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# Delaware's Serious Juvenile Offender Program

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An evaluation of the first two years of operation

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State of Delaware  
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Delaware's Serious Juvenile Offender Program:  
An evaluation of the first two years of operation.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Serious Juvenile Offender program (SJO), which began its operations in 1999, intended “to provide close correctional supervision to the serious juvenile offenders in the community.”<sup>1</sup> SJO sought to maximize public safety<sup>2</sup> and “reduce the amount and severity of serious juvenile crime in Delaware by deterring juvenile offenders from committing further offenses or incapacitating them in residential programs.”<sup>3</sup> To reach this objective a five member Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DYRS) SJO community supervision team worked in tandem with police officers from the Delaware State Police in each county, the Wilmington Department of Police and the Dover Police Department. These teams optimized the state’s ability to provide surveillance for high-risk juvenile offenders by combining law enforcement authority with SJO staff’s ability to search a probationer’s residence without a search warrant and the ready knowledge of SJO’s staff of high-risk youth on probation. This program was funded by the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG.)

Many of the juvenile offenders eligible for referral to SJO had just been released from the Ferris School for Boys or other intensive DYRS Level IV or V treatment programs. Through the Family Court and DYRS processes, as well as by word of mouth on the street, these high-risk youth were clearly made aware of the consequences of a violation once they returned to the community. Intense surveillance, special 9:00 p.m. weekday and 10:00 p.m. weekend curfews, immediate arrest and detention upon violation, and swift next business day court appearance were the hallmark activities of SJO. Swift justice for violators was meted out and swift justice was intended to be the threat that deterred juveniles on the SJO caseload from returning to crime.

Upon violation, SJO procedures required that juveniles on aftercare were to be brought to a juvenile detention center under an administrative hold. Juveniles on DYRS probation, upon violation, were to be detained under an administrative *emergency capias or warrant*. No alternatives to detention, such as electronic monitoring or release to parents, were available to violators.

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<sup>1</sup> S. Brewington-Carr, Director, DYRS, Serious Juvenile Offender, “JAIBG Sub-Grant Continuation Application, Project Narrative,” May 9, 2000, and April 11, 2001.

<sup>2</sup> JAIBG 2000 Strategic Plan, Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition, June 2002, p. 25.

<sup>3</sup> S. Brewington-Carr, “JAIBG Sub-Grant Continuation Application, Project Narrative.

Cases involving juveniles detained under SJO staff's administrative powers were to be filed on the next business day in Family Court and provided an SJO violation hearing on the court's second business day. If the juvenile was found to have violated their SJO supervision, the SJO team's recommendation was for that youth to be sentenced to Level V incarceration. This plan for swift justice was carried out. During 1999 and 2000, the Family Court SJO monitor expedited violation of probation hearings for 126 SJO cases. These 126 SJO violators accounted for 157 separate violation hearings. On average, weekends and holidays included, SJO violation hearings took place within 3.5 days. Fifty-two percent of the SJO hearings were held the next day following detention.

## RECIDIVISM MEASUREMENTS

For this study, re-arrests and re-admissions to secure 24 hour residential placements were analyzed for youth who entered the SJO program during 1999 and 2000. SJO youth have been tracked for a minimum of 24 months after entering the program and up to a maximum of 48 months for re-arrests and institutional entries. For juveniles reaching the age of majority, re-arrests were tracked into their adult years.

## SUMMARY FINDINGS

Of the 223 youth referred to SJO, 204, or 91 percent were arrested within 24 months of referral to SJO. Sixty three percent, were arrested for at least one felony and another 24 percent were arrested for at least a misdemeanor. An additional four percent were arrested solely for violating their probation.

As noted above, both DYRS and Family Court records indicate that in most circumstances court hearings were held within the planned timeframes. The work records of the SJO probation/law enforcement teams also indicated a high level of activity. In spite of the intensive application of the program objectives, the matched-pair sample recidivism analyses shows that the SJO program did not result in reduced recidivism rates. In fact, the SJO recidivism rates were significantly higher than the comparison group's (see page 23 for details.) The comparison group received routine surveillance and *normal* Family Court processing. Interestingly, similar programs in Michigan, Maryland, and Philadelphia have shown results where there is little difference between the special program juveniles (the treatment group) and the non-program juveniles (the comparison group.)

The SJO program involved a significant amount of resources – the Criminal Justice Council granted DYRS \$1,395,015 from JAIBG monies during 1999 and 2000, the program's first two years of operation. Juvenile's lives have not changed. Recidivism was not reduced. Communities, except for the

time the juveniles were off the streets, were not safer. These results not only raise the question of cost and benefits, but also send us back to the drawing board as to how the criminal behavior of chronic juvenile offenders might be changed. How do we impact the criminal behavior of a typical chronic juvenile offender who is 17 years old, been arrested eight times (three for felonies) and been incarcerated four times?

#### 24 MONTH SJO RECIDIVISM BY MOST SERIOUS ARREST EVENT

Of the 223 juveniles in the program, 204 (91 percent) were re-arrested within 24 months of referral to the program. Table 1 below shows the crosstabulation of the most serious arrest event with the most serious level of penetration of SJO juveniles into the DYRS system.

Table 1, Most Serious Arrest Event by Level of Incapacitation

Arrest Event	N.	%	Level of Incapacitation							
			Incarceration		Detention		Non-Secure		No DYRS	
Felony	140	63%	100	71%	10	7%	1	1%	29	21%
Misdemeanor	54	24%	26	48%	8	15%	1	2%	19	35%
Violation	10	4%	7	70%	0	0%	0	0%	3	30%
Total Arrests	204	91%	133	65%	18	9%	2	1%	51	25%

Table 1 shows arrest and incarceration patterns for the 204 juveniles referred to SJO who were re-arrested within 24 months of referral to the program. One hundred forty SJO referrals (63 percent) were re-arrested for a felony. Seventy one percent (100 referrals) of those re-arrested for a felony were also incarcerated (admitted to Level IV or V.) The table also shows that a total of 133 SJO recidivists (65 percent) were incarcerated. Some or many of those arrested but not incarcerated at DYRS had reached the age of majority and their cases were handled in the adult criminal justice system.

#### EVALUATION BACKGROUND

This evaluation of Delaware’s Serious Juvenile Offender Program (SJO) was conducted by the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), Office of the Budget, State of Delaware, under a grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The evaluation was designed in consultation with Delaware’s Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC.) JCEC unanimously approved the Delaware’s Statistical Analysis Center’s evaluation design in November 1999. JCEC endorsed the research hypothesis that SJO referrals “when compared to

similar youth will have a lower recidivism rate and less detrimental impact on public safety than similar non-SJO youth.”<sup>4</sup>

Two definitions of recidivism are presented in this report:

- Re-arrest: An arrest that occurs after referral to SJO.
- Re-admission to confinement: An admission to 24 hour residential detention or incarceration (Delaware Juvenile Dispositional Levels IV or V) after referral to SJO.

An arrest may include a felony, misdemeanor, and violation of probation/capias contempt arrests.

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<sup>4</sup> John P. O’Connell, Director, SAC, Memorandum to JCEC regarding “Proposed JAIBG Evaluation,” Dover, Delaware, September 29, 1999, p. 3.

# THE SJO PROGRAM

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION<sup>5</sup>

The SJO program, which began its operations as a part of the State's Operation Safe Streets initiative in 1999, was a collaborative project involving DYRS, Family Court, and local police. The intent of the program was to assure the aggressive enforcement of conditions of supervision for high-risk juvenile offenders on probation. Four juvenile probation officers and one supervisor worked closely with police officers to enforce SJO conditions of supervision. Police officers from the State Police, Wilmington Department of Police, and the Dover Police Department were assigned as team members in support of the probation officers. DYRS probation officers were not expected to serve as police officers, but they had expanded authority when dealing with youth on probation. For instance, a probation officer did not need a search warrant to enter a probationer's residence while monitoring conditions of probation.

## SJO SELECTION CRITERIA

Offenders were selected for inclusion in SJO based upon the established criteria.

Youth residing in the City of Wilmington and jurisdictions where a cooperative agreement exists between DYRS and a police agency were eligible for referral to SJO if they met the following criteria:

1. Youth were under the supervision of DYRS' Community Services, and
2. Had an adjudication for a violent felony or for selling drugs, or
3. Had an adjudication for a weapons offense, or
4. Had been previously sentenced to Level V incarceration, or
5. In the best judgment of DYRS staff, the youth presented an immediate threat of violence to the community.

The criteria for referral for youth outside the City of Wilmington and jurisdictions where a cooperative agreement with a police agency did not exist, were

1. Youth were under aftercare supervision of DYRS' Community Services, and
2. Resided in Delaware, and

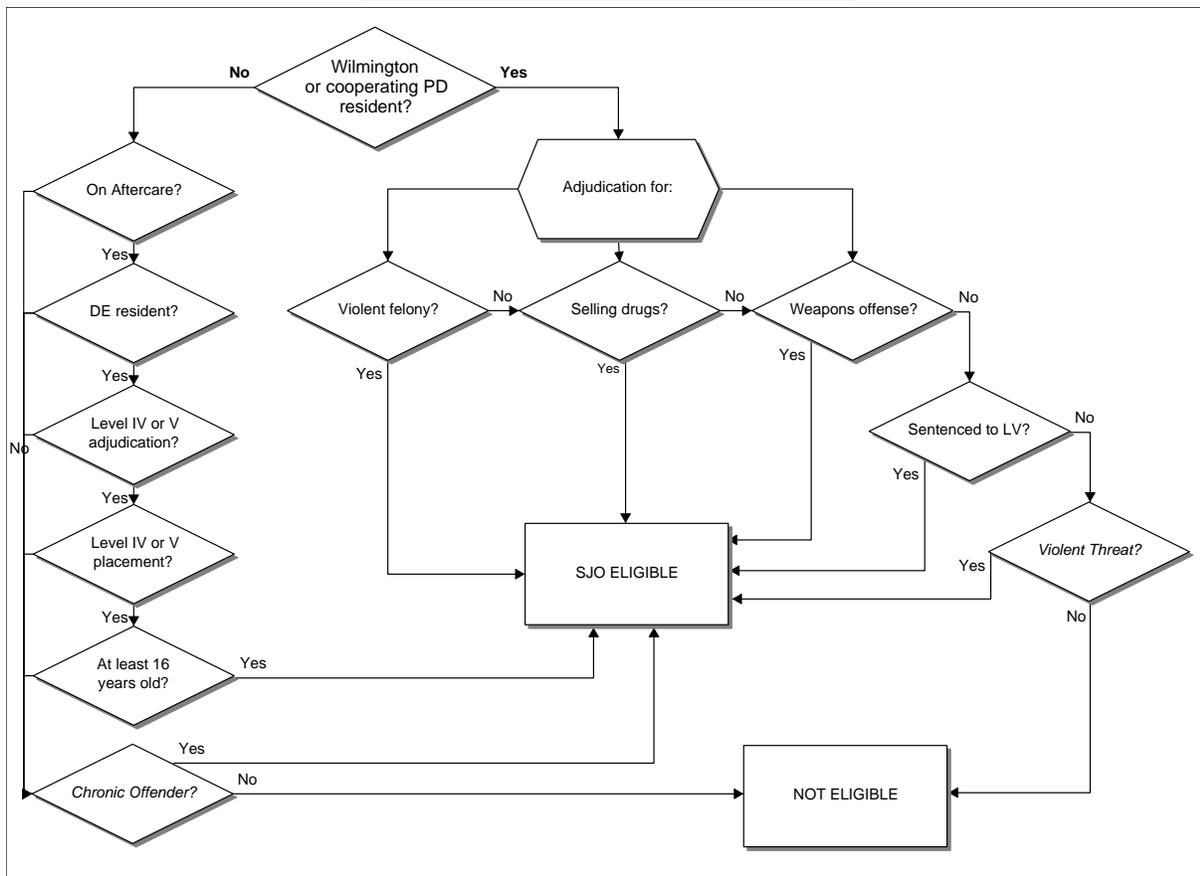
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<sup>5</sup> SJO program description and Standard Operating Procedures were provided by Family Court's SJO Monitor, May 8, 2000.

3. Had an adjudication for a presumptive Level IV or Level V offense in their delinquency history, and
4. Had been sentenced to and completed a Level IV or Level V residential program, and
5. Were at least 16 years of age, or
6. Had chronic, repetitive patterns of delinquency at lower level felonies that resulted in residential placement(s), but who did not have a Level IV or Level V adjudication, were to be considered on a case by case basis and approved by the Regional Manager, Community Services, DYRS.

The following chart shows the SJO referral criteria.

Chart 1, SJO Selection Criteria



### CONDITIONS OF SJO SUPERVISION

In addition to the regular conditions of community supervision, youth on the SJO program had enhanced conditions of supervision. The enhanced condition of SJO was a curfew of 9:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

*SJO Standard Operating Procedures* anticipated technical violations of supervision and arrests for new criminal offenses.

The *Standard Operating Procedures* called for all violations to be addressed immediately by DYRS. Any SJO referral found to be in violation of their conditions of supervision would be charged, arrested and detained. SJO procedures called for youth on Aftercare status to be brought to a detention center under an administrative hold. Youth on probation were detained under an *Emergency Capias/Warrant*. Violations were to be filed in Family Court the next business day.

SJO referrals were to be held in a detention center pending resolution of the violation. Family Court was to hold hearings on SJO violations at least by the second business day after a youth was admitted into a detention center for violating the conditions of their supervision. If a youth was found to be in violation by Family Court, DYRS was to recommend to the Court that the youth be confined.

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## SJO POPULATION PROFILE

### CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFENDERS ELIGIBLE FOR SJO

Table 2, Profile of Offenders Eligible for SJO Selection Criteria

	Total	Offenders Referred to SJO	Qualified non-SJO
Total	674	223	451
Gender			
Male	638	215	423
Female	36	8	28
Race/Ethnicity			
Black	464	168	296
White	177	41	136
Hispanic	33	14	19
Age			
Mean	16.9	17.2	16.8
Minimum	12.2	15.0	12.2
Maximum	18.7	18.7	18.7
Prior detention admissions			
Mean	2.7	3.0	2.5
Minimum	0	0	0
Maximum	12	11	12
Prior incarceration admissions			
Mean	3.1	3.9	2.6
Minimum	0	2	0
Maximum	15	16	12
Prior total arrests			
Mean	7.1	7.5	6.9
Minimum	1	1	1
Maximum	33	33	26
Prior felony arrests			
Mean	3.2	3.3	3.1
Minimum	0	0	0
Maximum	15	15	12

A total of 674 juvenile offenders qualified for referral to SJO or were referred to SJO during 1999 and 2000. In addition to offenders that were referred to SJO, offenders who were at least 16 years of age at release from Level IV or Level V incarceration as a function of a violent felony, weapons or drug offense adjudication; who were chronic offenders; or that posed a violent threat to the community met the SJO selection criteria. Four hundred fifty-one juvenile offenders that qualified for SJO were not referred to SJO

(qualified non-SJO.) Two hundred twenty-three offenders were referred to the SJO program. Of the 223 SJO referrals, 32 did not meet the selection criteria. SJO referrals that did not meet the selection criteria, appear to be borderline cases who, on average, have more prior detentions and prior incarcerations than qualified non-SJO offenders. Table 2, above, shows the characteristics of offenders eligible for referral to SJO. Table 3, below, shows the characteristics of SJO referrals in terms of SJO selection criteria.

Table 3, Profile of SJO Referrals by Selection Criteria

	SJO Referrals	SJO Selection Criteria	
		Met	Not Met
SJO Referrals	223	191	32
Gender			
Male	215	188	27
Female	8	3	5
Race/Ethnicity			
Black	168	143	25
White	41	34	7
Hispanic	14	14	0
Age			
Mean	17.2	17.2	17.0
Minimum	15.0	15.0	15.7
Maximum	18.7	18.7	18.6
Prior detention admissions			
Mean	3.0	3.0	2.6
Minimum	0	0	0
Maximum	11	11	8
Prior incarceration admissions			
Mean	3.9	4.0	3.7
Minimum	2	0	0
Maximum	16	16	9
Prior total arrests			
Mean	7.5	7.8	5.7
Minimum	1	1	1
Maximum	33	33	12
Prior felony arrests			
Mean	3.3	3.6	1.8
Minimum	0	0	1
Maximum	15	15	6

## SJO REFERRAL DATA SOURCES

Information related to an offender's referral to SJO was gathered from the Family Court's SJO Monitor's tracking system and DYRS' SJO Probation Unit. These information sources contained the following counts for SJO: Family Court, 210 SJO referrals; and, SJO Probation Unit, 218 SJO referrals.

A total of 223 individuals were identified as being admitted into the SJO program by Family Court and/or DYRS' SJO Probation Unit during 1999 and 2000. This includes five youth not shown on DYRS' SJO rolls, but identified by the Family Court SJO Monitoring unit as SJO youth being placed on the SJO calendar for zero tolerance hearings and expedited case management.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFENDERS REFERRED TO SJO

The typical youth referred to SJO was a black male who was about 17 years old and had already been detained three times and incarcerated four times. The typical SJO referral had close to eight prior arrests, of these arrests, three were for felonies. Table 4, below, provides a demographic and criminal justice history profile of juvenile offenders referred to SJO, by quarter in 1999 and 2000.

Table 4, Characteristics of SJO Referrals by Quarter

	Total	1999				2000			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SJO Referrals	223	56	41	22	36	14	27	17	10
Gender									
Male	215	54	39	21	35	14	27	16	9
Female	8	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	1
Race/Ethnicity									
Black	168	42	34	13	29	7	21	13	9
White	41	12	4	6	5	5	5	3	1
Hispanic	14	2	3	3	2	2	1	1	0
Age									
Mean	17.2	17.1	17.2	17.2	17.0	17.2	17.4	17.2	17.2
Minimum	15.0	15.7	15.5	15.0	16.0	16.1	15.6	16.2	16.2
Maximum	18.7	18.7	18.5	18.6	18.6	18.3	18.4	18.6	18.5
Prior detention admissions									
Mean	3.0	2.7	3.2	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.4
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Maximum	11	8	8	7	9	6	11	8	3
Prior incarceration admissions									
Mean	3.9	3.6	3.9	4.4	4.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.4
Minimum	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Maximum	16	9	8	9	16	11	9	9	9
Prior total arrests									
Mean	7.5	7.0	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.5	7.8	7.2	5.6
Minimum	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	2
Maximum	33	14	15	16	18	19	33	21	9
Felony arrests									
Mean	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.9	3.1	3.6	3.3	3.5	2.0
Minimum	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	1
Maximum	15	8	11	11	8	9	15	10	4

## COMPLIANCE WITH SJO SELECTION CRITERIA

As complex as the SJO selection criteria were, they can be summarized by the three following rules:

1. Youth were at least 16 years of age at release from a Level IV or Level V placement for an adjudication for a violent felony, drug offense, or weapons offense; or,
2. A youth had been incarcerated and had a chronic, repetitive pattern of felonious delinquency; or,
3. The youth was a violent threat to the community.

Eighty-six percent of the SJO referrals met the SJO selection criteria (191 of the 223.) Fifty-eight percent (129) of the SJO referrals met the first selection criterion, 58 percent (131) met the second, and 49 percent (109) met the third. Thirty-two SJO referrals, or 14 percent, did not meet any of the selection criteria.

All of the 451 qualified non-SJO offenders met one of the three selection criteria.

A *chronic offender* is defined in this study as a juvenile offender with three or more felony arrests. Of the 129 SJO referrals who met the first criterion, 71 were also chronic felonious offenders with prior incarcerations. Sixty of the 94 SJO referrals that did not meet the first criteria were chronic felonious offenders with prior incarcerations. A total of 131 of the 223 SJO (59 percent) referrals were chronic offenders.

A *violent threat to the community* is defined in this study as a juvenile offender with a prior violent felony incarceration. A total of 109 of the 223 SJO (49 percent) referrals posed a violent threat to the community. Fifty-nine SJO referrals were chronic offenders that posed a threat of violence to the community.

Fifty-eight SJO referrals were least 16 years of age at release from a Level IV or Level V for an adjudication for a violent felony, drug offense, or weapons offense, and were chronic offenders who posed a threat of violence to the community. In other words, 26 percent of SJO referrals met all the selection criteria.

Thirty-two SJO referrals *did not meet the selection criteria*. The average SJO referral that did not meet the SJO selection criteria is a 17 year old black male with four prior incarcerations and six arrests. While these youth were

not a violent threat to the community, chronic offenders, nor had served Level IV or V adjudications for violent felonies, drug or weapons offenses, they appeared to be borderline cases that were referred to the program at the discretion of the SJO Probation Unit. For example, four SJO referrals who did not meet the selection criteria had nine prior incarcerations each. This indicates that some offenders without extensive felony arrest histories have received severe punishment in the juvenile justice system. The characteristics of SJO referrals not meeting the selection criteria are presented above in Table 3.

# SJO RECIDIVISM STATISTICS

## MEASURING SJO RECIDIVISM

In this study, two measures of recidivism are reported: re-arrest and re-admission recidivism.

SJO *re-arrest* recidivism is measured when a youth is arrested in Delaware after being referred to the SJO program. Recidivism is reported as the percentage of persons in the SJO program who are re-arrested following referral to the SJO program at specific *at-risk* periods. Traffic offenses not related to driving under the influence or motor vehicle theft are not included in this analysis. Re-arrest recidivism is reported for violation of probation/capias contempt, misdemeanor, felony and total arrests.

Re-arrest recidivism rates are calculated separately for each crime type (violation of probation/capias contempt, misdemeanor and felony) whether an offender was arrested for another crime type or not. This style of measurement provides an accurate view of recidivism by *type* of arrest. The *total re-arrest rate* measures re-arrests where there may be multiple crime types within a single arrest event, thus providing an accurate measure of the incidence of re-arrests.

SJO *re-admission* recidivism is measured when a youth is returned from the community to secure detention or incarceration after referral to the SJO program. Incarceration is a 24 hour residential Level IV or Level V placement.

Re-admission recidivism rates are calculated separately for each type of admission: detention or incarceration. This style of measurement provides an accurate view of recidivism by *type* of re-admission. The *total re-admission rate* measures re-admissions where both admission types may be found within a single placement episode, thus providing an accurate measure of the incidence of re-readmissions. See page 37 for a detailed explanation of placement episodes.

In this study, the *at-risk* period starts when the youth is admitted into the SJO program. The threshold at-risk periods are 6, 12, 18 and 24 months. The time an offender is in 24 hour residential setting does not count as at-risk time.

Re-arrest and re-admission statistics are shown on the next two pages.

## SJO RE-ARREST RECIDIVISM RATES

The re-arrest recidivism rates for youth in the SJO program for at least 24 months are

- The violation of probation/capias contempt recidivism rate is 66 percent.
- The misdemeanor re-arrest rate is 73 percent.
- The felony re-arrest rate is 63 percent.
- The total re-arrest rate – where at least one felony, misdemeanor or violation of probation arrest occurred – is 91 percent.

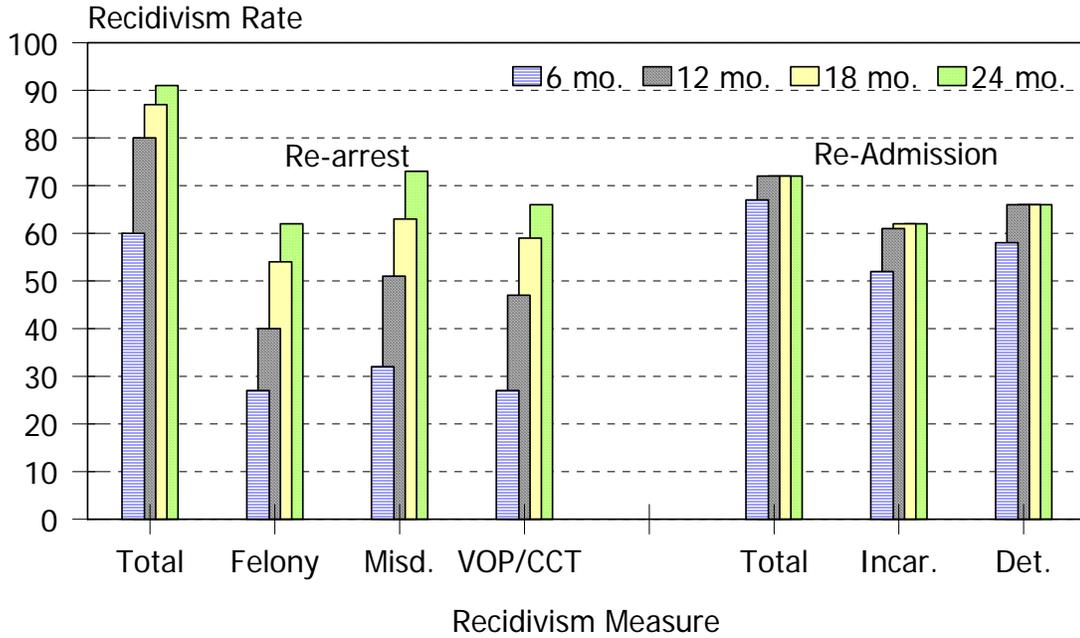
The most frequent leading charges at re-arrest for the 223 SJO referrals were violation of probation, 48; resisting arrest, 14; and criminal contempt, 11. See page 39 for a complete list of lead charges at re-arrest for SJO referrals.

## SJO RE-ADMISSION RECIDIVISM RATES

The re-admission recidivism rates for youth in the SJO program for at least 24 months are

- The detention re-admission rate is 66 percent.
- The incarceration re-admission rate is 62 percent.
- The total re-admission rate – where either a detention or an incarceration occurred – is 72 percent.

### Display 1, SJO Recidivism Rates



### Recidivism Rates for 1999-2000 SJO Referrals, n=223

Recidivism Measure	Months Since Release			
	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
<b>Re-arrest</b>				
Total	60%	80%	87%	91%
Felony	27%	40%	54%	63%
Misdemeanor	32%	51%	63%	73%
VOP/Capias Contempt	27%	47%	59%	66%
<b>Re-admission</b>				
Total	67%	72%	72%	72%
Incarceration	52%	61%	62%	62%
Detention	58%	66%	66%	66%

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## SJO PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

SJO sought to maximize public safety by providing intensive monitoring and probation services to the juvenile offenders referred to it. SJO's objective was to reduce the recidivism rate of high-risk juvenile offenders.

To test the hypothesis that SJO maximized public safety by reducing "the number of serious crimes committed by juvenile offenders,"<sup>6</sup> SJO referrals were compared to a similar group of offenders who met the SJO selection criteria but who were not referred to SJO. Included in the qualified non-SJO group were offenders who were at least 16 years of age at release from Level IV or Level V incarceration as a function of a violent felony, weapons or drug offense adjudication, or who were chronic offenders, or that posed a violent threat to the community.

The typical qualified non-SJO juvenile offender was a black male about to turn 17 who had already been detained three times and incarcerated four times. Descriptive statistics about qualified non-SJO offenders are presented above in Table 2. The differences between the two groups are explored below in Table 5.

## SJO REFERRALS AND QUALIFIED NON-SJO OFFENDERS

In total, there were 674 juveniles who qualified for referral to SJO. Of these, only about one-third were referred to SJO. There were a lot of similarities between the youth referred to SJO and qualified non-SJO offenders in terms of the number of prior arrests, their gender, being chronic offenders and a violent threat to the community.

However, there were also significant differences, as Table 5 shows below, between the juveniles that were referred to SJO and qualified non-SJO offenders. The juveniles that were referred were more likely to be African American ( $p=.003$ .) Of the juveniles referred, 75 percent were African American, while only 66 percent of those qualified but not referred were African American. The SJO referral group also tended to be older, 17.2 years versus 16.8 years ( $p=.000$ .)

The SJO referrals versus qualified non-SJO juveniles' criminal histories and backgrounds also differed significantly. These differences were particularly important factors to consider for assessing recidivism results because small differences in criminal history scores for the SJO referrals (the experimental group) and qualified non-SJO offenders (the comparison group) could lead to

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<sup>6</sup> S. Brewington-Carr, "JAIBG Sub-Grant Continuation Application, Goal Statement."

biased and inaccurate results. For instance, there is a significant difference between the SJO and comparison group in terms of prior incarcerations (sentenced admissions to Level IV or Level V,  $p=.000$ .) SJO referrals had an average of 3.9 prior admissions to incarceration while the comparison group had an average of 2.6 prior admissions to incarceration. Because more extensive criminal histories are strongly associated with higher recidivism rates SJO referrals would have higher recidivism rates than the control group if the treatment selection bias were not reduced. Thus, it is important in the final analysis that the subgroup selected for comparison more closely resemble the juveniles referred to SJO.

Another key characteristic on which SJO referrals and the qualified non-SJO offenders differed significantly is the degree that they met the first selection criterion ( $p=.000$ .) Fifty-eight percent of the juveniles selected for SJO referral met the conditions for the *First Selection Criterion*, while only 33 percent of the qualified non-SJO offenders met that criterion. The first selection criterion includes juveniles 16 years and older who have just been released from DYRS incarceration after serving a sentence for a serious crime. This difference also indicates that juveniles referred to SJO are more serious offenders than the average qualified juvenile. As with the difference in the number of prior incarcerations for the SJO and the qualified non-SJO offenders, not controlling for the difference in the number qualifying for referral under the first selection criterion could lead to biased results.

Before turning to the analysis of comparative recidivism rates, the construction of the matched-pair samples is discussed.

Table 5, Summary Statistics for SJO Referrals and the Comparison Group

	SJO Referrals		Qualified non-SJO		<i>F</i>
Total	223		451		
Gender					2.0
Male	215	96%	423	94%	
Female	8	4%	28	6%	
Race/Ethnicity					9.03**
Black	168	75%	296	66%	
White	41	18%	136	30%	
Hispanic	14	6%	19	4%	
First selection criterion – Age					41.7***
Not met	94	42%	304	67%	
Met	129	58%	147	33%	
Second selection criterion – Chronic Offender					1.5
Not met	92	41%	164	36%	
Met	131	59%	287	64%	
Third selection criterion – Violent Threat					1.5
Not met	114	51%	208	46%	
Met	109	49%	243	54%	
Age					
Mean	17.2		16.8		20.0***
Minimum	15.0		12.2		
Maximum	18.7		18.7		
Prior detention admissions					6.6*
Mean	3.0		2.5		
Minimum	0		0		
Maximum	11		12		
Prior incarceration admissions					47.7***
Mean	3.9		2.6		
Minimum	2		0		
Maximum	16		12		
Prior total arrests					
Mean	7.5		6.9		2.8
Minimum	1		1		
Maximum	33		26		
Prior felony arrests					
Mean	3.3		3.1		2.2
Minimum	0		0		
Maximum	15		12		

Note: \* $p=.01$ , \*\*  $p=.003$ , \*\*\*  $p=.000$ . When the *F* value is large and the significance level is small (typically smaller than 0.05) the results are not due to random chance and are considered statistically significant.

## MATCHED-PAIR SAMPLE SELECTION

Because of the significant differences between SJO referrals and qualified non-SJO offenders, two matched-pair samples were constructed by controlling important demographic and criminogenic factors. The criminogenic factors used as matching variables in the samples were identified as significant predictors of SJO referral. (Please see page 29 for a discussion of SJO referral predictors.) The matched-pair samples control for key demographic variables (i.e., age, race and gender) and whether an offender met the first selection criterion (First Criterion matched-pair sample) or the number of prior incarcerations (Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample.)

The First Criterion matched-pair sample controls for the key demographic variables and whether an offender met the first selection criterion – that is being 16 years of age at release from a Level IV or Level V placement for an adjudication for a violent felony, drug offense, or weapons offense. For example, 17 year old SJO white male referrals that met the first selection criterion were paired with 17 year old white male comparison group offenders that met the first selection criterion. The First Criterion matched-pair sample produced 195 comparable pairs between SJO referrals and comparison group juvenile offenders.

The Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample controls for the key demographic variables and the number of prior incarcerations. For example, 16 year old SJO African American males with two prior incarcerations were matched with 16 year old African American comparison group offenders with two prior incarcerations. The Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample produced 168 comparable pairs between SJO referrals and qualified non-SJO offenders.

Matching the SJO and the comparison group on the number of prior incarcerations or meeting the first criterion, age, race and gender, provides a much more accurate picture of the offenders and their experiences in the juvenile justice system. Even though not all SJO referrals could be matched with comparison group offenders, the analysis of matched-pair samples allows for a more accurate assessment of the SJO program on *similar* offenders in *similar* situations. The matched-pair samples reduce the biases introduced by the significant differences between SJO referrals and qualified non-SJO offenders.

## MATCHED-PAIR SAMPLE RECIDIVISM RATES

The results of the matched-pair samples recidivism analysis show that SJO does not maximize public safety. SJO does not reduce the overall re-arrest recidivism rate of high-risk offenders. In fact, overall SJO re-arrest rates are significantly higher in both matched-pair samples. Felony re-arrest rates are higher for both samples. Misdemeanor re-arrest rates are higher for both samples. The violation of probation/capias contempt re-arrest rates are significantly higher in both matched-pair samples.

These results are consistent with other evaluations of intensive aftercare programs reported in *Reintegrative Confinement and Intensive Aftercare*<sup>7</sup>. Michigan's Nokomis Challenge Program which saw no significant differences between the Nokomis group and the comparison group in terms of the overall proportion with a new felony arrest. The Skillman Intensive Aftercare Project's evaluation found no significant differences between the experimental and control group in the proportion of youth re-arrested. The Maryland Aftercare Program evaluation found no difference in the level of re-offending between aftercare clients and youth in the comparison group. The Philadelphia Intensive Probation Aftercare Program evaluation found that the percentage of re-arrests was the same for aftercare youth and control group youth. The Philadelphia evaluation did report, however, that aftercare youth had a significantly lower number of felony re-arrests.

## FIRST CRITERION RE-ARREST RECIDIVISM RATES

The First Criterion matched-pair sample couples SJO referrals with comparison group offenders on gender, age, race and whether the juvenile met the First Criterion for SJO referral, that is, the juvenile was at least 16 years old and was just released from a Level IV or Level V placement for an adjudication for a serious offense. The matching criteria yielded 195 matched-pairs and included 87 percent of the SJO referrals in this matched-pair sample. The 24 month re-arrest recidivism rates, rate difference, and Z scores for the First Criterion matched sample are shown in Table 6 below. Display 2, which follows, shows a more detailed version of SJO and comparison group recidivism rates at six, 12, 18 and 24 months.

Table 6 shows that the 24 month First Criterion matched-pair sample total re-arrest recidivism rates for SJO referrals is significantly higher ( $p=.0073$ ) than the rate for comparison group offenders. The 24 month total re-arrest rate for the matched-pair sample SJO referrals of 91 percent is nine points

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<sup>7</sup> Altschuler, D.M. and Armstrong, T.L., *Reintegrative Confinement and Intensive Aftercare*. Juvenile Justice, July 1999, 2-15.

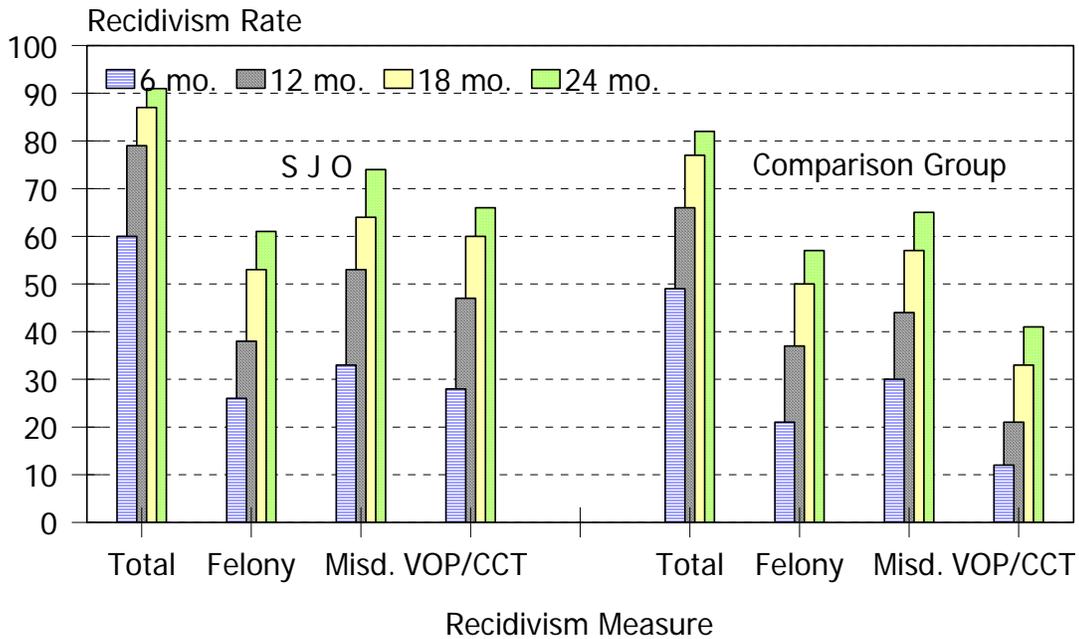
higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month First Criterion matched-pair sample felony re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 61 percent is four percentage points higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month misdemeanor re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 74 percent is nine percentage points higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month First Criterion matched sample violation of probation/capias contempt re-arrest rate is significantly higher ( $p=.0000$ ) than the comparison group rate. The 24 month violation of probation/capias contempt re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 66 percent is 25 points higher than the comparison group rate. The higher violation of probation and capias contempt re-arrest rate is not too surprising considering that SJO was an intensive probation supervision program that subjected referrals to more frequent contacts than traditional aftercare programs.

Table 6, 24 Month SJO and Comparison  
Group First Criterion Matched Sample Recidivism Rates

Re-arrest recidivism measure	Matched Sample		Rate Difference	Z
	SJO	Comparison Group		
Total	91%	82%	9%	2.681 *
Felony	61%	57%	4%	0.824
Misdemeanor	74%	65%	9%	1.869
VOP/Capias contempt	66%	41%	25%	4.872 **

Note: n=195. \*  $p=.0073$ , \*\* $p=.0000$ . When the Z score is large and the significance level is small (typically smaller than 0.05) the results are not due to random chance and are considered statistically significant.

Display 2, First Criterion Matched Sample Recidivism Rates



Recidivism Rates for the First Criterion Matched Sample

Re-arrest Recidivism Measures	Months Since Release			
	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
<b>SJO Sample, n=195</b>				
Total	60%	79%	87%	91%
Felony	26%	38%	53%	61%
Misdemeanor	33%	53%	64%	74%
VOP/Capias Contempt	28%	47%	60%	66%
<b>Comparison Group Sample, n=195</b>				
Total	49%	66%	77%	82%
Misdemeanor	21%	37%	50%	57%
Felony	30%	44%	57%	65%
VOP/Capias Contempt	12%	21%	33%	41%

## PRIOR INCARCERATION RE-ARREST RECIDIVISM RATES

The Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample couples SJO referrals with comparison group offenders on gender, age, race and the number of prior incarcerations. The matching criteria yielded 168 matched pairs and included 75 percent of the SJO referrals in the matched sample. The 24 month re-arrest recidivism rates, rate difference, and Z scores for the First Criterion matched sample are shown in Table 7 below. Display 3, which follows, shows a more detailed version of SJO and comparison group recidivism rates at six, 12, 18 and 24 months.

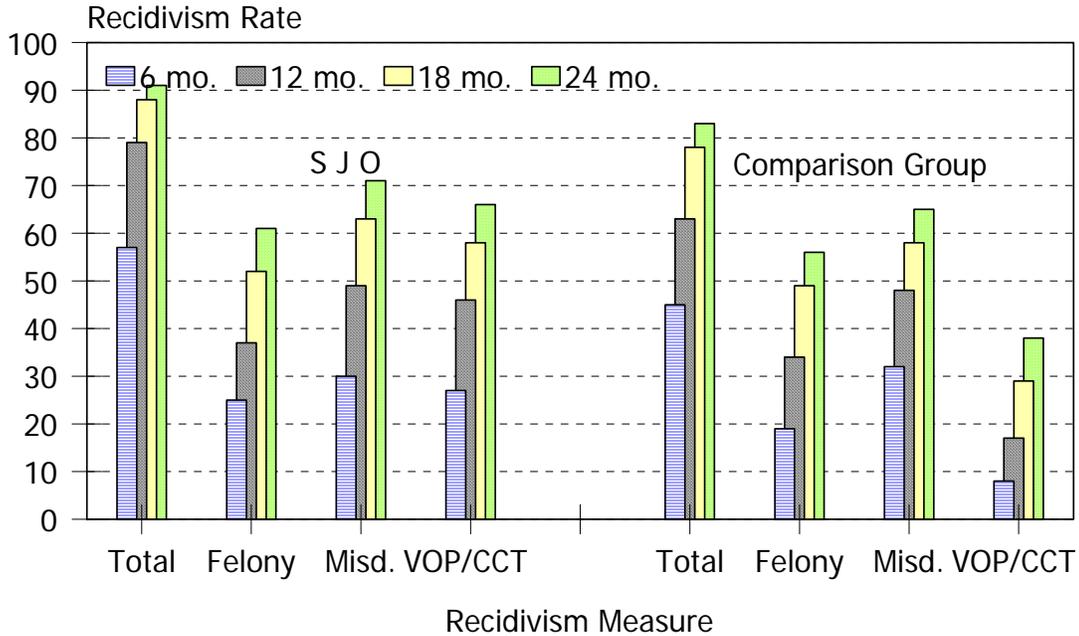
Table 7 shows that the 24 month Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample total re-arrest recidivism rates for SJO referrals is significantly higher ( $p=.0338$ ) than the rate for comparison group offenders. The 24 month total re-arrest rate for the matched-pair sample SJO referrals of 91 percent is eight points higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample felony re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 61 percent is five percentage points higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month misdemeanor re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 71 percent is six percentage points higher than the comparison group rate. The 24 month Prior Incarceration matched sample violation of probation/capias contempt re-arrest rate is significantly higher ( $p=.0000$ ) than the comparison group rate. The 24 month violation of probation/capias contempt re-arrest rate for SJO referrals of 66 percent is 28 points higher than the comparison group rate. The higher violation of probation /capias contempt re-arrest rate is not too surprising considering that SJO was an intensive probation supervision program that subjected referrals to more frequent contacts than traditional aftercare programs.

Table 7, 24 Month SJO and Comparison Group  
Prior Incarceration Matched Sample Recidivism Rates

Re-arrest recidivism measure	Matched Sample		Rate Difference	z
	SJO	Comparison Group		
Total	91%	83%	8%	2.123 *
Felony	61%	56%	5%	0.997
Misdemeanor	71%	65%	6%	1.174
VOP/Capias contempt	66%	38%	28%	5.133 **

Note: n=168. \*  $p=.0338$ , \*\*  $p=.000$ .

Display 3, Prior Incarceration Matched Sample Recidivism Rates



Recidivism Rates for the Prior Incarceration Matched Sample

Re-arrest Recidivism Measures	Months Since Release			
	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
<b>SJO Sample, n=168</b>				
Total	57%	79%	88%	91%
Felony	25%	37%	52%	61%
Misdemeanor	30%	49%	63%	71%
VOP/Capias Contempt	27%	46%	58%	66%
<b>Comparison Group Sample, n=168</b>				
Total	45%	63%	78%	83%
Misdemeanor	19%	34%	49%	56%
Felony	32%	48%	58%	65%
VOP/Capias Contempt	8%	17%	29%	38%

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## TECHNICAL APPENDIX A

### SJO REFERRAL PREDICTORS

Several random samples were drawn from SJO referrals and the comparison group. These random samples produced very similar results for the number of prior felonies, and the number of prior incarcerations, while producing very dissimilar race and gender counts. The comparison group is more diverse than the SJO referrals, who are predominantly black. This was problematic because groups with different race and gender proportions traditionally have very different recidivism rates.

Random sample selection was abandoned because the authors felt that this method could produce biased results showing artificially high recidivism rates for the SJO referrals. Table 5, Summary Statistics for SJO Referrals and the Comparison Group, above shows that several factors are significantly different for SJO referrals and comparison group offenders: race, age, whether an offender met the first selection criterion, prior detention admissions and prior incarceration admissions. Logistic regression was used to determine if all or some of these factors are significant predictors of SJO referral.

The logistic regression results are presented below in Table 8. The dependent variable for the model is whether an offender is referred to SJO. In order to determine if blacks were more likely to be referred to SJO, RACE was parameterized into RACE1 to contrast whites with blacks and RACE2 to contrast Hispanics with blacks.

#### ***First model***

The first model includes the block of factors that were identified as being significantly different for qualified non-SJO offenders and SJO referrals: race, age, whether an offender met the first selection criterion, prior detention admissions and prior incarceration admissions. This model is significant (chi-square = 99.634,  $p=.000$ ) and predicts SJO referral correctly 69.7 percent of the time. The model identifies meeting the first criterion, the number of prior incarcerations, RACE and its component RACE1 as being significant predictors of SJO selection.

The odds ratio –  $e^{\beta}$  – for meeting the first criterion is 2.999, this suggests that when controlling for other factors, offenders meeting the first selection criterion are almost twice as likely to be referred to SJO than offenders not meeting the first criterion. Offenders meeting the first selection criterion have a 75 percent probability of being referred to SJO. The odds ratio for prior incarcerations is 1.295, suggesting that when controlling for other

factors, each addition prior incarceration increases the likelihood of being referred to SJO by a factor of 1.295, or close to 30 percent. The odds ratio for RACE1 is 1.747. When controlling for other factors, black offenders are about 75 percent more likely to be referred to SJO than white offenders. The probability of being referred to SJO for black offenders when compared to white offenders is 64 percent.

The coefficients -  $\beta$  - for the other variables in the first model are not significant. The coefficient for RACE2 is negative, which means that when controlling for other variables, Hispanics are referred to SJO less often than blacks. The coefficient for prior detentions is negative, which means that when controlling for other factors, as the number of prior detentions increases offenders are less likely to be referred to SJO, or remain in the comparison group. This result is to be expected as SJO targets youth that have been incarcerated, not necessarily detained.

The model estimates that a 17 year old black offender that met the first selection criterion, has four prior incarcerations and three prior detentions has an 83 percent probability of being referred to SJO.

### ***Second Model***

A second model was run in order to test whether variables that were not found to be significant could be predictors of SJO referral. The second model includes variables for meeting the second and third selection criteria, prior total arrests, prior felony arrests and gender, in addition to the block of variables included in the first model. The second model is significant (chi-square = 136.096,  $p=.000$ ) and predicts SJO referral correctly 71.2 percent of the time. Including the additional variables only adds a small degree of accuracy to the model. This indicates that either the newly added variables are not associated with being admitted to SJO or these additional variables exhibit a high degree of multi-collinearity with variables already in the model.

The coefficients for meeting the second and third criteria are negative. This suggests that when offenders meet the second or third selection criteria, they tend not to be referred to SJO. In other words, for the 674 offenders that qualified for SJO during 1999 and 2000, meeting the second or third selection criteria was a significant predictor of not being referred to SJO. No other new variables in the second model were significant predictors of SJO referral.

Table 8, Logistic Regression Models Predicting SJO Referral

Variables	First Model				Second Model			
	$\beta$	Wald	Sig.	$e^\beta$	$\beta$	Wald	Sig.	$e^\beta$
Constant	-4.666	8.793	0.003	0.009	-3.368	4.156	0.041	0.034
Met first criterion	1.098	33.518	0.000	2.999	1.803	47.667	0.000	6.070
Prior incarceration	0.259	32.059	0.000	1.295	0.276	32.375	0.000	1.317
RACE		6.777	0.034			6.449	0.040	
RACE1	0.558	6.698	0.010	1.747	0.566	6.395	0.011	1.761
RACE2	0.546	1.599	0.206	1.727	0.542	1.494	0.222	1.720
Age	0.141	2.266	0.132	1.151	0.108	1.213	0.271	1.114
Prior detention	-0.067	1.836	0.175	0.935	-0.053	0.895	0.344	0.948
Met second criterion					-0.705	7.749	0.005	0.494
Met third criterion					-1.346	27.464	0.000	0.260
Prior arrests					-0.040	1.404	0.236	0.961
Gender					-0.393	0.757	0.384	0.675
Prior felony arrests					0.085	1.331	0.249	1.088
Model Chi-Square	99.634	.000			136.096	.000		

FIRST CRITERION MATCHED-PAIR SAMPLE

For the first matched-pair sample, meeting the first SJO selection criterion was chosen as the criminogenic matching variable because it is the most significant predictor of SJO selection (Wald=33.518,  $p=.000$ .) The First Criterion matched-pair sample couples SJO referrals with comparison group offenders while controlling for race (Wald=6.777,  $p=.034$ ), age and gender, and whether they met the first SJO selection criterion. For example, all 16 year old male African American SJO referrals that met the first criterion were paired with 16 year old male African American comparison group offenders that met the first criterion.

Matching on the first SJO selection criterion produced a sample with 195 matched pairs of SJO referrals and comparison group offenders. Table 9 below illustrates the composition of the First Criterion matched-pair sample in terms of the matching variables.

Table 9, First Criterion Matched-Pair Sample Distribution

Met First Criterion	Gender	Age	Sample						No. of Matched- Pairs
			Comparison Group			SJO Referrals			
			Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White	
No	Female	16	2	0	1	2	0	1	3
		17	2	0	0	2	0	0	2
	Male	14	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
		15	8	0	0	8	0	0	8
		16	20	2	4	20	2	4	26
		17	36	1	6	36	1	6	43
		18	5	1	3	5	1	3	9
Sub Total		73	4	15	73	4	15	92	
Yes	Female	16	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Male	15	2	0	0	2	0	0	2
		16	20	2	8	20	2	8	30
		17	37	2	13	37	2	13	52
		18	12	1	5	12	1	5	18
		Sub Total		72	5	26	72	5	26
Total			145	9	41	145	9	41	195

#### PRIOR INCARCERATION MATCHED-PAIR SAMPLE

For the second matched-pair sample, comparison group offenders with the same number of prior incarceration admissions were matched to SJO referrals while controlling for race, age, and gender. Prior incarceration admissions was chosen as the matching variable for the second matched-pair sample because it is the second most significant predictor of SJO selection (Wald = 32.059,  $p=.000$ .) For example, 17 year old white male SJO referrals with four prior incarceration were matched with 17 year old white male qualified non-SJO offenders with four prior incarcerations.

Matching on prior incarcerations produced a sample with 168 SJO referrals paired with 168 comparison group offenders. Table 10 below illustrates the composition of the Prior Incarceration matched-pair sample in terms of the matching variables.

Table 10, Prior Incarceration Matched Sample Distribution

Gender	Prior Incarcerations	Age	Comparison Group			SJO Referrals			No. of Matched-Pairs
			Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White	
Female	1	16	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Sub Total		1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Male	0	14	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
		15	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
		16	3	0	1	3	0	1	3
		17	2	0	1	2	0	1	3
	Sub Total		6	0	3	6	0	3	9
	1	15	2	0	0	2	0	0	2
	16	4	0	4	4	0	4	8	
	17	13	0	4	13	0	4	17	
	18	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	
Sub Total		22	0	8	22	0	8	30	
2	16	13	0	2	13	0	2	15	
	17	9	1	4	9	1	4	14	
	18	3	1	3	3	1	3	7	
Sub Total		25	2	9	25	2	9	36	
3	15	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	
	16	6	0	1	6	0	1	7	
	17	11	0	2	11	0	2	13	
	18	2	0	1	2	0	1	3	
Sub Total		21	0	4	21	0	4	25	
4	15	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	
	16	3	0	1	3	0	1	4	
	17	9	0	4	9	0	4	13	
	18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Sub Total		15	0	5	15	0	5	20	
5	15	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	
	16	6	1	0	6	1	0	7	
	17	7	0	1	7	0	1	8	
	18	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	
Sub Total		15	1	2	15	1	2	18	

(Table 10 continues)

(Table 10 continued)

Gender	Prior Incarcerations	Age	Sample						No. of Matched-Pairs
			Comparison Group			SJO Referrals			
			Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White	
	6	16	5	0	1	5	0	1	6
		17	5	0	0	5	0	0	5
		18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Sub Total		11	0	1	11	0	1	12
	7	16	2	0	1	2	0	1	3
		17	4	0	2	4	0	2	6
		18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Sub Total		7	0	3	7	0	3	10
	8	17	3	0	0	3	0	0	3
		18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
			4	0	0	4	0	0	4
	9	16	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
		17	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
		18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Sub Total		3	0	0	3	0	0	3
Total			130	3	35	130	3	35	168

## TECHNICAL APPENDIX B

### SJO STUDY DATASET AND SOURCES

#### SJO PROGRAM CASE INFORMATION

The Family Court SJO Monitor's Tracking System contains detailed demographic and violation of probation filing information on 210 offenders referred to SJO during the study period. DYRS' SJO Probation Unit maintained information on 218 offenders referred to SJO during the study period.

These two data sources were joined to create a master SJO case file on the 223 individuals referred to SJO during 1999 and 2000.

#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA

Arrest data was downloaded from the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) on January 2, 2002, for use in this study. Before the arrest data could be analyzed, extensive cleanup and charge selection was required according to the following protocol:

- a. Complete criminal history information was downloaded from CJIS at the charge level for all youth released from a residential Level IV or V program from January 1, 1999 through December 31, 2001, and for youth that were admitted into SJO during the same period.
- b. Charges from arresting jurisdictions other than "DE" were excluded, thus deleting charges under municipal ordinances.
- c. Charges for Title 21 offenses not related to driving under the influence or the theft of a motor vehicle were excluded.
- d. Offense Title, Section, Class, and Type citations were verified against the Statistical Analysis Center's (SAC) law file. Where CJIS statute citations did not match the law file, the citations were corrected. The SAC's law file matches current state statutes. For example, an offender's arrest for burglary in the third degree, a class F felony, appeared in CJIS as an unclassified misdemeanor.
- e. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 were corrected to the actual statute violated where an appropriate match could be made against the attempted offense's literal description. For example, 11 Del.C. § 531, attempted theft over \$1,000, was recoded as an arrest for 11 Del.C. § 841, theft over \$1,000 – attempted.
- f. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense (Attempted attempt

- to commit a crime) and the NCIC code was not missing, were recoded to the actual statutes using the NCIC code.
- g. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense (Attempted attempt to commit a crime) and the NCIC code was missing, were recoded to actual statutes through the descriptive information contained in CJIS under the offense's complaint number.
  - h. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense, the NCIC code was missing and the complaint information did not yield any clues as to the crime committed were resolved within the context of the offender's arrest patterns and criminal career.

Criminal charges for individual offenders were aggregated at the arrest level, thus providing a collection of all relevant charges by offender and date of arrest, i.e., charges were aggregated into arrest events by date of arrest and SBI number.

The re-arrest analysis file was created by joining offender identification (SBI, and demographic information such as name, date of birth, race), arrest history (CJIS) and Level III, Level IV and V placement information (DYRS Facility and contracted III, IV and V programs.)

## PLACEMENT DATA

Release cohort data was extracted from the data maintained on the DYRS alternative programs (Altbase), DSCYF's Family and Child Tracking System (FACTS), and the Statistical Analysis Center's DYRS facility database, for youth released from Level IV or Level V placements from July 1, 1994, through December 31, 2001. Release cohort data was created according to the following protocol:

- a. DFS, CMH, and alternative Level III, IV and V program data was extracted from FACTS on January 12, 2002. The alternative placement information (program name, admission and release dates) was verified against DSCYF fiscal records. If the fiscal records were not found, the placement information was verified through the program's records, when these were available.
- b. The program data was integrated with the SAC's juvenile facility database.
  - Excluded from the dataset were alternative placement records which coincided with a facility placement record, i.e., if a youth was serving time in Ferris but a bed was being saved in an

alternative program, only the Ferris record was included in the dataset.

- For cases where an alternative programs placement spanned over an admission into a secure facility, i.e., a youth was sent to the Stevenson House for a 72 hour administrative hold, the alternative program's placement information was adjusted to reflect the exit from the program and the entry into secure care.
- For cases where an alternative program placement spanned over another alternative program placement, i.e. a youth's bed was being saved in a program while the youth was being held in a Level IV Snowden Cottage slot, admission and release dates were adjusted to correspond to fiscal records.
- For cases where fiscal records showed that a youth was transferred, admitted, and/or released, but there was no corresponding record of the transfer in Altbase or FACTS, a new record was created to reflect this movement.

Placement histories for SJO referrals and comparison group offenders were extracted from the release cohort data.

## PLACEMENT EPISODES

Secure placement episodes comprise a continuous period of time when a youth is not in the community and may include multiple releases from secure residential placements. For example, the typical Ferris School for Boys placement episode includes three uninterrupted placements: (1) admission to the Detention Center, (2) admission to Ferris School, and (3) transition back to the community through Mowlds Cottage.

The placement histories in this study include releases from secure or institutional out-of-home placement episodes, and non-secure Level III placements. Secure placements include DYRS detention and Level IV and Level V programs which house adjudicated youth in secure settings. Secure placements also include Division of Family Services (DFS) and Child Mental Health (CMH) programs that provide residential services which are classified by DSCYF as crisis bed, mental health; inpatient hospital; inpatient hospital, mental health; residential group care, treatment center; residential Interagency Collaborative Team; residential treatment, mental health; and residential treatment, substance abuse.

From time to time a secure DYRS placement will be preceded or followed by a DFS or CMH residential placement. Residential DFS and CMH placements are included in this study for youth that had at least one active DYRS residential placement. Youth without DYRS residential placements are not a

part of this study. DFS and CMH placements are included in this study so that the time a youth spends in the community after being released from a secure residential placement episode can be calculated accurately.

Youth in Level III programs are in the community while they attend school, recreational activities, receive vocational training, or attend counseling sessions. Some Level III programs are classified by FACTS as being residential. FACTS' residential classification applies to Level III programs that provide group care, independent living, non-secure detention, and transitional services. These programs are not secure residential programs.

## APPENDIX C

Table 11, Distribution of Lead Charge at Re-arrest for SJO Referrals

<u>Lead Charge</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Violation of probation	48
Resisting arrest	14
Criminal contempt, disorderly	11
Criminal impersonation	8
Possession with intent to deliver narcotics	8
Possession or use of a non-narcotic	7
Disorderly conduct	6
Terroristic threatening, misdemeanor	6
Assault in the third degree	5
Receive stolen property felony	5
Drug trafficking	4
Possession with intent to deliver non-narcotics	4
Shoplifting misdemeanor	4
Criminal contempt	3
Criminal mischief unclassified misdemeanor	3
Criminal trespass in the first degree	3
Possession of a firearm during felony	3
Possession of drug paraphernalia	3
Possession or use of narcotics	3
Reckless endangering in the second degree	3
Robbery in the first degree	3
Robbery in the second degree	3
Assault in the second degree	2
Breach of conditions of release, misdemeanor	2
Burglary in the second degree	2
Burglary in the third degree	2
Criminal trespass in the third degree	2
Driving under the influence	2
Driving while license is suspended or revoked	2
Forgery in the second degree	2
Possession of a deadly weapon by person prohibited	2
Possession of a deadly weapon during the commission of a felony	2

(Table 11 continues)

(Table 11 continued)

<u>Lead Charge</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Theft felony	2
Unauthorized use of a vehicle	2
Administrative hold, fugitive from another state	1
Assault in a detention facility, causing injury	1
Blue crab size violations	1
Burglary in the first degree	1
Capias, Justice of the Peace Court	1
Conspiracy in the third degree	1
Conspiracy, second degree	1
Contempt of court, Court of Common Pleas	1
Criminal impersonation, accident related	1
Driving vehicle without consent of owner	1
Enter or remain in a package store under 21 years of age	1
Escape in the second degree	1
Failure to register as a sex offender	1
Loitering	1
Menacing	1
Murder in the first degree, attempted	1
Offensive touching	1
Possession of a deadly weapon by person prohibited, firearm	1
Possession of burglar's tools	1
Rape in the first degree	1
Rape in the second degree	1
Receive stolen property misdemeanor	1
Reckless endangering, in the first degree	1
Riot	1
Robbery in the first degree	1
Robbery in the first degree, attempted	1
Theft misdemeanor	1
Underage possession or consumption of alcohol	1
Total	209