

# JUVENILE JUSTICE XML REPORT

#### **FINAL REPORT**

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## **Table of Contents**

Table of Contents	i
Table of Figures	i
Table of Tables	i
Preface	1
Acknowledgements	2
Executive Summary	
Introduction	
Discovery and Discussion	6
Referral Data Exchange	9
Proposed Next Steps	
APPENDIX A – Glossary of Juvenile Justice Terms	1
Table of Figures	
Figure 1 - Referral data exchange data model	12
Table of Tables	
Table 1 - Sample data exchanges and their respective systems or agencies	6
Table 2 – Juvenile Referrals mapped to the Business Data Elements	

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#### **Preface**

When agencies of different disciplines come together to share or exchange information to avoid duplication and speed processing of cases and defendants, there is always a need to determine the best technology to enable such an exchange. In today's world, there are many technologies available and each has its advantages and disadvantages relative to each individual organizational and technical environment. The inclusion of legacy systems alone drives decision-makers to certain choices of technologies for integration. In addition, the rapid pace of technological evolution may make it confusing and difficult for agencies to choose a strategy to create technological "bridges" between systems. While larger states and local agencies may have internal staff available to navigate among the choices, those jurisdictions lacking depth in information technology (IT) staff need help in identifying the alternatives and making the right decisions.

To address these and other challenges inherent in IT implementation, the Department of Justice (DOJ), through the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global), is facilitating XML-based standards development and electronic data exchange throughout the justice and public safety communities. The Global JXDD includes XML data definitions that state and local practitioners can incorporate into their XML projects. In addition, the Justice XML Clearinghouse provides a place where public and private sector organizations can post XML-related information for review by other federal, state, tribal, and local agencies.

#### **Acknowledgements**

The Juvenile Justice XML Committee acknowledges the work of many people in setting the stage for this project and conducting its work. The project has had as its focus the identification of data exchange transactions unique to the juvenile justice community and evaluating this information as it relates to the current release of the Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM).

This project, and the many ongoing implementations of the GJXDM, would never exist without the full support of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in the Department of Justice (DOJ). In particular, the untiring efforts of Patrick McCreary and Bob Greeves to build a national consensus around information sharing mechanisms have resulted in this significant national accomplishment. The leadership of Assistant Attorney General Deborah Daniels in sustaining DOJ and other national support for this effort through the Global Information Sharing initiative of OJP has been the key to the success of this development from which all criminal justice agencies will derive benefits. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provided support and resources to the Juvenile Justice XML Committee during the working sessions.

The Committee also acknowledges the XML Structure Task Force who so intelligently guided the work of the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) in the construction of the model.

The Integrated Justice Information Systems (IJIS) Institute and the Committee are grateful for the support of the companies who allowed their representatives time to devote to the work of this Committee, including ACG, Inc., Greason Associates, LLC, and NETdelivery.

The IJIS Institute and the Committee are also grateful for the support of the practioner community representatives who allowed their representatives time to devote to the work of this Committee. They include American Indian Developments Associates, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Center for Network Development, Howard County Indiana, National Center for State Courts, SEARCH, Practitioner Resource Group, State of Arizona Administrative Office of the Court, State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission, State of New Mexico Administrative Office of the Court, and the State of Texas Department of Public Safety.

Stephanie Rondenell Chairman Juvenile Justice XML Committee IJIS Institute

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#### **Executive Summary**

In 2004, the IJIS Institute received a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to initiate the first effort in Extensible Markup Language (XML) development in the juvenile justice community.

The IJIS Institute formed a Committee of individuals with expertise in the areas of juvenile justice and XML. Through a collaborative effort between the IJIS Institute, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), and SEARCH, they identified practitioners and industry leaders with an interest in the development of juvenile justice data exchanges and with expertise in the Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM). A working Committee formed from industry and practitioners, which conducted two (2) successful working sessions that produced a data exchange model for the juvenile justice community.

The working Committee brought to the sessions documents, data, and protocols from their jurisdictions to assist in the identification and development of data elements and data exchanges. The development of definitions and terms from state and local jurisdictions to federal agencies and the tribal nations proved a valuable exercise for the working Committee. It allowed for a broad understanding of the variables and information exchanges from each jurisdiction and agency in the group. The session then divided into two (2) separate working groups – technology and practitioners - to facilitate the goals and objectives of the project.

This working environment provided a base line for the development of data exchanges and collaboration between all the organizations and jurisdictions. Their combined knowledge assisted in the identification of key stakeholders involved in the exchange of data and preceded in the documentation of the major data exchanges that occur in the juvenile justice process. Though the information is limited within this report, it provides a guideline for the future development of additional data exchanges for juvenile justice organizations.

#### Introduction

The IJIS Institute established the approach for accomplishing the goals and objectives of this project as indicated in the following summary:

- ▶ Identify Global Justice XML Data Dictionary (GJXDD) and juvenile justice domain experts
- ▶ Form a Juvenile Justice XML review Committee composed of these experts in order to examine the GJXDD and identify data labels that can be used in a juvenile and at risk youth systems
- ▶ Identify missing data labels and the necessary Juvenile XML information for inclusion in the repository
- ▶ Request a review and comment from active XML practitioner sites that have expressed an interest in implementing juvenile XML
- Solicit feedback from active XML practitioner sites that have expressed an interest in implementing juvenile XML and identify a potential demonstration project
- ▶ Promote the juvenile justice work through different mechanisms, including the (Journal of Intelligent Information Systems) JIIS website, JIIS workshops (OJJDP project), the Industry Working Group (IWG), and IJIS Institute websites and meetings; IJIS Institute newsletters and presentations at Justice Information Sharing Professional (JISP) meetings
- ▶ Publish a document that outlines and discusses the juvenile XML standards for juvenile jurisdiction
- Create an infrastructure that can work with identified juvenile XML sites in the field on a demonstration project focused on the implementation of the data labels for juvenile justice.

The specific activities envisioned for the project were:

- ▶ Convening meetings of practitioners and vendors to identify XML data labels for input into the JXDD
- ▶ Validating data labels through a field-based demonstration effort
- ▶ Promoting juvenile justice XML

The progress made during the execution of this project divided into two sections that follow. The first section – <u>Discovery and Discussion</u> presents basic information on the approach used in order to investigate the sources of juvenile justice information exchanges and the discussion that ensued because of this discovery.

The second section – <u>Referral Data Exchange</u> presents the relevant material brought forward from the discovery phase of the project and the resulting work products as they relate to the single data exchange completed under this project.

Unfortunately, due to the resource constraints of this project, a great amount of additional work remains undone. The <u>Proposed Next Steps</u> section of this report contains the recommendations of the Committee.

#### **Discovery and Discussion**

The Committee discussions addressed many extremely important and relevant topics during the initial phases of the project. As the charter, mission, goals, and objectives of the project were established and refined, many questions need answered. One of the key questions posed and addressed was who are the Key Stakeholders that have a vested interest in the exchange of data within the juvenile justice system?

The Committee established the following list as the key stakeholders:

- ▶ Juvenile Court
- ▶ Juvenile Detention
- ▶ Juvenile Probation
- ▶ Public Schools
- ▶ CASA and other Advocacy programs
- Mental Health
- ▶ Children and Families

The Committee conducted a review of several jurisdictions in order to identify the specific categories of data exchange required to support the juvenile justice system.

Table 1 depicts the sample input used, which summarizes the data exchanges and the systems or agencies involved in the exchange.

Table 1 – Sample data exchanges and their respective systems or agencies

Use Case	Agency - System	Documents
Manage Referral	Referring Agency (usually LEA) –	Referral
	Input	
Manage	Court – Input	Conditions of Supervision
Supervision	Program Service Provider – Output	Program Referrals
	Services Service Provider – Output	Service Referrals
Manage Petition	Referring Agency – Input	Referral
	Process Server – Input	Return of Service
	Clerk – Output	Petition
	Process Server – Output	Service Documents (e.g.
		Summons, Subpoena)
	Clerk – Output	Waiver of Juvenile Court
		Jurisdiction
Manage Juvenile	Referring Agency – Input	Program Referral
Program	Juvenile Probation Officer – Output	Progress Results
	Juvenile Probation Officer – Output	Compliance Notice
Manage Juvenile	Court – Input	Fee Assessment
Financials	Juvenile or Parent/Guardian – Input	Payment
	Juvenile or Parent/Guardian – Output	Receipt
	Court – Output	Motion for Contempt/Show
		Cause (if payment not made)

Use Case	Agency - System	Documents
	Court – Output	Motion to Modify Probation (if
		payment not made)
Manage Juvenile	Court – Input	Court Order
in Residential	Juvenile Probation – Output	Progress Reports
Facility		
Manage Juvenile	Court – Input	Court Order
in Detention	Court – Input	Authorization of Release
Facility		
Manage	Court – Output	Court Order (detain or
Detention		release)
Hearing		
Manage Juvenile	Prosecutor – Input	Petition
Court	Juvenile or Parent/Guardian – Input	Affidavit of Indigency
Proceedings	Appropriate Parties – Output	Court Order
	Appropriate Parties – Output	Court Disposition
Manage Juvenile	Warrant Initiator – Input	Warrant Request
Warrant	Warrant Executor – Output	Warrant
	TCIC/NCIC – Output	Warrant

After a review of these sources and discussion by the Committee, it developed the following list that represents the major juvenile justice data exchanges:

- Referral
- Pre Disposition
- Interstate Compact
- Detention
- ▶ Parent Release Information
- Intake
- Order of Commitment
- ▶ School Notification
- Arrest Exchange
- ▶ Transfer Waiver
- Victim Notification
- Diversion
- Prosecutor Review

The data exchange that appeared to involve the most number of participants was the Referral. The Committee conducted an inventory to identify the agencies that required information regarding a Referral. The following is a list of agencies requiring Referral information:

- 1. Schools
- 2. Prosecutor
- 3. Law Enforcement
- 4. Children and Families Department

- 5. Diversion Programs
- 6. Community Assessment/Mental Health Centers
- 7. Confinement Facilities/Jail
- 8. MVD
- 9. Drug Court
- 10. Courts: Juvenile, family, dependency, tribal
- 11. Child Care Facilities
- 12. Victims
- 13. Public Defenders
- 14. GAL
- 15. CASA
- 16. Foster Care Review Board
- 17. Juvenile Parole
- 18. Juvenile Probation
- 19. Parents/Guardians/Custodians/Care-Takers
- 20. Screening Entity
  - a. Prosecutor
  - b. Juvenile Appeal
  - c. Detention
  - d. Community Board
  - e. Police Agency
  - f. Juvenile Probation

Through this exercise, the Committee became cognizant of the required number of data exchanges to review and the discipline and effort to conduct a review of each data exchange. The Committee concluded that it would not be possible to inventory all of the juvenile justice data exchanges and provide data element mapping to the GJXDM for all of these exchanges. The Committee determined that it would evaluate the Referral exchange to the greatest extent possible under this project and that this would serve as an example of the approach to use for the remaining data exchanges. The following section is a result of this analysis.

### **Referral Data Exchange**

This section presents the analysis results of the Referral data exchange conducted by the Committee. This section serves as an example of the approach to use for the remaining juvenile justice data exchanges to analyze.

The following figure depicts the data model associated with the Referral data exchange. The model developed from analysis of the existing data exchanges and using object-modeling techniques to represent the data.

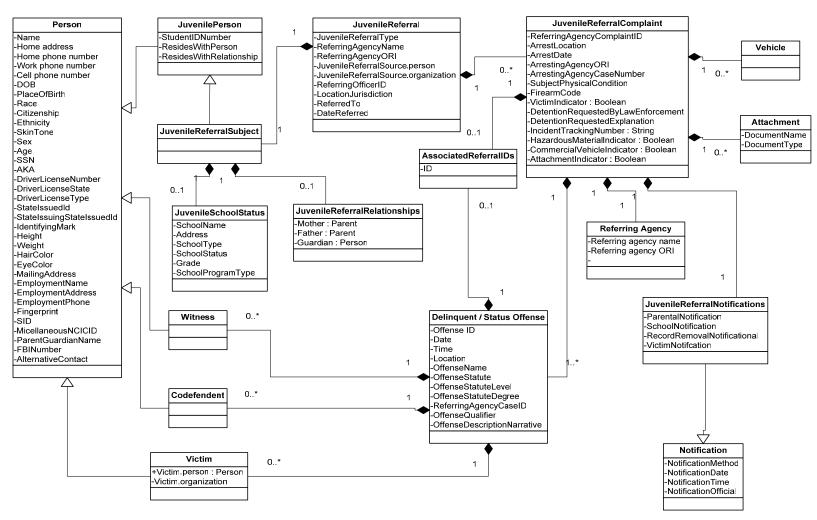


Figure 1 - Referral data exchange data model

12

Table 2 contains the Business Data Elements contained within the Juvenile Referral and provides the mapping of those elements to the GJXDM. The fields without a GJXDM element or path are potential gaps within the GJXDM. These gaps will require further data modeling and reconciliation with the GJXDM.

Table 2 – Juvenile Referrals mapped to the Business Data Elements

Business Data Element	GJXDM Element	GJXDM Path	Data Type	GJXDM Definition
Name	j:PersonName	j:Person	j:PersonNameType	A name by which a person is known
Date of Birth	j:PersonBirthDate	j:Person	j-xsd:date	Specific date a person was born
Place of Birth	j:PersonBirthLocation	j:Person	j:LocationType	Location details of where a person was born
	j:PersonBirthPlaceCode	j:Person	j-ncic:POBType	A code identifying the state or country of a person's birth
Race	j:PersonRaceCode	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j-ncic:RACType	A code identifying the race of a person
	j:PersonRaceText	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:TextType	A classification of a person based on factors such as geographical locations and genetics.
Citizenship	j:PersonCitizenshipText	j:Person/PersonSocialDetails	j:TextType	A country that assigns rights, duties, and privileges to a person due to the person's birth or naturalization in that country
	j:PersonCitizenshipCode.fi ps10-4	j:Person/PersonSocialDetails	j-fips_10- 4:CountryCodeType	A code identifying a country that assigns rights, duties, and privileges to a person due to the person's birth or naturalization in that country.
Ethnicity	j:PersonEthnicityCode	j:Person/PersonSocialDetails	j- nibrs:EthnicityCodeType	A code identifying a person's cultural lineage
	j:PersonEthnicityText	j:Person/PersonSocialDetails	j:TextType	A person's cultural lineage
Skin tone	j:PersonSkinToneCode	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:ncic:SKNType	A code identifying a color or tone of a person's skin
	j:PersonSkinToneText	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:TextType	A color or tone of a person's skin
Sex	j:PersonSexCode	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:ncic:SEXType	A code identifying the gender or sex of a person

Business Data Element	GJXDM Element	GJXDM Path	Data Type	GJXDM Definition
	j:PersonSexText	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:TextType	The gender or sex of a person
Age	j:PersonAgeMeasure	j:Person	j:AgeMeasureType	A measurement of the age of a person
AKA	j:PersonName	j:Person/PersonAlias	j:PersonNameType	A name and set of personal demographics describing the same person using alternative descriptors, e.g., an AKA
SSN	j:ID	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonSSNID	j:TextType	A 9-digit numeric identifier or social security number, assigned to a living person by the U.S. Social Security Administration.
Miscellaneous NCIC ID	j:ID	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonOtherID	j:TextType	Information about an identifier with a type not explicitly defined in the standard that refers to a person within a certain domain, e.g., state ID cards or other non-license and non-fingerprint based IDs.
	j:PersonIDTypeCode	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonOtherID	j-ncic:MNUType	A code the identifies a type of identifier assigned to a person.
Driver license number	j:ID	j:Person/DriverLicense/DriverA uthorizationID.Detailed	j:TextType	Information about an identifier used to refer to a specific person who has obtained a driver's license, e.g. dlNumber.
Driver license state	j:DrivingJurisdictionAuthori tyCode.ncicLSTA	j:Person/DriverLicense/DriverA uthorizationID.Detailed	j-ncic:LSTAType	A federal or state organization, such as a department of motor vehicles (DMV), with jurisdiction over a person's driving privileges
Driver license type	j:IDTypeText	j:Person/DriverLicense/DriverA uthorizationID.Detailed	j:TextType	A type of identifier assigned

Business Data Element	GJXDM Element	GJXDM Path	Data Type	GJXDM Definition
State issued ID	j:ID	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonOtherID	j:TextType	Information about an identifier with a type not explicitly defined in the standard that refers to a person within a certain domain, e.g., state ID cards or other non-license and non-fingerprint based IDs.
	j:PersonIDTypeCode	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonOtherID	j-ncic:MNUType	A code the identifies a type of identifier assigned to a person.  NOTE: Set to "PI" to indicate this is a state-issued personal identification number
State issuing state issued ID	j:IDJurisdictionCode.ncicLI S	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails/PersonOtherID	j-ncic:LISType	A code identifying a state.
Identifying marks (scars, marks, tattoos)	j:PersonPhysicalFeature	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:PhysicalFeatureType	Details about a physical feature of a person including scars, marks, and tattoos
Height	j:PersonHeightMeasure	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:PersonHeightMeasureT ype	A measurement of the height of a person
Weight	j:PersonWeightMeasure	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:PersonWeightMeasure Type	A measurement of the weight of a person
Hair color	j:PersonHairColorCode	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j-ncic:HAIType	A code identifying the color of a person's hair
	j:PersonHairColorText	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:TextType	The color of a person's hair
Eye color	j:PersonEyeColorCode	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j-ncic:EYEType	A code identifying the color of a person's eyes
	j:PersonEyeColorText	j:Person/PersonPhysicalDetails	j:TextType	The color of a person's eyes
Juvenile resides with name	j:PersonFullName	j:Person/PersonCohabitant	j:PersonNameTextType	A complete name of a person.

Business Data Element	GJXDM Element	GJXDM Path	Data Type	GJXDM Definition
Juvenile resides with relationship	j:Relationship		j:RelationshipType	Note: name attribute states relationship; subject attribute references juvenile; object attribute references cohabitant Alternative 1: Extend PersonType to add element describing cohabitant relationship Alternative 2: Use @commentText SuperType attribute for PersonCohabitant to describe relationship
Parent / guardian name	j:PersonName	j:Person/PersonParent or j:Person/PersonGuardian	j:PersonNameType	A name by which a person is known
Home address	j:LocationAddress	j:Person/Residence	j:AddressType	Address details of a physical location, e.g., a postal address
Mailing address	j:ContactMailingAddress	j:Person/PrimaryContactInform ation	j:AddressType	A mailing address of a person or organization
Mother's name	j:PersonFullName	j:Person/PersonParent/Person Name	j:PersonNameTextType	A complete name of a person.  Note: Could use PersonPhysicalDetails/PersonSexC ode of 'F' to indicate mother
Mother's address	j:LocationAddress	j:Person/PersonParent/Reside nce	j:AddressType	Address details of a physical location, e.g., a postal address
Father's name	j:PersonFullName	j:Person/PersonParent/Person Name	j:PersonNameTextType	A complete name of a person.  Note: Could use PersonPhysicalDetails/PersonSexC ode of 'M' to indicate father
Father's address	j:LocationAddress	j:Person/PersonParent/Reside nce	j:AddressType	Address details of a physical location, e.g., a postal address
Home phone number	j:ContactTelephoneNumb er	j:Person/PrimaryContactInform ation	j:TelephoneNumberType	A telephone number of a person or organization

Business Data Element	GJXDM Element	GJXDM Path	Data Type	GJXDM Definition
Parents phone number	j:ContactTelephoneNumb er	j:Person/PersonParent/Primary ContactInformation	j:TelephoneNumberType	A telephone number of a person or organization
Parent business phone	j:ContactTelephoneNumb er	j:Person/PersonParent/WorkC ontactInformation	j:TelephoneNumberType	A telephone number of a person or organization
Alternative contact phone number	j:ContactTelephoneNumb er	j:Person/PrimaryContactInform ation	j:TelephoneNumberType	A telephone number of a person or organization
School attending	j:OrganizationName	j:Organization	j:TextType	A name of an organization.
School location	j:Location	j:Location	j:LocationType	Details about a physical location.
Grade				No corresponding GJXDM element
School notified				No corresponding GJXDM element
Juvenile employer	j:EmploymentEmployerNa me	j:Person/Employment	j:TextType	A name of an employer. This could be an organization name, a person's name, unemployed, or self employed.
SID	j:PersonStateID	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails	j:IDType	A number issued by a state Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) based on submitted fingerprints. (Also referred to as a State ID number or a SID)
FBI number	j:PersonFBIID	j:Person/PersonAssignedIDDet ails	j:IDType	A number issued by the FBI's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) based on submitted fingerprints

#### **Proposed Next Steps**

Juvenile XML Committee members, practitioners, OJJDP, and IJIS staff shared the excitement that emerged from the meetings among and with juvenile justice entities. The potential for cooperatively working with the tribal nations directly in relation to XML was of particular interest to OJJDP and OJP. The future activities envisioned by the workgroup include:

- ▶ Structure the use cases in order to capture (a) actor (initiating agency/partner), (b) scope (name of service being provided by receiving partner), (c) business purpose of exchange, (d) triggering events (if any), and (e) brief business/prose description of the exchange/document/message content.
- Complete the data element inventory for all juvenile justice data exchange transactions
- ▶ Complete the data modeling for all juvenile justice data exchange transactions
- ▶ Determine if the exchanges are in the existing JIEM reference model
- Complete reconciliation of each data element for each data exchange to the GJXDM ensuring traceability from the domain model all the way to schemas
- ▶ Establish specific recommendations regarding changes to the GJXDM schema to include the required juvenile justice data elements
- Utilizing the standard process and content definition, develop reference documents required by the juvenile justice community
- ▶ Establish Information Exchange Packages that are in conformance with the recently developed standards
- Organize and mobilize the national juvenile justice community to adopt a sustainable set of standards for juvenile data interchange
- ▶ Develop the necessary ancillary policy activities to assist in addressing issues such as the confidentiality and privacy concerns within the juvenile community.

Continuing to provide technical assistance is essential to help the juvenile justice community understand and accept the importance and relevance of the technology. Technical assistance provides opportunities to develop strategies for creating technical readiness, implementation strategies for early adopters, pilot implementations, and subsequent portable and scalable implementation solutions.

Throughout the project, the Committee directed its activities to an end goal of developing adequate capacity to maintain and sustain the necessary activities within the juvenile justice community. This includes the OJJDP, other federal entities involved in juvenile justice, and state and local juvenile justice practitioner entities.

For more in-depth information about the IJIS Institute or a copy of this report, visit <a href="www.ijis.org">www.ijis.org</a>.

**APPENDIX A – Glossary of Juvenile Justice Terms** 

**Active Cases** – are all cases detained, placed, or supervised during a specified period.

**Adjudication Hearing** – a hearing held after the announcement hearing where it is determined whether the child/juvenile committed the offense named in the petition the juvenile equivalent of a criminal trial.

**Adjudicated Probation** – after going to court for an adjudication hearing on the facts, a judge may order this form of community-based supervision for a specified period, based on such reasonable and lawful terms as the court may determine. While on adjudicated probation, the offender may be required to participate in any program deemed appropriate, such as an intensive supervision program or residential placement.

**Announcement Hearing** – is the first hearing in the Juvenile Court process at which time the judge determines if the court needs to appoint an attorney, or if the family can retain their own.

**Appeal** – is a complaint to a higher court urging that it overturn the decision of a lower court.

**Average Daily Population** – average number of active juveniles detained, placed, or supervised for a specified period.

**Average Length of Stay** – average number of days completed cases spent in detention, on placement, or under supervision for a specified period.

**Certification Hearing** – Hearing held to determine whether the Juvenile Court would waive its jurisdiction. Certificate allows an accused juvenile felony offender prosecution as an adult. Certification is permissive and not mandatory under Texas law. Depending upon the type of felony committed a juvenile can be certified as young as either 14 or 15 years of age to stand trial as an adult.

**Child/Juvenile** – in Texas, is a person who is 10 years of age or older and under 17 years of age. Or a person who is 17 years of age or older and under 18 years of age who is alleged or found to have engaged in delinquent conduct or CINS as a result of acts committed before becoming 17 years of age.

**Commitment** – a child/juvenile committed to the care, control, and custody of the Texas Youth Commission (TYC). All commitments to the TYC, except under the determinate sentencing act, are for an indeterminate term not to extend beyond the child/juvenile's 21st birthday.

**Commitment Performance Target** – the target number of juveniles a probation department should recommend annually to the juvenile courts for commitment to the Texas Youth Commission.

**Completed Cases** – cases terminated from detention, placement or supervision during a specified period.

Conditional Release From Detention – juvenile released from detention or from the department's custody under written orders of conditional release. Most conditional releases happen at the time of the detention hearing or under authorization from the judge. The conditions should be limited to those that are reasonable and necessary to ensure the juvenile will return to court.

Conduct Indicating a Need for Supervision (CINS) – defined behavior indicating a need for supervision. Behavior includes public intoxication, truancy, running away from home, fineable only offenses transferred to a Juvenile Court from a Municipal or Justice Court, inhalant abuse, expulsion for violating a school disciplinary code, or a violation of a court order under the Services to At Risk Youth Programs.

**Deferred Prosecution** – a voluntary alternative to adjudication where the child/juvenile, parent(s), prosecutor, and the juvenile probation department agree upon probation conditions. Deferred prosecution can last up to six months. If the child/juvenile violates any of the probation conditions, the state may elect to proceed with formal court adjudication.

**Delinquent Conduct** – a violation of any law punishable by incarceration (except traffic laws), violation of Juvenile Court orders entered under Section 54.04 or 54.05 of the Texas Family Code (except by truancy, running away, or fineable only offenses), contempt of magistrate orders, D.W.I. and other related offenses, and third offense driving under the influence of alcohol by a minor.

**Department** – a juvenile probation department organized in one or more counties and supervised by one or more juvenile boards.

**Detention** – any secure public or private residential facility used for the temporary placement of a juvenile accused of having committed an offense, any non-offender, or any other individual accused of having committed a criminal offense.

**Detention Hearing** – is a hearing to determine whether to hold a child/juvenile in detention pending future disposition of the case. Detaining a child/juvenile requires an Order of the Juvenile Court or an alternative magistrate.

**Determinate Sentence** – a sentence imposed on a juvenile offender for up to 40 years. The juvenile will first serve time in TYC but may later be transferred to adult prison and become subject to adult parole laws. A determinate sentence is only available for certain types of felony offenses.

**Directive to Apprehend** – an order issued by a Juvenile Court Judge upon recommendation by a peace officer or juvenile probation officer to have a child/juvenile apprehended and detained. A directive to apprehend must have supporting probable cause.

**Disposition Hearing** – a hearing held after adjudication where the judge decides what probation conditions to impose upon the offender (and family) or whether to commit the child/juvenile to the Texas Youth Commission (similar to sentencing in the adult justice system).

**Diversionary Placement** – is a residential placement program for Juvenile Referrals using the state Community Corrections Assistance Fund. This placement is the last alternative before sending the offender to the Texas Youth Commission.

**Guardian Ad Litem** – an adult appointed by the court to represent a child/juvenile's best interest in a judicial proceeding, when the child/juvenile's parent is either not present or is incapable of making decisions.

**Intensive Supervision Program** – is a type of probation that is a cost-effective means of diverting juvenile offenders from committal to the Texas Youth Commission. Services provided vary from department to department, but common elements include reduced caseloads by specially trained probation officers and more frequent contacts between the juvenile and his or her probation officer.

**Juvenile Board** – a body established by law to provide juvenile probation services to a county or counties.

**Juvenile Court** – a court designated under Section 51.04 of the Texas Family Code, or by other law, to exercise jurisdiction over proceedings under Title 3 of the Texas Family Code.

**Modification Hearing** – a hearing held for child/juvenile on court ordered probation, whose circumstances have changed, requiring an amendment to the original disposition. The modified disposition order reflects the change.

**Petition** – a document filed by the District Attorney containing the child/juvenile's name, date of birth, address, parent's name, and alleged offense.

**Program** – a non-residential, department-operated or contracted/purchased-service delivery conducted over a period of time (i.e., more than one day or a one-time event). A program must have a measurable or reportable objective and outcome. A program serves children who are on some type of supervision. Detention and out-of-home placement is not a program.

**Progressive Sanctions Guidelines** – are statutory guidelines for juvenile dispositions designed to give uniformity and predictability to juvenile punishments. There are seven progressively more restrictive sanction levels under the guidelines. An offender's sanction level will be based on the severity of

the offense, the offender's prior history, individual circumstances and needs as well as the effectiveness of prior interventions<sup>1</sup>.

**Referral** – (also called Formal Referral) is any occasion when all three of the following conditions exist. (1) delinquent conduct, conduct indicating a need for supervision, or violation of probation was allegedly committed; (2) the juvenile probation department has jurisdiction and venue; (3) either (a) face-to-face contact occurs with the office or official designated by the juvenile board or (b) written or verbal authorization to detain is given by the office or official designated by the juvenile board. This is comparable to an arrest in the adult justice system.

**Residential Placement** – a placement of child/juvenile in a non-secure facility (i.e., foster homes, alcohol and drug treatment facilities, halfway houses, Mental Health Mental Retardation facilities, etc.) or a secure facility (i.e., boot camps, secure county, state, or private facilities, etc.) either with or without a court proceeding.

**Respondent** – is a juvenile who is the subject of a petition.

**Revocation Hearing** – is a hearing to revoke a probation order and give a new disposition when a child/juvenile has violated the condition of his/her probation.

**Sealing** – is the closure of juvenile records from inspection made upon petition to the court or upon the court's own motion.

**Status Offenses** – juvenile offenses that are not criminal when committed by adults; e.g. runaway or truancy.

**Success Rate** – is the percentage of successfully completed cases for a specified period.

Successful Outcome of Supervision – is the completion of the period of supervision without any of the following situations. (1) the juvenile has further court action resulting in commitment to TYC or certification to stand trial as an adult; (2) the juvenile has additional charges being filed as an adult which result in termination of Juvenile Court supervision; (3) the child/juvenile absconds and is not returned to supervision; (4) the child/juvenile's death is a direct result of subsequent criminal conduct; (5) early termination of supervision by the court results from persistent non-compliance to program requirements and refusal to accept services; (6) while under supervision, the child/juvenile is re-arrested or commits a technical violation and the original supervision is terminated. The outcome of the original supervision is unsuccessful. If, however, the supervision has a modification, no outcome should be determined until the completion of the modified period of supervision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These guidelines are in sunset.

**Summons** – advises the child/juvenile's parents/guardian/custodian of when and where the child/juvenile's court hearing is to take place (date, time, and location). Served to both the child/juvenile and the parents(s), the summons contains copies of the petition attached.

**Supervisory Caution** – descriptive term for a wide variety of summary, non-judicial dispositions, that intake may make of a case. This may include a Referral of the child/juvenile to a social agency or a community based first offender program run by law enforcement, contacting parents to inform them of the child/juvenile's activities, or simply warning the child/juvenile about his or her activities.

**Temporary Pre-Court Monitoring** – is a voluntary pre-court or pre-disposition agreement between the juvenile, parent(s), and juvenile probation department. Departments that are temporarily supervising juveniles pending a disposition decision or court action may use this supervision type.

**Texas Youth Commission (TYC)** – is the state agency responsible for providing secure care and treatment for Texas youth who, because of unlawful behavior or need for secure facilities and resources, cannot remain in their home communities.

**Writ** – an order issued by a court commanding specific act(s) to complete.

**Writ of Habeas Corpus** – is an extraordinary writ ordering a public officer holding a person in confinement to bring the person before the court. It secures the release from custody of minors or adults held illegally.

Source: TJPC and CJPC websites Glossary of Juvenile Terms