#### 2024 Three Year Plan- Program Narrative

#### a. Description of the Issue

#### 1. System Description: Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System

The State of Delaware has a unified, state-administered juvenile justice system. There are three levels of police coverage in Delaware: the Delaware State Police (statewide jurisdiction), the New Castle County Police Department (jurisdiction over New Castle County), and 35 city and local police departments. Juveniles typically come in contact with the police via a response to a call for assistance, response to an observed violation, response to a Division of Family Services referral, or in response to a House Bill 85 infraction. In 2023, there were a total of 2,634 juveniles arrested. Major Peter Sawyer, Chief Wilfredo Campos, Chief Cecilia Ashe, and Chief Ralph Holme represent various law enforcement agencies on the JJAG.

#### Justice of the Peace Court

The Justice of the Peace Courts are courts of limited jurisdiction over all civil cases involving less than \$15,000.00, certain misdemeanors, and most motor vehicle cases (except felonies). They may act as committing magistrates for all crimes, and landlord/tenant disputes. Outside of Family Court business hours (M-F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm), any juvenile arrested in Delaware will have an initial appearance in J.P. Court. From J.P. Court, juveniles are referred to the Office of Defense Services to be assigned an attorney. They may be released into the community or placed into detention while waiting for a Family Court bail review hearing the next business day. Magistrates are judicial officers appointed by the governor to preside in the Justice of the Peace Court. Unlike judges and commissioners, magistrates are not required to be trained in the law. Magistrates can potentially preside over bail setting hearings and some truancy appearances.

### Family Court

The Delaware legislature endorsed the concept of a statewide, unified Family Court with establishing legislation in 1971. The Delaware Family Court has courthouses in each of the three counties. The Family Court has original statewide civil and criminal jurisdiction over family and child matters and offenses. In 2005, the Family Court became a constitutional court by virtue of an amendment to the Delaware Constitution. In Family Court, judges and commissioners preside over all delinquency cases with judges presiding over felony cases and commissioners presiding over misdemeanor cases. Family Court has jurisdiction over virtually all matters affecting families and children including divorce, property division, alimony, child custody and visitation, guardianship, child support, domestic violence, juvenile justice, adult criminal (domestic violence related offenses), and child protection. However, adults charged with felonies and juveniles charged with murder, kidnapping, and rape 1 & 2 may be referred to Superior Court. By statute, the Governor appoints 17 judges to serve in the Family Court statewide. Judges have the authority to hear, determine, render, and enforce judgment in any proceeding before the Court. This includes the authority to determine and enter disposition for alleged violations of probation by youth. Commissioners are judicial officers appointed by the Governor and assigned to oversee a range of Family Court matters, such as juvenile detention hearings and delinquency proceedings, which include but are not limited to amenability hearings, arraignments, preliminary hearings, case reviews, violation of probation hearings, and trials. Commissioners also have the power to accept pleas and to enter disposition for children who have been adjudicated delinquent. Chief Judge Michael Newell represents Family Court on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG).

#### Superior Court

Superior Court is a Court of general jurisdiction. It maintains original jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases, exclusive jurisdiction over felonies and drug offenses (except marijuana possession and most felonies/drugs involving minors), involuntary commitments to Delaware State Hospital, and serves as an intermediate appellate court. Some very serious felony cases against juveniles reach disposition in Superior Court rather than Family Court. Some cases arrive in Superior Court by statutory designation, others are transferred from Family Court when the juvenile is found non- amenable to the Family Court process.

#### The Office of Defense Services

The Delaware Office of Defense Services (ODS) consists of two branches, the Public Defender's Office and the Office of Conflicts Counsel. ODS provides representation to indigent adults and all children charged with an act of delinquency. While the Public Defender's Office has been in existence for over 50 years, its current structure was established in 2015. The guiding principle of ODS is that financial means is not a barrier to obtaining zealous legal representation. Its goal is ensuring the Sixth Amendment's rights to an effective lawyer and to a fair trial are respected and realized. Within its trial division, ODS has a unit of specially trained lawyers dedicated to representation of youth in Family Court. In addition to providing legal representation in pending cases, ODS provides assistance in some post-disposition matters, such as expungement, as a result of recent federal grants. ODS also participates in community outreach efforts and policy advocacy for criminal and juvenile justice improvements. As a proxy for the Chief Defender, Chief of Legal Services, Lisa Minutola represents ODS on the JJAG. Delaware Department of Justice Family Division

The DDOJ is responsible for making all charging decisions following an arrest. A team of deputy attorneys general in the DDOJ prosecute juvenile delinquency cases in Family Court

and truancy cases in the Justice of the Peace Court. The unit is charged with coordinating between police, probation, schools, and the courts, and seeks disposition of cases that aim to protect the community while being in the best interest of the juvenile. As a proxy for the Attorney General, Director of the DOJ Family Division, Kelly Singleton represents the DOJ on the JJAG.

#### Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DSCYF/DYRS)

The Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services manages one secure residential treatment facility (Ferris School for Boys) and two secure pre-trial detention centers (Stevenson House and New Castle County Detention Center). DYRS also operates one Level 4 (staff-secure) residential treatment program consisting of three cottages: Snowden, Mowlds, and Grace. Snowden and Mowlds house male youth and Grace houses female youth. DYRS operates all of the probation services for juveniles in the state. DSCYF is the State Agency with jurisdiction to provide behavioral health services, including mental health, to juveniles in Delaware. DPBH and DYRS are two sister-divisions staffed with the development and implementation of the State's plan to deliver behavioral health services to juveniles in the juvenile justice system in Delaware. All services provided are contracted by the Department of Children Youth and their Families and are coordinated in an integrated that manner that provides the appropriate level of care with respect to the juvenile's gender and geographical location. Director Renee Ciconte represents DYRS on the JJAG.

#### Division of Family Services (DSCYF/DFS)

The Division of Family Services works with children and families where abuse, neglect and/or dependency may be concerns. Safety and well-being is promoted through assessment, intervention and programs, including foster care and independent living services. Director Trenee Parker represents DFS on the JJAG.

#### Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services (DSCYF/DPBHS)

The Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health (DPBHS) is part of the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families. On July 1, 2010, the Division of Child Mental Health and the Office of Prevention and Early Intervention merged to become the DPBH. DPBH provides a statewide continuum of prevention services, early intervention services, and mental health and substance abuse (behavioral health) treatment programs for children and youth. These services have graduated levels of intensity and restrictiveness that are child-centered, and family focused. Director Aileen Fink represents DPBH on the JJAG. Secretary Steven Yeatman represents DSCYF (which encompasses all previously described DSCYF divisions) on the JJAG.

#### II. Analysis of Juvenile Problems, Delinquency, and Needs

#### **Analysis of Juvenile Crime**

The number of juvenile arrests in Delaware in 2023 totaled 2,634. The state had an arrest rate of 1,252 arrests per 100,000 youth, or 12.5 arrests per 1,000 youth.

Total Juvenile Arrests, 2017 to 2023										
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023										
Juvenile Arrests	Juvenile Arrests 3,344 2,873 2,963 1,910 1,669 2,024 2,634									

The number of juveniles arrested in New Castle County in 2023 totaled 1,374, an increase from 2022. In 2023, the county had an arrest rate of 1,131 arrests per 100,000 juveniles or 11 arrests per 1,000 juveniles, making it the county with the lowest juvenile arrest rate in the state. The number of juvenile arrests in Kent County in 2023 totaled 651. This had been steadily

decreasing since 2016 but has started to increase in 2021. In 2023, the county had an arrest rate of 1,511 per 100,000 juveniles or 15 arrests per 1,000 juveniles, making it the county with the highest juvenile arrest rate in the state.

The number of juvenile arrests in Sussex County in 2023 totaled 609. This had been steadily decreasing since 2016 but began increasing as of 2022. In 2023, the county had an arrest rate of 1,328 arrests per 100,000 juveniles or 13 arrests per 1,000 juveniles.

	Juvenile Arrests by County, 2017 to 2023											
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023					
NCC	1,867	1,578	1,755	1,222	1,022	1,076	1,374					
KC	723	700	641	288	302	460	651					
SC	754	595	567	400	345	488	609					
State	3,344	2,873	2,963	1,910	1,669	2,024	2,634					

For the period 2017 to 2023, the annual average of juvenile arrests for all Part I crimes is 759. The number of juvenile arrests for Part I crimes has steadily decreased from 2017-2022 but increased in 2023.

In 2017, 32% of juvenile arrests for Part I crimes were violent. In 2023, 37% of juvenile arrests for Part I crimes were violent..

	Juvenile Arrests for Part I Offenses, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Violent	317	332	345	235	254	231	315				
Property	671	545	563	395	259	304	548				
Total Part I	988	877	908	630	513	535	863				

Robbery and aggravated assault comprise the overwhelming majority of juvenile arrests

for Part I violent crimes and have fluctuated annually since 2016.

	<b>Juvenile</b> A	Irrests for	Part I Vio	lent Crime	es, 2017 to	2023	
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Homicide	2	2	0	2	5	4	3
Rape by Force	17	10	11	7	7	8	8
Forcible Sodomy	6	3	2	2	0	3	6
Forcible Fondling	29	27	20	16	19	8	28
Robbery	81	87	111	93	83	59	68
Aggravated Assault	181	202	200	113	139	149	202
Total Part I Violent	317	332	345	235	254	231	315

The table below breaks down the 2023 Juvenile Part I violent crime arrests by county. Overall, the majority (57%) of Delaware's juvenile Part I violent crime arrests were in New Castle County. This was 70.2% in 2013. Kent County contributed 22% to the arrests, compared with 17.4% in 2013. Sussex County contributed 21% to the arrests, compared with 17.6% in 2013.

Juvo	enile Arrests for Part 1	Violent Crimes, By C	County, 2023	
	NCC	KC	SC	STATE TOTAL
Homicide	0	1	2	3
Rape	5	0	3	8
Forcible Sodomy	0	3	3	6
Forcible Fondling	10	8	10	28
Robbery	63	1	4	68
Aggravated Assault	101	57	44	202
Total Part I Violent	179	70	66	315

The tables below illustrate juvenile arrests for Part I Property Crime for 2017-2023. Arrests have steadily decreased over the years, with the exception of an increase in 2023. Similar to Part I Violent Crimes, males account for the majority (80%) of all Part I property crime arrests. In 2023, males accounted for 97% of burglary arrests, 69% of larceny theft arrests, 89% of vehicle theft arrests, and 100% of arson arrests. Black youth are disproportionately represented in Part I Property Crimes (66%).

	Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Burglary	146	132	146	141	78	83	127				
Larceny Theft	473	370	335	188	118	155	300				
Vehicle Theft	34	41	75	59	57	61	116				
Arson	18	2	7	7	6	5	5				
Total Part I Property	671	545	563	395	259	304	548				

In past years, Part II crimes represented the largest portion of juvenile arrests (60%). In 2023, Part II crimes represented 40% of juvenile arrests. The data in the table below reflect juvenile arrests for some of the more serious Part II juvenile crimes for the years 2017 to 2023.

From 2017 to 2023, the overall total juvenile arrests decreased among all of the listed Part II offenses, with some fluctuation for specific offenses and an increase in 2023. However, this is still a significant decrease in arrests since 2017.

	Juvenile Arrests for Selected Part II Offenses, 2017 to 2023											
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023					
Other Assaults	912	792	839	468	476	612	714					
Other Sexual Offenses	30	28	20	16	19	1	1					
Weapon Law Violations	81	83	60	56	68	92	77					

Drugs Offenses	351	288	266	102	119	156	119
Driving Under Influence	0	0	2	2	0	1	1
Criminal Mischief	155	114	140	127	70	122	134
Total Part II Offenses	1,529	1,305	1,327	771	752	984	1,046

## III. Trend data relevant to delinquency prevention programming

While juvenile arrests have decreased since 2016, juvenile crime significantly rose in 2023 to pre-pandemic numbers and continues to plague Delaware communities. Though slightly lower than 2019, juvenile arrests have increased in 2023, specifically for forcible fondling, robbery, and aggravated assault. Homicides have continued to fluctuate, but have not significantly increased or decreased. It is important to analyze and respond to aggravated assaults, due to the fact juveniles commit non-fatal shootings. It is also important to note that vehicle theft has steadily increased since 2016 and law enforcement, specifically Wilmington Police Department and New Castle County Police Department, have connected vehicle thefts with drive-by shootings. Even if juveniles themselves are not committing the majority of the shootings in Delaware, "Most victims and identified suspects were juveniles at the time of their first Delaware arrest (89% and 79%, respectively) (SAC 2019)." This illustrates the importance of intervening as early as possible to prevent juveniles from future criminality and victimization.

Juvenile Shooting Suspects & Victims, 2015 to 2020								
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
Juvenile Suspects	11	17	10	16	14	37		
Juvenile Victims	9	9	13	16	35	55		

The majority of the shootings occur in either the City of Wilmington or the City of Dover, with shootings more prevalent in Wilmington. Wilmington comprises 60-80% of the juvenile shootings depending on the year. Both cities have significant gang issues. (SAC 2016). The JJAG has recognized that gang violence has been an ongoing factor in juvenile crime and has prioritized this issue. According to the SAC 2020 shooting report, Black males are disproportionately affected, comprising 92% of juvenile shooting suspects (34 out of 37) and 76% of juvenile shooting victims (42 out of 55). Therefore, resources will be directed to the atrisk youth and communities to analyze and address the determining factors of youth gang participation and juvenile violence. In doing so, Delaware will also keep in mind the historical oppression that has led to environments plagued with violence and prioritize racially sensitive approaches that aim to heal generational trauma. Delaware's R/ED subcommittee will continue to work to assess and address points in the juvenile justice system where minorities are disproportionately represented.

In order to effectively prevent juveniles from committing serious crimes, the JJAG recognizes that the system as a whole must function as an effective, efficient continuum of services that prioritizes those with the highest risks and needs. Prevention occurs at every step in the system. For example, if reentry is effective, the juvenile is less likely to recidivate, thus preventing a future crime. The system must be able to coordinate and communicate efficiently in order to leverage existing resources to best serve juveniles. Title II funds will be utilized to prevent juvenile crime, with a focus on violent crime in Wilmington and Dover. While the focus is on preventing a juvenile's initial involvement in crime, this could also encompass approaches that prevent crime by improving the overall juvenile justice system.

#### b. Goals and Objectives

PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (28) Planning and Administration

Goals: 1. To maintain a Juvenile Justice Unit within the Criminal Justice Council consisting of the Juvenile Justice Specialist and Compliance Monitor. 1(a)To Complete three-year plans and updates to OJJDP. 1(b)Act as a liaison between OJJDP and the State of Delaware. 1(c) Provide information for policy makers such as the JJAG, Legislators, Service Providers, and the Criminal Justice Council in Delaware. 1(d) Monitor for compliance with the JJDP Act. <u>Objectives</u>: The Juvenile Justice Unit will submit all plans, reports and material to OJJDP, monitor for compliance with the JJDP Act, and administer all Formula funds under federal guidelines.

<u>Performance Indicators</u>: The FY2024-2027 plan and subsequent updates will be submitted and DE will work to regain compliance and receive 100% of federal juvenile justice funds.

PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (32) State Advisory Group Allocations (JJAG)

<u>Goals</u>: To use a combination of SAG and juvenile justice program funds to provide the SAG with the necessary support to research, develop, implement, and administer programming that will benefit the juvenile justice system in Delaware.

Objectives: To increase awareness in the juvenile justice system.

<u>Performance Indicators</u>: Report to Governor, Legislature & Publication and Distribution of Position papers.

PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (21/19)– R/ED/Compliance Monitoring

<u>Goals</u>: 1. The R/ED Coordinator/Compliance Monitor is responsible for collecting pertinent data and comprising the R/ED annual report. 2. The R/ED Coordinator/Compliance Monitor will collaborate with other agencies and groups who are affiliated with R/ED. 3. Based on data collection and analysis, the R/ED Coordinator/Compliance Monitor will recommend action steps for Delaware to address R/ED. 4. The R/ED Coordinator/Compliance Monitor will also conduct compliance monitoring statewide to ensure the State of DE remains in compliance with all 4 core protections of the JJDP Act.

<u>Objectives</u>: 1. Coordinate sub-committee members and schedule meetings 2. Providing agendas and presenting all R/ED related activities to the state advisory group, JJAG. 3. Communicate all activities and collaborative efforts to all sub-committee members. 4. Conduct compliance monitoring site visits with sites listed on the compliance universe to ensure continued compliance with the JJDP Act.

#### PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (6) Delinquency Prevention

<u>Goals</u>: Establish or support existing delinquency prevention program(s) in New Castle, Kent, and Sussex Counties and the City of Wilmington that will serve youth between the ages of 0-18 in order to reduce the overall arrests statewide.

<u>Objectives</u>: 1. Reduce the overall arrests of juveniles in New Castle County by 25% over three years. <u>Performance Indicator</u>: Juvenile Arrests in New Castle County. 2. Reduce the overall arrests of juveniles in Kent County by 25% over three years. <u>Performance Indicator</u>: Juvenile Arrests in Kent County. 3. Reduce the overall arrests of juveniles in Sussex County by 25% over three years. <u>Performance Indicator</u>: Juvenile Arrests in Sussex County. 4. Increase the number of youth positively influenced by participating in a prevention program. <u>Performance Indicator</u>: Number of Youth in Program.

#### c. Implementation (Activities and Services) to attain goals and objectives

PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (28) Planning and Administration

1. Providing staff support to the planning efforts of the JJAG and its functions. 2. Drafting the Three-Year Plan and all plan updates. 3. Ensuring the implementation of and remaining in

compliance with the above plans. 4. Ensuring that the State of Delaware is in compliance with the JJDP mandates. 5. Acting as a liaison between the State of Delaware and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, other related persons, and agencies. 6. Providing technical assistance to state level agencies. 7. Continue to focus on the issue of overrepresentation of minority juveniles in secure confinement in Delaware. 8. Addressing any issues pertaining to the four core JJDPA requirements. 9. Completing all federal reporting requirements. 10. Conducting quarterly monitoring visits and reports for all JJDPA subgrants. 11. Providing technical assistance to JJDPA funded programs. 12. Conducting annual monitoring and inspection of all secure lockups in the State of Delaware. 13. Completing the annual juvenile compliance monitoring reports. 14. Providing technical assistance to state level agencies that hold juveniles to ensure compliance with the JJDPA Core requirements.

#### PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (32) State Advisory Group Allocations (JJAG)

1. The JJAG reviews data from the State of Delaware's Three-Year Plan and Plan Updates. This data is used to develop a problem statement that will be addressed through the appropriate prevention program. 2. Based on the available data, the JJAG approves the Prevention Activity that will be funded. 3. The Juvenile Justice Specialist develops a Request For Proposals (RFP) that is approved by the JJAG. Private, Non-Profit, and State agencies are eligible to apply for Formula Block Grant Activities. 4. The RFP is advertised. The Criminal Justice Council also sends a copy of the RFP to the mailing list it maintains of people and agencies involved in juvenile justice related activities and announces it on its social media. 5. Interested parties submit Concept Papers that outline their proposal. The Concept Paper includes a budget, goals, and objectives. All completed proposals are returned to the CJC. 6. The Criminal Justice Council's Deputy Director, Accountant, Programmatic Monitor, and Juvenile Justice Specialist

individually review the Concept Papers, and the Concept Papers are scored. 7. Criminal Justice Council Staff meets to discuss the Concept Papers and draft Staff Recommendations for the JJAG. 8. The Juvenile Justice Specialist provides the staff recommendations and copies of the Concept Papers to the JJAG for review prior to the next meeting. 9. At the meeting, the JJAG approves or modifies the staff recommendations, and the programs are then awarded accordingly. 10. The Juvenile Justice Specialist presents the Committee recommendations to the Criminal Justice Council Board for review and approval. The programs are then awarded accordingly. 11. The JJAG will have the ability to review progress and accomplishment of programs funded under the Title II Award. 12. The JJAG annually provides recommendations to Governor and the Criminal Justice Council regarding OJJDP Act compliance with the composition of the JJAG and the Core Requirements of the legislation. 13. Meetings and trainings will be scheduled and held to provide SAG members with the opportunity to review, evaluate, and discuss issues related to the juvenile justice system. 14. The JJAG will identify opportunities and seek regular input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system. 15. Annual plans and plan updates will be discussed and approved by the JJAG. 16. All subgrants will be selected and approved by the JJAG. 17. Issues pertaining to Racial & Ethnic Disparities will be discussed and reviewed by the JJAG. 18. An annual report to the Governor and the Legislature will be developed and disseminated by the JJAG. 19. JJAG members will continue to participate in national conferences and trainings and attend the National Coalition for Juvenile Justice Meetings.

#### PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (21/19)– R/ED/Compliance Monitoring

1. Facilitate progress and initial implementation phase of the R/ED assessment. 2. Continue to work with the JJAG by providing updated available data on all relative issues. 3. Coordinate with

the Juvenile Justice Specialist an outline of what the assessment will focus on. 4.Provide staff support to the JJAG as well as the R/ED Subcommittee. 5. Continue to monitor the universe annually to ensure maintained compliance with the JJDP Act

#### PROGRAM AREA - CODE AND TITLE (6) Delinquency Prevention

1. The JJAG reviews data from the State of Delaware's Three-Year Plan and Plan Updates. This data is used to develop a problem statement that will be addressed through the appropriate prevention program(s). 2. Based on the available data, the JJAG approves the Prevention Activity that will be funded. 3. The Juvenile Justice Specialist develops a Request For Proposals (RFP) that is approved by the JJAG. Private, Non-Profit, and State agencies are eligible to apply for Formula Block Grant Activities. 4. The RFP is advertised. The Criminal Justice Council also sends a copy of the RFP to the mailing list it maintains of people and agencies involved in juvenile justice related activities and announces it on its social media. 5. Interested parties submit Concept Papers that outline their proposals. The Concept Paper includes a budget, goals, and objectives. All completed proposals are returned to the CJC. 6. The Criminal Justice Council's Deputy Director, Accountant, Programmatic Monitor, and Juvenile Justice Specialist individually review the Concept Papers, and the Concept Papers are scored. 7. Criminal Justice Council Staff meets to discuss the Concept Papers and draft Staff Recommendations for the JJAG. 8. The Juvenile Justice Specialist provides the staff recommendations and copies of the Concept Papers to the JJAG for review prior to the next meeting. 9. At the meeting, the JJAG approves or modifies the staff recommendations, and the programs are then awarded accordingly. 10. The Juvenile Justice Specialist presents the Committee recommendations to the Criminal Justice Council Board for review and approval. The programs are then awarded accordingly.

JJD	P Funds	State/Local Matc	h Fund	S		
FY 21	\$605,937	FY 21		\$60	),594	
FY 22	\$485,607	FY 22		\$48	3,561	
FY 23	\$480,656	FY 23		\$48	8.066	
TOTAL:	\$1,572,200	TOTAL:		\$15	7,221	
	Planning & Adm	inistration Program - \$40,0	00.00			
Applicant	Title	Descriptio	on	Year	Amount	
Criminal Justice Council	Planning & Administration	The goal is maintain full compliance with the JJDPA and receive 100% of federal JJ Funds 10% of Total Award		On-Going	~\$40,000.00	
TOTAL:					\$40,000.00	
	State Advisory	Group Allocation - \$20,00	0.00			
Applicant	Title	Description		Year	Amount	
Criminal Justice Council	SAG Allocation	To maintain the SAG funct	ions	On-Going	\$20,000	
TOTAL:					\$20,000	
		Disparities Program - \$70	,000.00			
Applicant	Title	Description		Year	Amount	
Criminal Justice Council	RED Coordinator/Compliance Monitor	Goal: compliance with the J and receive 100% of federa Funds	IJDPA 1 JJ	On-Going	\$70,000	
TOTAL:					\$70,000	
JJDP Passthru Fu	inds			State/Local	Funds	
FY 21	\$455,340	FY 21			\$0	
FY 22	\$347,046	FY 22			\$0	
FY 23	\$342,590	FY 23			\$0	
TOTAL:	\$1,144,976	TOTAL:	TOTAL: \$0			

## **Requirements & Assurances**

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a), the Delaware state plan is informed by the latest scientific data and research-informed approached to adolescent development and behavior and regarding the effects of juvenile prevention programs and juvenile justice interventions through the promotion of evidence-based programming throughout our juvenile justice service

system. This includes placing a scoring emphasis on programs that utilize evidence-based approaches during the competitive bid process.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a) (1), The Criminal Justice Council is the designated state agency responsible for preparation and administration of the 3-year plan. The Executive Office of the Governor / Delaware Criminal Justice Council is the sole agency for supervising the preparation and administration of the plan. The Delaware Criminal Justice Council (CJC) was created within the Executive Branch of Government under Title 11, Chapter 87, 8701 of the Delaware Code. CJC was created by statute in 1984 to implement policies for improving the criminal justice system. The CJC is the State Administrative Agency (SAA) for DE. As the SAA the CJC also administers other USDOJ grants such as Byrne JAG, SCA, and VOCA. As the SAA for Delaware, the CJC has the authority, designated by the Governor of Delaware to submit a plan for carrying out its purposes applicable to a 3-year period and subsequent annual amendment to programs or activities outlined in the original plan.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(2), The designation of the CJC as the agency responsible for the 3-year plan was established per Executive Order 11 signed by Governor John C. Carney on July 12th, 2017.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(3B), Delaware affirms that the SAG shall participate in the development and review of the state's juvenile justice plan prior to submission to the supervisory board for final action.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(3C) Delaware affirms the SAG shall be afforded the opportunity to review and comment, not later than 45 days after their submission to the advisory group, on all juvenile justice and delinquency prevention grant applications submitted to the state agency designated under paragraph (1).

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(3D) Delaware affirms it has met the requirement that the SAG advise the state agency designated under paragraph (1) and its supervisory board.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(3D)(ii) Delaware affirms that recommendations regarding compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13) are submitted to the chief executive officer and the legislature of the state annually. Please see Recommendations in Appendix B.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(3D)(iii) Delaware affirms that contact and regular input is sought from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the JJ system. DSCYF-DYRS maintains statutory authority over all juvenile detention and juvenile correctional facilities. The Secretary of DSCYF serves on the SAG and provides regular opportunities for SAG members to meet with juveniles who are currently under their jurisdiction to gather input.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(4) Delaware provides for the active consultation with and participation of units of local government or combinations thereof in the development of the state plan which takes into account the needs and requests of units of local government. Delaware JJAG & JJAG Subcommittees meet quarterly throughout the year, providing opportunities for communication between the state agency, units of local government, and other local justice stakeholders who represent various agencies throughout the state. DE CJC also conducts annual public hearings in each county. This structure gives localities an opportunity to give input into the state plan and juvenile justice priorities.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(6) Delaware provides for an equitable distribution of the assistance received within the state, including in rural areas. This occurs through the creation of the state regional youth justice teams (JJAG & JJAG Subcommittees) that

help inform local entities as well as the state about challenges and needs throughout the state. This information, in conjunction with youth crime analysis data, helps inform the funding decisions made.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(i) DSCYF provides gender specific programming for juveniles receiving treatment in its facilities. All of DSCYF-DYRS services are gender informed, responsive, and aware. However, in alignment with evidence-based approaches, few are gender-specific. DSCYF-DYRS utilizes a risk and responsivity assessment tool called the YASI (Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument) that weighs gender as a variable. Each youth ordered to the Division for probation supervision receives a YASI between adjudication and sentencing to assist the court in determining level of supervision and court ordered conditions. Youth receive an updated YASIs every 4 months thereafter on supervision. All community-based programming for probation/aftercare (Parole) clients are gender responsive and aware. However, they are not specific to just females. VisionQuest provides statewide services in all areas of the state, they provide the below services, one of which is gender specific. These include Pre-Trial Case Management; Accountability; Community Service; Girls Self Esteem; Guided Recreation; Street Smarts; Casey Life Skills; Cognitive Behavior Self-Counseling (CBS); Functional Family Therapy (FFT); Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART); and Sanctuary. Grace Cottage is a Level 4 (Staff Secure) Residential Program - one of three Cottages aligned to the Residential Cottages. The Grace Cottage housing unit houses only female residents, however the female residents attend school and programming with the male residents of the other two Cottages aligned to the Residential Cottages - Snowden and Mowlds Cottages. The following evidence-based services are offered at the Cottages – all of which are gender responsive, not solely gender specific: ART, T4C - Thinking for a Change, Seven Challenges -

Drug and Alcohol treatment, and Yoga. DSCYF-DPBH provides an array of prevention services throughout the state including: Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program (PSSF), Delaware Fatherhood and Family Coalition (DFFC), Helping Hands (previously FACET),, Intensive Family Consultation (IFC), Separating and Divorcing Parent Education Program (SDPE), Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG), AND THE Youth Response Unit (YRU; City of Wilmington) and Trauma Response Program (TRY). Early intervention services include the K-5 program (school districts statewide), Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants (in early learning centers) and Behavioral Health Consultants (in middle schools). DPBH also provides behavioral health treatment services including crisis related services (mobile response, crisis bed, inpatient and partial psychiatric care), residential treatment and an array of community-based treatment services including mobile outpatient treatment, therapeutic support for families, and specialized evidence-based practices (e.g. MST, FFT, Family Based, DBT). Please see the following link for more information on each service: https://kids.delaware.gov/prevention-and-behavioral-health-services/services/

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(ii) DSCYF provides gender responsive programming for juveniles receiving treatment in its facilities. There are not many girls in DYRS, and integration is the best practice. DYRS used to implement gender specific practices but ceased when evidence-based programming developed, and these gender specific programs were not evidence-based. The current evidence-based programs are gender neutral, and gender informed. The State of Delaware plans to continue providing the previously described gender-responsive services for prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. Any additional programs funded by Title II will also be gender responsive, informed, aware, and/or gender specific.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(iii) DSCYF provides programming for juveniles statewide. The JJAG also coordinates across agencies to ensure rural areas in the state receive adequate services. Community based programming is statewide: the largest provider is VisionQuest who offers umbrella programming and marries programming that would fit their needs. The programs previously listed serve youth statewide, including Delaware's rural areas and will continue to do so. DSCYF-DPBH funding takes into account the lack of resources in rural areas when determining funding allocations, as does the JJAG when determining Title II Program funding allocations.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv) Delaware facilities that process juveniles are physically monitored annually and provided desk monitoring at least once annually to reinforce state policy regarding the processing of status offenders. Delaware codified the statewide Juvenile Civil Citation Program which provides an alternative to detention for status offenders. In addition, Delaware has featured a Competency Court and Youth Wellness Court calendar which is available in the adult and juvenile court system. The calendar resides in the Family Court for juveniles. DSCYF has jurisdiction over the entire child welfare service delivery system, including youth detention for youth awaiting adjudication and adjudicated youth. The Department's comprehensive case management system is utilized to provide services in the least restrictive, but most appropriate manner based on a series of assessment tools. Survivors of child trafficking receive advocates from the court and temporary placements can be made with approved foster care providers if is discovered that the youth was exploited by their parent(s).

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(v) Delaware approaches the reduction of the number of children housed in secure detention facilities who are awaiting placement in

residential treatment through a multipronged approach. One approach involves a concerted effort of the juvenile's case management team to identify all options available to place juveniles in the most appropriate, but least restrictive setting. Another approach is to regularly identify new residential treatment providers to ensure the ability to make immediate referrals when appropriate. This process has been successful during the previous 6 years as youth held securely for treatment within the Ferris School has had a decreasing annual census. Delaware will continue its current efforts to maintain the utilization of this approach.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(vi) By policy, parents and/or guardians are included in the person-centered treatment planning of all youth engaged in Delaware's child welfare service system. The person-centered plans require the engagement of the parent and/or legal guardian in the delivery of juvenile delinquency prevention and treatment service delivery for youth identified to be at risk of justice system involvement through post-placement treatment services. As DSCYF views the person-centered treatment planning process critical for all youth in their service system, they do not place an emphasis on the engagement of the parents or legal guardians of the youth in any area of service over another. Parents or legal guardians are engaged from the beginning of service delivery until a youth is no longer in their service system. This includes a period of time post-placement after a youth has returned home from residential treatment as well. Delaware will continue to utilize this approach.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(vii) DSCYF has jurisdiction over the entire child welfare service delivery system, including the management and referral of community-based services to respond to the needs of at-risk youth. The Department's comprehensive case management system is utilized to provide services in the least restrictive, but most appropriate manner based on a series of assessment tools. The youth's case management

team uses the list of available community providers and resource centers to shape the personcentered treatment plan.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(viii) The Delaware state plan is informed by the latest scientific data and research-informed approaches to adolescent development and behavior and regarding the effects of juvenile prevention programs and juvenile justice interventions through the promotion of evidence-based programming throughout the juvenile justice service system. This includes placing a scoring emphasis on programs that utilize evidence-based approaches during the competitive bid process. Further, in 2012 Delaware utilized federal Community Mental Health Block Grant (CHMBG) and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT) funds to transform juvenile behavioral health services for juveniles. A substantial part of the system transformational efforts involved behavioral health parity and the requirement that trauma-informed care be included in all personcentered treatment planning efforts from juveniles to adults that are being served by the state public service system.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(ix)(II)(a)(b) <u>Delaware House Bill 211</u> was signed into law on September 6, 2016. It eliminates the use of shackling of pregnant juveniles. It also limits the use of shackles and other physical restraints on children appearing in juvenile delinquency proceedings, except in situations where the court determines that the use of restraints is necessary and there are no less restrictive alternatives that will prevent flight or physical harm to the child or other courtroom participants.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(8) All Title II funded programs undergo a process in which a review panel reviews each application. Those programs utilizing evidence-based and promising juvenile delinquency approaches are prioritized for funding. The review

panel consists of CJC staff and juvenile justice agency stakeholders who are familiar with juvenile justice research and practice. The JJAG also meets to discuss coordination of Juvenile Justice efforts throughout the state.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(10) Delaware has developed an adequate research, training, and evaluation capacity within the state through the Criminal Justice Council and the Statistical Analysis Center (and CJC past partnerships with the University of Delaware and Delaware State University) which is dedicated to providing high quality data, research and evaluation services to an array of entities including federal, state and local governments. In addition, the SAG has supported an evaluation of a state-funded juvenile diversion program; this evaluation has yielded useful information leading to improvements in the operations of diversion programs, including training for staff involved in those programs.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(11)(A)(B) Delaware complies with this core requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 5-7 of the information submitted in the compliance tool. However, in recent years, Delaware has been out of compliance and has been taking additional steps to regain compliance.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(12)(A)(B) Delaware complies with this core requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 5-7 of the information submitted in the compliance tool.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(13) Delaware complies with this core requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 7-9 of the information submitted in the compliance tool.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(14) Delaware complies with this requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 11-15 of the information submitted

in the compliance tool.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(16) Delaware provides assurance that youth in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably on the basis of gender, race, family income, disability.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(17) Delaware provides assurance that consideration will be given to, and that assistance will be available for, approaches designed to strengthen the families of delinquent and other youth to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(18) All state agencies serving juveniles in Delaware have policies and procedures in place to protect the rights of the recipients' privacy.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(19)(A)(B)(C) Delaware affirms that any assistance provided under this Act will not cause the displacement (including a partial displacement, such as a reduction in the hours of non-overtime work, wages, or employment benefits) of any currently employed employee; activities assisted under this Act will not impair an existing collective bargaining relationship, contract for services, or collective bargaining agreement; and no such activity that would be inconsistent with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement shall be undertaken without the written concurrence of the labor organization involved.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(20) Delaware has strong internal fiscal controls and fund accounting procedures necessary to ensure prudent use, proper disbursement, and accurate accounting of funds received under this title. The Financial Management and Internal Controls questionnaire has been completed and signed by the Financial Point of Contact and is attached.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(21) Delaware assures that federal funds made available under this part will be used to supplement and increase (but not supplant) the level of the state, local, and other nonfederal funds that would be used in the absence of such federal funds made available for these programs, and will in no event replace such state, local, and other nonfederal funds.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(22)(A)(B) All Title II funded programs undergo a process in which a review panel evaluates each application. Those programs utilizing evidence-based and promising juvenile delinquency approaches are prioritized for funding. The review panel consists of CJC staff and juvenile justice agency stakeholders who are familiar with juvenile justice research and practice. The CJC monitors awarded subgrantees quarterly and maintains consistent communication to ensure the progress and effectiveness of the programs. The Juvenile Justice Specialist and JJAG review the 3-year plan annually to ensure the state needs are being met, the grant funded activities are effective, and plans for necessary modifications. Delaware affirms that funds will not be provided to carry out a program if the recipient of funds has failed during the preceding 2-year period to demonstrate, before the expiration of the 2-year period, that the program achieved substantial success in achieving the specified goals. Programs submit quarterly progress reports. When subaward applications are reviewed, prior program performance is considered as one of the factors for funding.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(23)(A)(B)(C)(D) Delaware complies with this requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 11-12 of the information submitted in the compliance tool.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(24) Delaware affirms that if the state

receives an amount that exceeds 105 percent of the amount received under this section in FY 2000, all such excess would be expended through or for programs as part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services. Delaware has compared the amount received in FY 2000 (\$670,000) with the amount to be received in FY 2022 (\$485,607), and the FY 2022 amount does not exceed 105 percent of the FY 2000 amount.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(25) Delaware does not plan to reserve funds to provide incentive grants to units of general local government that reduce the caseload of probation officers within such units.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(26)(A)(B) Delaware affirms that, to the maximum extent practicable, a system has been implemented to ensure that if a juvenile is before a court in the juvenile justice system, public child welfare records (including child protective services records) relating to that juvenile that are on file in the geographical area under the jurisdiction of such court will be made known to such court. FOCUS and DELJIS are statewide data systems for Child Welfare, DYRS and the Courts; these databases streamline record keeping and service delivery through software in all of Delaware's counties, regions, and facilities. Local detention staff are able to query the database and determine whether the juvenile or the family is involved in a child welfare case and provide relevant information to the court for establishing a pre-trial release and treatment plan. A second database (DELJIS) which contains all court records is housed in the Judicial Department and is accessible to all judges, magistrates and probation offices. Delaware plans to continue to utilize and coordinate this data to ensure the necessary services for the treatment of victims of child abuse or neglect.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(27) Delaware assures that juvenile offenders whose placement is funded through section 472 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 672)

receive the protections specified in section 471 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 671), including a case plan and case plan review as defined in section 475 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 675).

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(28) The CJC and JJAG coordinate across agencies to leverage existing resources in order to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of funds. The JJAG approves all Title II funding after review and discussion.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(29) The Division has established policies on Use of Force and Behavior Management. Attached is the Use of Force policy – it uses the Handle with Care model/restraint technique. All staff are initially trained upon hire and then recertified every year. Training - Staff complete a two-week academy followed by an intensive field training program that requires test out before the employee can work on the floor with youth. Cognitive Behavior Training- the Division uses CBT as the behavior modification model in all of our facilities – the Division worked with David Roush to implement Dr. Aaron Beck's model. Isolation – attached is the room confinement policy for Stevenson House, the other facilities have a similar policy. Per ACA (American Correctional Association) standard, a youth cannot stay behind the door more than 5 days without administrative intervention.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(30)(A)(i)(ii)(iii)(B) All youth under DSCYF care management receive a comprehensive assessment that informs their care management and helps shape their care and helps the care management team identify the most appropriate resources to meet the needs of the individual. That plan includes screening for mental health (MH), substance use (SUD), or co-occurring disorders (COD). This is administered to all youth irrespective of the service delivery system within the Department. That information is maintained in Department-wide care management and information system known as FOCUS. FOCUS allows a care manager to view a comprehensive set of services offered to a youth from

any division within DSCYF's service system. A juvenile determined to be in need based upon the initial assessment, or a juvenile that returns to the DSCYF's system of care, is immediately linked to the appropriate MH, SUD, or COD services.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(31)(A)(i)(ii)(iii)(B) Delaware utilizes the Modified Positive Achievement Change Tool Assessment (YASI). Every youth receives this risk and needs assessment upon entrance into the division and every 4 months thereafter. This tool assists the probation and facility staff in developing case plans to meet the needs and reduce the risk of the youth. This tool is evidence based and based on Delaware assessment data. DSCYF/DYRS' case plan and re-entry planning policies are attached. All youth on probation and in a facility receive a case plan. For youth in a facility – re-entry planning starts at entry. All youth have an intake meeting, monthly treatment team meeting and a re-entry/aftercare meeting to ensure the aftercare plan is appropriate.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(32)(A)(B)(C) There is an MOU between the State Education Association, DSCYF, and the school districts that establishes the credit transfer process. DSCYF is considered a credit awarding agency (a school district), therefore credits may be obtained while the juvenile is in the secure treatment facility (Ferris). The MOU details the timeline and responsibilities for each step in the transfer process and all are to be completed in a timely manner. Transition planning begins 30-45 days before the juvenile's date of discharge. DSCYF provides the youth's educational documentation to the schools/districts a week prior to this meeting. Records are transferred a week prior to youth leaving secure care. Please see the attached MOU for details.

Pursuant to SEC. 223. 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(33)(A)(B) DSCYF, in conjunction with the State Office of the Child Advocate, screens for; identifies; and documents in records of the state

the identification of victims of domestic human trafficking, or those at risk of such trafficking upon intake and those youth are diverted to appropriate programs or services to the extent applicable. Those services include but are not limited to the alternative placement with family members, foster care placement if the child has been found to have been a victim of abuse, neglect or dependency, or assistance in the location and/or reunification with family members. Some youth over the age of 16 may receive assistance in securing housing accommodation via the State Rental Assistance Program if an exhaustive search for next of kin has been completed and if the youth demonstrate a capacity to live independently.

## Plan for State Advisory Group Membership

There are currently 30 members on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. Currently, the JJAG is comprised of fifteen (14) full-time governmental employees (47%), sixteen (16) public members (53%), and eight (8) youth members (27%). The SAG is an advisory board with the supervisory entity being the Criminal Justice Council. The Council is comprised of 30 members of the criminal justice community and the public. Several of the members of the JJAG are also members of the Criminal Justice Council. (3) of the JJAG members were previously under jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system. The Criminal Justice Council staff will maintain a file with (3) additional applicants under the age of 28 to participate on the JJAG in the event of tragedy or resignation by any of the existing JJAG youth members. Please see Appendix C for the JJAG roster and legend.

## Appendix A: Crime Charts

MALE Ju	MALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Homicide	2	2	0	1	4	4	3				
Rape	17	10	11	7	7	8	8				
Forcible Sodomy	6	1	2	2	0	3	6				
Forcible Fondling	27	26	20	14	19	8	24				
Robbery	70	83	105	83	63	54	62				
Aggravated Assault	134	135	158	85	95	93	132				
Total Part I Violent	257	258	297	194	189	170	235				

## PART 1 ARRESTS: INCLUSIVE OF ALL VIOLENT SEX OFFENSES

MALE Ju	MALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Homicide	2	2	0	1	4	4	3				
Rape	24	12	14	11	8	8	8				
Forcible Sodomy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	6				
Forcible Fondling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8	24				
Robbery	70	83	105	83	63	54	62				
Aggravated Assault	134	135	158	85	95	93	132				

Total Part I Violent	230	232	277	180	170	170	235
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### PART 1 ARRESTS: INCLUSIVE OF ALL VIOLENT SEX OFFENSES

FEMALE .	FEMALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Homicide	0	0	0	1	1	0	0				
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Forcible Sodomy	0	2	0	0	0	0	0				
Forcible Fondling	2	1	0	2	0	0	4				
Robbery	11	4	6	10	20	5	6				
Aggravated Assault	47	67	42	28	44	56	70				
Total Part I Violent	58	74	48	41	65	61	80				

FEMALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023			
Homicide	0	0	0	1	1	0	0			
Rape	0	2	0	0	0	0	0			
Forcible Sodomy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0			
Forcible Fondling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	4			
Robbery	11	4	6	10	20	5	6			

Aggravated Assault	47	67	42	28	44	56	70
Total Part I Violent	58	73	48	39	65	61	80

## PART 1 ARRESTS: INCLUSIVE OF ALL VIOLENT SEX OFFENSES

BLACK J	BLACK Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Homicide	2	2	0	1	5	4	3				
Rape	8	6	5	3	1	6	5				
Forcible Sodomy	2	1	0	2	0	2	2				
Forcible Fondling	12	16	11	13	12	3	15				
Robbery	66	76	90	79	74	48	62				
Aggravated Assault	126	138	131	80	104	109	146				
Total Part I Violent	217	240	238	179	196	172	233				

BLACK Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023									
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
Homicide	2	2	0	1	5	4	3		
Rape	8	6	5	3	1	6	5		
Forcible Sodomy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	2		

Forcible Fondling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	15
Robbery	66	76	90	79	74	48	62
Aggravated Assault	126	138	131	80	104	109	146
Total Part I Violent	216	215	266	165	158	172	233

## PART 1 ARRESTS: INCLUSIVE OF ALL VIOLENT SEX OFFENSES

WHITE J	WHITE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	0				
Rape	9	4	6	4	6	2	3				
Forcible Sodomy	4	1	2	0	0	1	4				
Forcible Fondling	16	10	9	3	5	5	12				
Robbery	15	11	21	13	9	11	6				
Aggravated Assault	54	63	66	33	34	38	53				
Total Part I Violent	98	89	104	55	55	57	78				

BLACK Juvenile Arrests for Part I Violent Crimes, 2017 to 2023									
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Rape 9 4 6 4 6 2 3									

Forcible Sodomy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	4
Forcible Fondling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	12
Robbery	15	11	21	13	9	11	6
Aggravated Assault	54	63	66	33	34	38	53
Total Part I Violent	78	78	93	52	50	57	78

MALE J	MALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Burglary	132	118	131	128	66	77	124				
Larceny Theft	305	230	228	132	85	119	207				
Vehicle Theft	34	37	65	53	44	58	103				
Arson	18	2	7	7	4	5	5				
Total Part I Property	489	387	431	320	199	259	439				

FEMALE	FEMALE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes, 2017 to 2023										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023				
Burglary	14	14	15	13	12	6	3				
Larceny Theft	168	140	107	56	33	36	93				
Vehicle Theft	0	4	10	6	13	3	13				
Arson	0	0	0	0	2	0	0				

Total Part I Property 182	158	132	75	60	45	109
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BLACK J	BLACK Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes, 2017 to 2023						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burglary	71	94	89	80	42	49	74
Larceny Theft	306	235	227	137	81	78	195
Vehicle Theft	21	32	67	53	48	49	93
Arson	6	2	4	6	3	3	1
Total Part I Property	404	363	387	276	174	179	363

WHITE J	WHITE Juvenile Arrests for Part I Property Crimes, 2017 to 2023						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burglary	75	38	55	61	36	34	53
Larceny Theft	162	133	106	48	37	75	100
Vehicle Theft	13	9	8	6	8	12	23
Arson	12	0	3	1	3	2	4
Total Part I Property	262	180	172	116	84	123	180

## PART 2 ARRESTS: EXCLUDES ALL PART 1 VIOLENT SEX OFFENSES

J	uvenile Ar	rests for S	Selected P	art II Offe	nses, 2017	to 2023	
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

Other Assaults	912	792	839	468	476	612	714
Other Sexual Offenses	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Weapon Law Violations	81	83	60	56	68	92	77
Drugs Offenses	351	288	266	102	119	156	119
Driving Under Influence	0	0	2	2	0	1	1
Criminal Mischief	155	114	140	127	70	122	134
Total Part II Offenses	1,500	1,278	1,307	755	733	984	1046

Ju	uvenile Ar	rests for S	Selected P	art II Offe	nses, 2017	7 to 2023	
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Other Assaults	912	792	839	468	476	612	714
Other Sexual Offenses	30	28	20	16	19	1	1
Weapon Law Violations	81	83	60	56	68	92	77
Drugs Offenses	351	288	266	102	119	156	119

Driving Under Influence	0	0	2	2	0	1	1
Criminal Mischief	155	114	140	127	70	122	134
Total Part II Offenses	1,529	1,305	1,327	771	752	984	1,046

### Appendix B: JJAG Recommendations

## JJAG Recommendations

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group proposes the following recommendations to guide Juvenile Justice planning activities and resources throughout the state:

- The JJAG will review, discuss, and vote on legislation related to juvenile justice and lend support to bills that are consistent with the JJAG's goals. The JJAG Bail & Legislation Subcommittee will be the first to review, discuss, and vote on the bills. They will then present to the full JJAG who will review, discuss, and vote on the bills. The JJAG will subsequently provide its final recommendations to the CJC Legislative Committee and the Criminal Justice Council.
- 2. The JJAG understands the importance of Juvenile Diversion and supports the expansion of diversionary opportunities. The JJAG recommends expanding and raising awareness of pre-arrest diversion, specifically Civil Citation.
- 3. The JJAG recommends investing in prevention-based services for youth. Members of the JJAG and its Subcommittees will work to identify areas of need and under-served populations who could benefit from an infusion of prevention-based programming. When appropriate and available, the JJAG recommends dedicating financial resources to meet the preventative needs of the community.
- 4. The JJAG recommends studying available data on school drop-out rates, incidents of youth violence, and poverty to determine areas of need, types of resources needed, and where to target resources in order to combat juvenile delinquency and promote heathy communities statewide.
- 5. The JJAG recognizes that a small number of high-risk repeat juvenile offenders perpetuate the majority of juvenile violent crime. Therefore, the JJAG recommends

directing appropriate resources to this population to treat and prevent further violence effectively and efficiently.

- 6. The JJAG recognizes the dangers gang involvement poses to youth who are at risk of juvenile justice involvement, as well as to youth who are reentering the community after system involvement. The JJAG recommends researching and implementing effective, evidence-based gang awareness, prevention, and extraction programs. The JJAG also recommends exploring mentoring options, especially for reentering youth who need a continued, consistent, supportive relationship and role model.
- 7. The JJAG recognizes re-entry services and coordination are essential for a youth's successful return to the community after exiting secure detention. The JJAG recommends continuing efforts to analyze and improve community and home-based support services, as well as cross-agency collaboration and communication to ensure a seamless transition. The JJAG recommends committing state and federal resources, where applicable and available, to meet the needs of the DSCYF.
- 8. The JJAG recognizes the importance of leveraging existing resources and efforts at every stage of the Juvenile Justice System. The JJAG recommends inventorying existing resources, facilitating coordination between agencies, increasing awareness of resources to the general public, and creating a centralized, easily accessible location for this information.
- 9. The JJAG recommends exploring new evidence-based practices, while also enhancing and expanding existing evidence-based practices, to facilitate sustainable positive change and success for youth and their families. The JJAG recommends allocating state and local resources, when applicable and appropriate, to fund evidence-based programs designed to strengthen families as a means to limit youth involvement in the juvenile justice system.
- 10. The JJAG understands that improving youth outcomes involves youth service agencies outside of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems. Therefore, the JJAG recommends supporting the youth continuum of care through available state and federal resources.
- 11. JJAG recognizes that youth of color have disproportionate contact with the juvenile justice system. As a result, JJAG's R/ED Subcommittee recommends examining the role of adverse childhood experiences and resilience assessments within programs designed to assist youth in the juvenile justice system. JJAG recommends identifying state and federal resources to help individually tailor services and supports for youth of color who experience disproportionate juvenile justice contact.

- 12. In order to regain compliance with the Jail Removal requirement of the JJDPA, improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and to better serve youth in the system (or at risk of entering the system), the JJAG recommends the following:
  - a. Explore establishing a Juvenile Processing Center where law enforcement may take youth who have been arrested while law enforcement investigates and awaits arraignments. Placement in a youth specific facility is in the best interest of the youth and public safety.
  - b. Implement an electronic Statewide Compliance Reporting System to be used by all reporting agencies. This will standardize data collection, decrease the amount of time the reporting agencies and CJC staff allocate to collecting and aggregating data, improve response time to potential violations, and ensure accurate data collection to fulfill federal requirements.
  - c. Expand the use of Civil Citation by creating a DELJIS prompt to remind law enforcement of its availability for eligible offenders.
  - d. Expand the us of Civil Citation by continuing to train and educate officers on the program. As departments hire new officers, or experience staff turnover, it is important to ensure training is provided.
  - e. Expand the use of Civil Citation by making it mandatory for law enforcement to offer it to eligible youth for specific offenses (pending the consent of the victim and voluntary participation of the youth cited).
  - f. The JJAG recognizes that pre-trial detention decisions should be based on the risk of failure to appear and risk of new criminal activity, not on a family's or youth's financial ability to pay monetary bail. Pre-trial determinations should maximize liberty among youth who are entitled to the presumption of innocence, while also protecting public safety and ensuring effective court operation. Therefore, the JJAG recommends eliminating the use of monetary bail for youth and developing a robust pre-trial system in which individualized assessments are based on risk to determine if a youth should be detained or released with or without non-financial conditions.

# Appendix C: SAG Roster

Name	Email Address	Representation	Full-Time Government Status (Yes/No)		Initial Appointment Prior to Age 28 (Yes/No)		Date of Appointment (Optional)
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Hon. Kathy Jennings	Kathleen.Jennings@delaware.gov	A,B	Yes	•	No	•	
Hon. Kevin O'Connell	Kevin.Oconnell@delaware.gov	В	Yes	•	No	•	
Hon. David Jones	David.Jones@delaware.gov	В	Yes	•	No	•	
Sec. Steven Yeatman	Steven.Yeatman@delaware.gov	С, В	Yes	•	No	•	
Sec. Mark A. Holodick	mark.holodick@doe.k12.de.us	C, G, H	Yes	•	No	-	
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