

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Delinquency Disposition Report Use

(This is a template for informational purposes. All new MOUs must be submitted through OJD's Office of General Counsel for approval)

PARTIES

[County] Circuit Court
[County] Juvenile Department
[County] District Attorney's Office
Juvenile Defense Attorney

PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) affirms the mutual support between the Parties for use of the Delinquency Disposition Report (Disposition Report).

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- Use the Disposition Report in an efficient and collaborative way to provide outcomes for youth that are in their best interest
- Enhance public safety through use of the Disposition Report
- Utilize early administration of the Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) Risk Assessment tool to make appropriate recommendations and dispositional decisions for youth
- Complete assessments in a timely manner and share information through a clear consistent process
- Support current best practices for working with youth in the juvenile justice system by pairing risk assessments with risk-need-responsivity to tailor the interventions and supports
- Communicate as early as possible with all relevant parties
- To affirm that confidential information obtained from youth during risk assessments is meant for assessment purposes only and not for use in current or future adjudications

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All Parties:

- Will conduct themselves in a courteous and professional manner and communicate effectively to forward the goals of using the Disposition Report.

The Juvenile Court role includes:

- Presiding over hearings in the youth's case.
- Reviewing disposition information submitted by the parties.
- As appropriate, inquiring about the timing of JCP assessments.
- As appropriate, and at their discretion, reviewing JCP assessments.
- Ensuring disposition information is used appropriately, and confidentiality provisions are followed.

The District Attorney role includes:

- Ensuring that youth involved in the juvenile justice system are treated fairly, receive positive interventions and appropriate services to reduce recidivism, while also enhancing public safety, and protecting the rights of victims.
- Reviews the information generated from the JCP Risk assessment when evaluating appropriate negotiations and recommendations for disposition.

The Juvenile Department role includes:

- Evaluation and assessment of the risk and needs of a youth to allow for appropriate recommendations to the court for disposition, including resolution, interventions, and needed oversight.
- Conducting the assessment with the youth and preparing the Disposition Report for the court and parties.
- Communicating with the youth's attorney.

The Counsel for Youth role includes:

- Ensuring that the youth's rights are protected, to advise the youth of the status of the case and potential outcomes and zealously advocate on behalf of the youth.
- Working collaboratively with the juvenile department for youth who wish to participate in the JCP risk assessment interview.

The parties understand that this MOU is not legally binding on them but is designed to reflect an understanding of the way in which they can effectively cooperate to ensure that JCP Risk Assessments are administered in a timely fashion, and allow for disposition recommendations in the Disposition Report that support utilization of pairing risk assessments with risk-need-responsivity to tailor the intervention and supports to the specific youth. Nothing in the MOU restricts a party from exercising independent judgment or discretion given it under applicable statutes, regulations, or other sources.

All signatories will work together to modify the MOU as needed. Any party may terminate its participation in this MOU at any time.

Name of Organization:

Designee Name: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

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