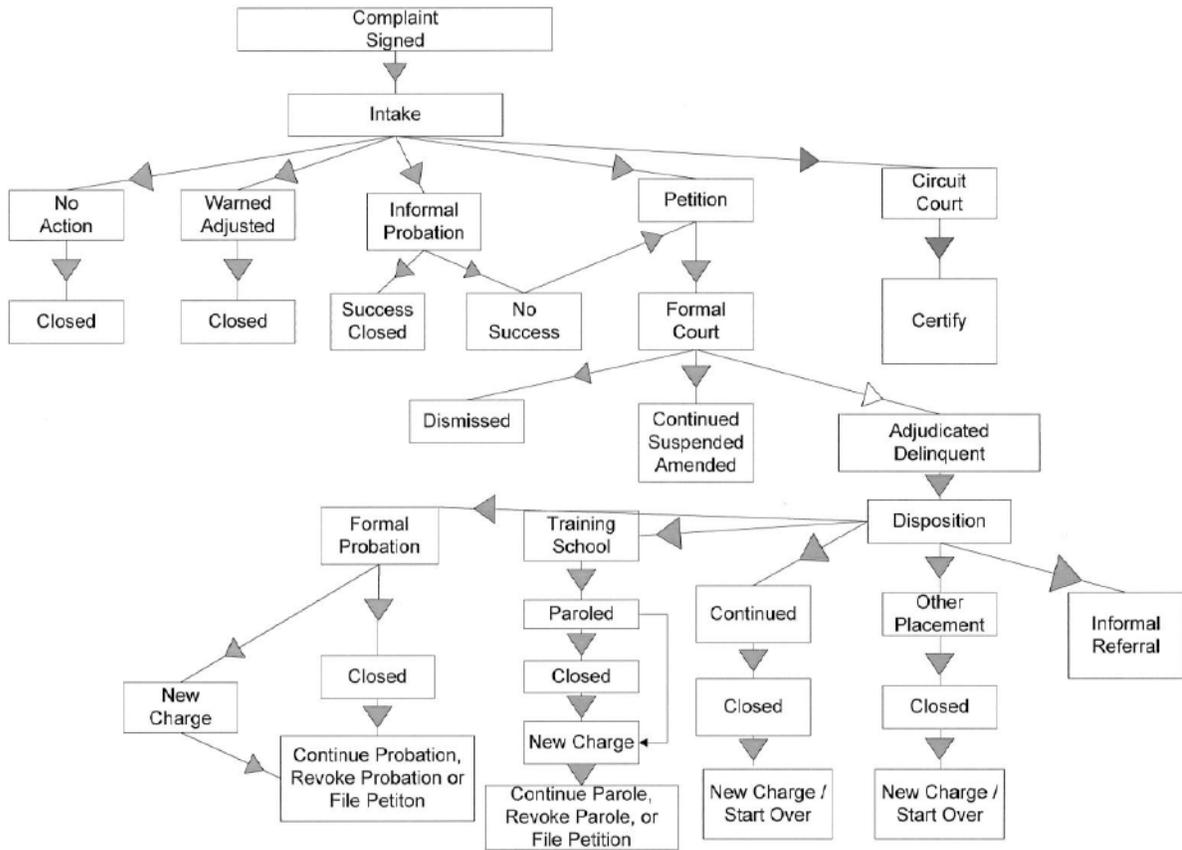
ADDITIONAL CHARTS

MISSISSIPPI JUVENILE JUSTICE PROCESS

(Developed by the Southern Juvenile Defender Center)



Mississippi Youth Court
 Child Path
 (Delinquent Youth 10 - 17)



Youth Court has jurisdiction of a juvenile from birth to twenty years of age in Mississippi. Age of the youth and the type of offense determine the following:

