



7TH ANNUAL EXCELLENCE IN JUVENILE DEFENSE CONFERENCE

April 25 & 26, 2019 | Ralph Carr Judicial Center | Denver, Colorado

DAY 1 AGENDA

8:30AM-9:00AM | REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00AM - 10:15AM | PLENARY | INTRODUCTION AND JUVENILE LAW UPDATE

Ryann Hardman

This session will cover new cases and changes in the law related to juveniles from April 2018 to April 2019. Attendees will learn about cases and changes in the law related to juveniles in the past year; how these decisions affect practice; and how these decisions can be helpful in advocating for clients.

10:15AM - 10:30AM | BREAK

10:30AM - 11:45AM | ROLE-SPECIFIC ETHICS SESSIONS

 **ROOM 1 A/B/C | ROLES AND ETHICS: DEFENSE TEAM**
Kevin Bishop, Matt Hardin, and David Nuss

Does leading a multidisciplinary team sometimes feel like you're one of five cats fighting its way out of a burlap sack? This session will touch on the ethical responsibilities and perceived obligations of different team members, shedding light on why you sometimes feel like you're leading a 3-ring circus. Learn how strong, mutually respectful leadership can be the key to successful outcomes for your client.

 **ROOM 1E | ROLES AND ETHICS: THE GUARDIAN AD LITEM**
Joe Anderson, Debbie Moguillansky, Justin Reed, and Chris Turner

This facilitated panel discussion will address common practice challenges GALs may face in complying with CJD 04-06 and the rules of professional conduct in delinquency cases. Topics to be addressed include assessment of plea agreements and competency within the role of the GAL as outlined in the CJD 04-06, working effectively with defense counsel and other professionals, confidentiality issues, and district-specific practices.

11:45AM - 1:00PM | LUNCH

1:00PM-2:15PM | BREAKOUTS (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

 **ROOM 1E | EDUCATION ISSUES AND SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT**
Elie Zwiebel

We know "educational advocacy" is directly related to a holistic and complete representation, yet the black box of what "educational advocacy" means and how to do it effectively often leads attorneys to relegating it to a "collateral" status. School discipline records, placement, and special education can directly impact the way a prosecutor or judge perceives our clients and craft offers or sentences. This session aims to increase insight into how to effectively advocate for your client's educational rights, where to obtain resources that can help you, and who is available in the community to support you. Topics covered will include school safety plans, tips for effective school discipline and special education advocacy based on participant comments and questions, resources available to assist with effective educational advocacy, highlights of the legal framework of Title 22, and discussion of collateral consequences and considerations.

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DAY 1 AGENDA CONTINUED

1:00PM-2:15PM | BREAKOUTS CONTINUED

 **ROOM 1 A/B/C | RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR KIDS: FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE COURTROOM**

Elizabeth Porter-Merrill and Mike Rafik

This session will address the use of restorative practices in schools and restorative justice in the juvenile justice system. In addition to discussing the school-to-prison pipeline and Colorado restorative justice law, the session will include a case study. Attendees will also have an opportunity to participate in a group conversation about potential restorative justice cases, benefits, and challenges.

 **ROOM 1D | USING DATA TO ADVANCE YOUR CASE**

Hannah Proff and Hollis Whitson

This presentation will provide an overview of the Colorado Murder Study, as well as provide litigators with a history of the process of how the data was collected and analyzed. This presentation will give you an overview of proportionality review in juvenile cases and will teach you how to use sentencing statistics and/or narrative case examples during mitigation discussions, transfer, and reverse-transfer hearings.

 **ROOM 1F | VIDEO DETENTION HEARINGS: WHERE DUE PROCESS IS NEITHER SEEN NOR HEARD**

Maralina Schoenfelder, Noreen Simpson, and Kara Smith

This session on contesting video appearances at detention hearings will cover the experiences and perspective of three juvenile defenders from different regions of the state; explore the logistical, due process, best interests and effective representation concerns with video detention hearings; and suggest methods, arguments, and approaches for fighting back.

2:15PM-2:30PM | BREAK

2:30PM-3:45PM | BREAKOUTS

 **ROOM 1F | DON'T LET THE PAST BE PROLOGUE: ATTACKING PRIORS IN JUVENILE DEFENSE**

Ann M. Roan

Too often, juvenile defenders neglect to incorporate an aggressive attack on a client's prior adjudications when defending a new case. This session will provide the legal basis and practical insights necessary to help participants understand how to keep a juvenile client's prior adjudications from being used against them. We will cover the investigation and litigation necessary to ensure that juvenile defenders fulfill their obligation to attack a client's priors.

 **ROOM 1D | FACILITY CLOSURES: STRATEGIC INTENDED AND UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES**

Heather Little, Barrie Newberger King, and Kelly Winters

This session, presented from a joint attorney/social worker perspective, will offer a review of how one closure is affecting youth day to day in juvenile proceedings, from detention hearings through sentencing advocacy. The session will also offer advice on how to gather DYS records when facilities are closed, as well as practice tips for incorporating facility closures into litigation and trial advocacy.



DAY 1 AGENDA CONTINUED

ROOM 1E | UNDERSTANDING ALL OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ADJUDICATION

Michael Juba

Why doesn't he just plead guilty – it doesn't even matter! How many times have we heard this when discussing a child's delinquency case? The session will explain all of the direct effects that come along with an adjudication. The presenters will also break down how adjudications can affect housing, school, and other "non-legal" areas of a child's life, how to advise children of these effects, and the length of these different consequences. The presenters will offer a go-to booklet to take home, which will provide an easy resource for all of this important information.

3:45PM-4:00 PM | BREAK

4:00PM -5:00PM | PLENARY | KEEPING THE FAITH: MAKING YOUR TEAM WORK WHEN THERE IS NO END IN SIGHT

Jeff Johnson, Claire Schmidt Polini, Nick VonFeldt, Evan Zuckerman, and Tally Zuckerman

This will be a panel discussion regarding the Jeffrey Johnson defense team and case. Mr. Johnson was sentenced to life without parole at 17-years-old after being tried as an adult. He and his defense team fought his case for nearly six years to have him released and he was finally released from prison in November of 2018 after almost 25 years of incarceration.

CJDC'S 2019 FUNDRAISER AND RECEPTION

5:00PM-7:00PM | ATRIUM OF COLORADO SUPREME COURT

CJDC is honored to celebrate 11 years of advocacy! Join us for an evening of heavy hors d'oeuvres, libations, and award presentation for the 2019 Juvenile Defender, Social Worker, Investigator, and Volunteer of the year! Single tickets available for \$30 at the door.



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DAY 2 AGENDA

**9:00AM - 10:15AM | PLENARY | THE INTERSECTION OF TRAUMA AND GANG
ACTIVITY: FINDING THE MITIGATING NARRATIVE IN YOUTH GANG
EXPERIENCE**

Jorja Leap

In this session, participants will explore the impact of trauma in youth gang involvement, understanding how gang involvement is often the result of traumatic experiences rather than a predilection toward criminal activity. The trauma that both leads to and results from gang engagement must be examined, and courts at every level must seek education from anthropology, psychology, psychiatry and neuroscience to examine gang related cases effectively and equitably. Participants will explore narratives and specific recommendations for the investigation necessary to support this assertion in court, and learn what kind of treatment and resources best help youth disentangle themselves from gang activity.

10:15AM - 10:30AM | BREAK

10:30AM - 11:45AM | BREAKOUTS (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



ROOM 1F | GRASP AND COLORADO-SPECIFIC GANG RESOURCES

Jason McBride

GRASP [Gang Rescue and Support Project] is a peer-run, intervention program that works with youth who are at-risk of gang involvement or are presently active in gangs, helps families of gang victims, and serve as a youth advocates. Participants will learn about the process of introducing youth to new opportunities and how GRASP's counseling services support long-term transition off the streets.



ROOM 1E | EFFECTIVE PLACEMENT ADVOCACY

Lydian Bowley, Mark Jensen, Diana Richett, Lindsey Sandoval, and Trevor Williams

This interactive session will cover legal arguments and practice tips for effective placement advocacy. Topics to be addressed include the adverse impact of detention on the health and well-being of youth, alternatives to detention, considerations when identifying appropriate and least restrictive placements, and strategies for bond modification. A brief overview and potential impact of the federal Family First Prevention Services Act and the expected Colorado Program Area 4 changes will be presented.



ROOM 1 A/B/C | BRIDGES: CONNECTING COLORADO'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

Jennifer Turner

Senate Bill 18-251, coined the "Bridges Program," was developed to connect Colorado's criminal justice and mental health systems. The legislation directs the placement of Court Liaisons across Colorado's 22 judicial districts. Court Liaisons will facilitate communication and collaboration between the two systems, supporting both juveniles and adults. Learn about the implementation of the program throughout Colorado, with its primary focus on "promoting positive outcomes for individuals living with mental health conditions and fostering collaboration so that all individuals are provided a fair chance of living a healthy and productive life."

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DAY 2 AGENDA CONTINUED

10:30AM - 11:45AM | BREAKOUTS CONTINUED



ROOM 1D | UNDERSTANDING TRANSGENDER & GENDER DIVERSE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE COURT SYSTEM

Sable Schultz

In this workshop participants will develop understanding and empathy for the experiences and challenges faced by gender diverse and transgender people, including conditions of confinement; a working knowledge of the various ways people in the gender diverse and transgender community identify relating to gender identity and expression; an increased comfort level in communicating with, and using language related to, the gender diverse and transgender community; and an understanding of available community resources to support and act as an advocate to gender diverse and transgender people seeking services.

11:45AM - 1:00PM | LUNCH

1:00PM -2:15PM | PLENARY | TRENDS IN MARIJUANA USE AMONG ADOLESCENT POPULATIONS AND THE EFFECT ON BRAIN AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

Jack Reed and Simone Viljoen Ph.D.

This session will present the data for rates of marijuana use among youth populations and will explore long-term biopsychosocial effects of marijuana use. Brain development reaches a critical point during adolescence, and marijuana interferes with physiological processes that are essential for normative development. Disruptions in these processes can lead to difficulties in cognitive, social, and mental health functioning. These impairments significantly increase the likelihood that these youth will become justice involved.

2:15PM-2:30PM | BREAK

2:30PM-3:45PM | PLENARY | IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH IN COLORADO'S JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Shanelle Johnson

Under the leadership of Governor Hickenlooper, Colorado partnered with the Council of State Governments [CSG] Justice Center and launched the Improving Outcomes for Youth [IOYouth] Initiative in May of 2018. Led by a bipartisan, interbranch, statewide taskforce, the CSG Justice Center conducted a data-driven assessment of the juvenile justice system, from the point a youth is referred to the system through a youth's reentry into the community. Through a PowerPoint presentation, this session will share key findings from CSG's assessment, with a focus on juvenile diversion, review best practices, and learn about the policies the state plans to adopt to align diversion policies, practices, and resources with what research shows works.

SAVE THE DATE

**8TH ANNUAL EXCELLENCE IN JUVENILE DEFENSE CONFERENCE
APRIL 23 & 24, 2020**

Save the date for next year's conference! Want to win FREE REGISTRATION for 2020? Make sure to submit your feedback survey in the first 48 hours for a chance to win!

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