

Kansas News

Legislative Updates

House Substitute for SB 179 creates and amends law to establish juvenile crisis intervention centers and establishes procedures for admission of juveniles to such centers. The bill also makes additional amendments to the Revised Kansas Code for Care of Children (CINC Code) and the Newborn Infant Protection Act (Act) within the CINC Code.

SB 179, Summary of Legislation [Click here](#)

HB 2454 amends various statutes related to juvenile offenders, governing detention hearings, probation term limits and overall case length limits ([contents from HB 2456](#)). HB 2454 also amends one of the statutory duties of the Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee ([contents from HB 2455](#)).

HB 2454, Summary of Legislation [Click here](#)

USD 457 Chosen for Mental Health Pilot Program

This month, Garden City Public Schools was one of six school districts in the state, and the only one in western Kansas, chosen to participate in a mental health pilot program that aims to expand students' access to care. The \$10 million program was approved along with the state's school finance bill earlier this month and has since led to a series of decisions from USD 457 and its partner in the program, Compass Behavioral Health, regarding what the program will look like in Garden City. [Read more](#)

Juvenile Arrests for Violent Crimes up in 2018

Teens in trouble. Wichita Police say they're seeing an increase in juveniles taking part in crimes. The latest example? Today officers believe these two teens are responsible for an armed robbery at the Family Dollar store at 21st and Oliver this afternoon. No one was injured. So what's being done to keep our children on the right path? [Read more and watch video](#)

2018 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training:

Salina	Wednesday	June 20 th
Topeka	Thursday	July 19 th
Times	9 am – 3:00 pm	

All intake workers, supervisors and anyone who approves intakes and placement decisions must be trained in administering the KDAI. These trainings are reserved for intake workers and supervisors. For more information on KDAI training or to register contact Crystal Trout at crystal.trout@ks.gov

Effective Practices in Correctional Settings II (EPICS II):

Location – Garden City, KS			
Date	Wednesday	June 6	8 am – 5 pm
Date	Thursday	June 7	8 am – 5 pm
To Enroll	Registrations are handled by the 4 Regional Trainers		

Graduated Responses as an Evidenced Based Practice:

Location – Topeka Correctional Facility, 815 Rice Rd, Topeka			
Date	Tuesday	July 17	9 am – 5 pm
To Enroll	Registrations are handled by the 4 Regional Trainers		

Community Legal Issues:

KDOC-JS Attorney Jeff Cowger will provide an overview on Legal Issues in Juvenile Justice in Kansas for Juvenile Community Corrections and Intake and Assessment staff. The class is primarily for newer staff but is open to staff wanting a refresher.

Thursday	July 19, 2018	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
KBI Laboratory Auditorium; 2001 SW Washburn, Topeka, KS		

[To register click here](#)

Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ)

KJCC - The Mental Health Training Curriculum – Juvenile Justice (MHTC-JJ) will be available for new employees from Judicial Districts to attend at Kansas Juvenile Correction Complex as a part of their new employee orientation.

To inquire about upcoming trainings or if you have questions please contact Lt. Johnathon Ashley at johnathon.ashley@ks.gov or 785-354-9820. KJCC will have MHTC-JJ training as a part of their basic training for new employees approximately every four weeks and it will take place on Thursdays.

Sedgwick County DOC has MHTC-JJ training scheduled for Tuesday, September 18th from 8 am – 5 pm. For more information or to register contact doctraining@sedgwick.gov.

Johnson County DOC does not have MHTC-JJ training scheduled at this time. If you are interested in attending a future training at their location please contact Rachel Mestad at Rachel.mestad@jocogov.org.

Vera Institute of Justice – 2018 Gala

The vital role of education [Watch video](#)

Issues formerly incarcerated people face upon reentry, the role of family support after prison, and how trauma challenges the ethics of punishment [Watch video](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner

**By Leah Haake, Community Support Manager
DOC – Juvenile Community-Based Services**

KDAI Updates

It has been 10 months since the Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) was implemented statewide at Juvenile Intake and Assessment. While the tool is being used regularly across the state, there is still much to be done to improve, sustain and support the process of objective admissions to detention. Here are a few updates of what is happening and coming soon:

Data collection and analysis – All jurisdictions are recording data on all KDAI's administered and submitting monthly spreadsheets to KDOC. This data is important for analyzing how the KDAI is being used and working, as well as assessing the tool itself. From July 2017 through February 2018, almost 4,000 KDAI's have been administered. KDOC is still in process of crunching numbers toward more results such as risk level frequency and override rates.

Automation – As mentioned in training, KDOC contracted with a developer to have a database for administration of the KDAI. A draft interface was tested and final bug testing is almost complete. Deployment is slated to begin in July. KDOC will contact judicial districts to gather technical requirements and as installation begins, a schedule will be developed with each JD. The KDAI database will ultimately replace the current spreadsheet for data collection and reporting.

Inter-Rater Reliability - With support from our technical assistance providers at the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI), KDOC will conduct an inter-rater reliability process to assist those who administer the KDAI to improve their scoring of the tool and help ensure the tool is scored consistently across all jurisdictions. Beginning in May, all staff trained to administer the KDAI will receive periodic emails that contain scoring activities to complete. CJI will use the results of these activities to provide feedback to KDOC on how to improve scoring of the KDAI.

National News

Senators Pushing Fixes for Kid-on-Kid Sex Abuse in Military

Senators have introduced sweeping, bipartisan legislation aimed at fixing the failures in juvenile justice in the U.S. military and its schools, as revealed by an Associated Press [investigation](#) into child-on-child sexual assaults on base. [Read more](#)

Young Brains are Still Evolving - Taking Advantage . . .

Leona Godfrey was sitting down to dinner at a TGI Fridays in Orange, **Connecticut**, in December 2013 when she glanced at a television and saw her little brother's name on the local news. Davon Eldemire had tried to rob a small grocery store, shooting and injuring the owner. "I was devastated," Godfrey recalled. "What was he thinking? I couldn't eat." [Read more](#)

Family says Juvenile Program 'Saved Son's Life'

Inside their apartment complex in Auburn, **Alabama**, family members talk about Meleke Burton and the changes he has gone through. In the span of a few months, Burton has gone from being housed in a youth detention facility to planning for the fall semester at AUM. And he has already decided to pursue nursing, following in his mother's footsteps. Stacey Hughley, Burton's mom, couldn't be happier. [Read more](#)

Bills Overhauling Delaware's Juvenile Justice System Head to Governor's Desk

Legislation aimed at addressing problems in **Delaware's** juvenile justice system is heading to Gov. John Carney's desk. The three bills are a package of reforms sponsored by State Rep. J.J. Johnson (D-New Castle). Johnson points to a 2015 study of shootings in Wilmington as a reason to change course on juvenile justice. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found poverty, unemployment and childhood trauma are strong indicators of gun violence in the city. [Read more and listen to audio](#)

For Teens in Juvenile Detention, Education Means Overcoming Disconnection

The 17-year-old Española teen does not want to stay behind bars his entire life. Someday, he wants to be a firefighter, he told Pablo Sedillo, director of public safety for Santa Fe County, **New Mexico**. "You need to go for it, OK?" Sedillo told the teen, who does not want his name in the newspaper. "Being in here is not what you want to be." [Read more](#)

U.S. Rep. Jason Lewis Joins Bipartisan Push for Criminal Justice Reform

U.S. Rep. Jason Lewis has joined a group of unlikely allies in trying to reshape the criminal justice system. The Minnesota Republican has teamed up with U.S. Rep. Bobby Scott, a Democrat from Virginia, to advocate changes to federal law that would favor rehabilitation over imprisonment for first-time, nonviolent offenders – particularly juveniles – and reduce exploding [Read more](#)

PEW Charitable Trusts

Juvenile Justice Reforms Yield Major Advances in Kentucky

Juvenile justice reforms enacted by **Kentucky** in 2014 are creating [substantial benefits](#) for youth, families, and communities throughout the state. Between fiscal years 2014 and 2017, the number of youths held in Department of Juvenile Justice facilities fell 34 percent, reflecting a reduction in detentions and commitments for lower-level offenses. In response to the reduced demand, state officials have closed or repurposed four juvenile facilities since 2016. [Read more . . .](#)

Human Trafficking – National

HT: Michigan's Hidden Secret [Watch video . . .](#)

HT: Inside Lansing's Sex Traffic Trade [Watch video . . .](#)

Why Human Trafficking is a Bigger Problem in Connecticut Than You Might Think

It's a topic that doesn't get discussed nearly enough: human trafficking. It goes on around the world, and yes, even in **Connecticut**. People preying on children, mostly girls and women and holding them against their will, enslaving them in the worst possible ways. On this edition of "Nyberg," Krishna Patel joins Ann. She's an attorney and general counsel for New Canaan's Grace Farms Foundation. Patel is among the many creating laws which can [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Life after 'The Life': Putting Families Back Together After Children are Trafficked

On Monday nights, a small group of parents gathers on the campus of the **University of California-Davis**. Each would give anything not to be there. What binds this group together is among every mother and father's deepest fears. They are the parents and caregivers of sex-trafficked kids and [Read more . . .](#)

Officials: Children Being Forced into Human Trafficking in the Ohio Valley

We're taking a few moments to recognize the hundreds, maybe even thousands of children right here in **West Virginia**, who are subjected to a life of modern day slavery. The children who are forced to forego their innocence, tricked into thinking that being raped and molested is normal, the "Faces of Human Trafficking." 37% of the girls in just one local residential program report engaging in sexual acts in exchange for something of value. There are still many other children that don't disclose due to fear of retaliation or getting someone else into trouble. "I was in that situation from around the age of 15 until 18 and then I was commercially sexually exploited from the age of about 23 until the age of 26," [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Sold at Derby: Sex Trafficking in Louisville

Everybody knows the **Kentucky Derby** is about making money. That's why Kristy Love came here. Seventeen years old, hair and nails done, in a nice hotel, drinking. She'd never heard of the horse race before, but got hyped thinking about the thousands she could make in a day, the possibility of sleeping with a superstar. She'd made the ride to Louisville from her hometown of Cincinnati with her pimp, who was a white dude she thought looked like a member of the Bee Gees, and a few other girls — her competition. [Read more . . .](#)

Should Girl Who Killed Pimp Get a Break for Being Sex Slave?

No one disputes that a 15-year-old **Ohio** girl involved in the slaying of a man during a robbery five years ago was at one time, in the words of the state's Supreme Court chief justice, "a forced sex slave." What is up for debate before the Ohio Supreme Court is the impact of the girl's prostitution on her role in that killing. [Read more . . .](#)

Victims of Human Trafficking can be Anyone

When it comes to recognizing victims of human trafficking or abusive relationships, local advocates said one of the main things to remember is they look like the average person. Assistant U.S. Attorney General Andy Cogar said trafficking victims in **West Virginia** are often portrayed as shadowy figures in movie-like situations. He said in West Virginia that isn't usually the case. "They [survivors] look like you and me," he said. "That's what people have a hard time recognizing. That's what law enforcement has a hard time recognizing." [Read more . . .](#)

Fight Against 'Modern-day Slavery' of Human Trafficking in South Carolina Makes Strides

The man led a criminal ring that forced girls from **South Carolina** and other Southern states to have sex for money. On his neck, Damon Jackson bore a tattoo: "Money Motivated." Together with two main accomplices, Jackson held dozens of young women against their will, some of them minors. They used force and drugs to keep them awake until each had made him \$500 a night - beating them, raping [Read more . . .](#)

Council of State Governments – Justice Center

Justice Reinvestment in Missouri: Policy Framework

The final report of the CSG Justice Center outlines policy recommendations developed in collaboration with the Missouri Justice Reinvestment Task Force. Among other things, these policies aim to reduce violent crime, increase the availability and effectiveness of community-based treatment for substance addiction and mental illnesses for people in the criminal justice system, and reduce recidivism. [Read report . . .](#)

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Helping Youth Connect to Work, Avoid Confinement

Many **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative**® sites grapple with how to serve youth who are on a downward spiral toward confinement, for whom traditional alternative programming just doesn't work. The juvenile court in Chatham County, Georgia, home to Savannah, initiated a new program for these young people — a program made possible by community investment and partnership. Two Casey Foundation-supported [community safety forums](#) held a few years ago in Savannah, highlighted the need for innovative programming that could [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

Participatory Defense Could Open Up Juvenile Court, Helping Both Accused, Society

Juvenile court proceedings are closed to the public for good reason. As a matter of policy, we want to safeguard the privacy of young people charged with delinquent offenses. By making proceedings confidential and sealing juvenile court records, we enable young people who come into contact with the justice system to pursue future education and employment opportunities without the specter of their youthful indiscretions following them. Further, juvenile court matters often include personal information, not only about the young person charged, but also [Read more . . .](#)

Low Self-esteem, Feeling Alone Let the Gangs, Streets Shape Me

I am 38 years old. I have been incarcerated almost 15 years now. I have a sentence of LWOP (life without parole) plus 25 to life for a first-degree murder with drive-by enhancement. I was raised in the Bay Area on the Oakland side of the water. My family was big. Dad's side was Mexican, [Read more . . .](#)

Writing Raps Reduces Recidivism in Youth of Color

While our nation's steadily declining rates of juvenile incarceration are encouraging, widening racial disparities are a pressing call for concern. [Racial disparities](#) often begin in the school system and persist at each stage of juvenile justice contact, affecting the lives of youth before and [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Probation Needs to Join 21st Century with Developmental Approach

In July 2017, the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ), adopted a resolution in support of developmentally appropriate juvenile justice probation services. The [resolution](#), which built on earlier NCJFCJ policies, made clear that it "supports and is committed to juvenile probation systems that conform to the latest knowledge of adolescent development and adolescent brain science." It "recommends that courts cease imposing [conditions of probation](#) and instead support probation departments' developing, with families and youth, individualized case plans that set expectations [Read more . . .](#)

Leaving Solitary to Visit Family, Friends At Home Is Frightening After 24 Years

You would think that walking out of prison after almost 24 years would probably be one of the happiest moments of my life — but you would be wrong — because it was actually one of the most frightening moments. [Read more . . .](#)

National News

State to Review the Juvenile Justice System

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper is calling on state lawmakers, prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges to participate in a comprehensive review of the state's juvenile justice system. With the aid of the chairman of the House and Senate judiciary committees, the governor has created a special task force to determine ways to make sure juveniles who commit crimes have a clear path out of the state's corrections system, one that doesn't lead them back into it. "Kids don't belong in prison," Hickenlooper said. [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice: Young Women Speak

Those who face the juvenile justice system are not just about a criminal offense. A digital story telling project Bars: Stories of the System, a Youth Perspective a collaboration with the Fenix Youth Project allowed these young women to tell their stories in their own words. [Listen here . . .](#)