

Kansas News

Changes to KS Juvenile Offender Registration Shelved

A Kansas House bill contemplating changes to juvenile offender registration has been delayed so that it can be reviewed by the Judicial Council. The council will review the legislation and make recommendations on how to proceed, Rep. J. Russell Jennings, R-Lakin, said during [Read more . . .](#)

With “gut and go” Kansas House Committee Changes Lewd Behavior Penalty

A Kansas House committee tabled a proposal on juvenile sex offender registration, replacing it with legislation that would increase the penalties for lewd and lascivious behavior. Rep. J. Russell Jennings, R-Lakin, who chairs the corrections and juvenile justice committee, said revisions on how youths are registered as sex offenders as laid out in House Bill [Read more . . .](#)

Newton Double-Homicide Inspires Bill Forcing Disclosure of Juvenile Sex Offender Lists

Keith Hawkins was placed on Kansas' sex-offender registry after being convicted of aggravated indecent liberties with a 4-year-old girl in McPherson County. He was 12 at the time of the crime, but the district court placed the juvenile offender on a registry available only to law enforcement [Read more . . .](#)

Helping Youth Means Helping Parents Cope

A new program to involve families more closely in the rehabilitation of their youth in the juvenile justice process is scheduled to begin later this year through Cowley County Youth Services. The Family Engagement Program, which was developed out of Senate Bill 367, has completely revamped the state juvenile justice system, according to Youth Services director Melody Pappan. County commissioners [Read more . . .](#)

2018 DOC-Juvenile Services Training Schedule

New Employee Kansas Detention Assessment Instrument (KDAI) Training:

Topeka	Tuesday	May 22nd
Salina	Wednesday	June 20 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

Juvenile Justice Basics Training:

Location – Salina Parole Office; 919 E. Prescott, Suite 300; Salina
Date Wednesday May 16 9 am – 5 pm

To Enroll Email michelle.montgomery@ks.gov
Participants Name; Judicial District; Phone Number and email address; and Supervisor's name;

- Notes
1. This class is a mandatory pre-requisite for all staff who plan to become YLS/CMI certified assessors.
 2. Class is designed for new Community Supervision Agency staff, new IIP staff, new JIAS staff and KJCC staff identified by the KJCC Program Director.
 3. This class will be provided on a quarterly basis.

New Officer YLS/CMI Training:

Location - Sedgwick Co. Juv. Field Services, 3803 E Harry, Wichita

Dates	Tuesday	June 12	9 am – 5 pm
	Wednesday	June 13	8 am – 5 pm
	Thursday	June 14	8 am – 5 pm

To Enroll Email michelle.montgomery@ks.gov
Participants Name; Judicial District; Phone Number and email address; and Supervisor's name.

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.

PEW Charitable Trusts

Kansas Reforms Improve Juvenile Justice

The Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee released its first [annual report](#) evaluating the implementation and impact of bipartisan, comprehensive [juvenile justice reforms](#) adopted by the state in 2016. Many of the new policies have [Read more . . .](#)

Council of State Governments – Justice Center

Revamped Kansas and South Dakota Juvenile Justice Systems are Promising

Since 2015, a big change has occurred in how South Dakota handles young people in its juvenile justice system. “Some of these kids didn’t need to go to a juvenile detention center,” Rep. Julie Bartling says about the thinking behind the legislation passed that year ([SB 73](#)). “They just needed a little more support.” Three years later, the state is starting to see results from this shift. [Read more . . .](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner

Jim Johnson, Program Consultant
DOC - Juvenile Community Based Services

May is National Mental Health Month and May 10th is National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) “Each year National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health and show that positive mental health is essential to a child’s healthy development.” This year’s theme, “[Partnering for Health and Hope](#) *Following Trauma* will focus on the importance of an integrated approach to caring for the mental health needs of children, youth, and young adults who have experienced trauma, as well as their families.”

Studies show that children who come into contact with the child welfare and juvenile justice systems are more likely to have a history of traumatic experiences than their peers. However, not all children who have traumatic experiences are traumatized. By developing a better understanding of traumatic events, experiences and its effects, we can provide better support for a child while providing an environment that feels safer for them.

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Human Trafficking - Kansas

City, State, Federal Officials Team Up to Declare War on Human Trafficking

Young people won’t tell law enforcement officers if they are being trafficked for forced labor or sex, Ron Miller said Thursday. But federal officials have identified indicators that can help determine whether someone is a trafficking victim, said Miller, who is U.S. Marshal for Kansas. Miller said he intends to bring training about those indicators to public safety officers in the community later this year. Miller was among 12 officials from local, state and federal agencies and the Topeka Rescue Mission who spoke at a 45-minute [Read more . . .](#)

Freedom Now Coalition Combats HT

Multiple state and local agencies in Kansas announced they are forming a coalition to fight the growing problem of human trafficking in the state. On Monday, the Topeka City Council signed a resolution to combat human trafficking and the Shawnee Co. Commission signed on, too, during their meeting Thursday morning. “Let it be [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Topeka City Council is Taking a Stand Against HT

They approved a resolution Tuesday night, becoming the first city in the country to engage in a long-term battle against human trafficking. “I think what Topeka has done tonight in its leadership is just one huge step that’s going to benefit many people in years to come,” Executive Director for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Barry Feaker [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Second Man Sentenced in Trafficking Runaway Girls

A second man has been sent to prison for his involvement in the sexual assaults and trafficking of two runaway teenagers in 2015. Roderick Martin, 57, of Wichita, was sentenced by Judge Stephen Ternes to almost 18 years in prison on Tuesday, according to a news release from District Attorney Marc Bennett. Martin pleaded guilty on Feb. 9 to two counts each of commercial sexual exploitation of a child and kidnapping, four counts of sexual exploitation of child and one count of aggravated indecent liberties with a child. [Read more . . .](#)

Human Trafficking - National

Feds Charge Backpage Founder after Human-Trafficking Investigation

A founder of a 45-year-old alternative weekly newspaper in Phoenix has been charged in the apparent culmination of a [federal human-trafficking investigation](#). Michael Lacey, 69, of Sedona, Ariz., who helped build a nationwide media empire out of the *Phoenix New Times* [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Trump Signs Measure to Curb Online Sex Trafficking

President Donald Trump signed a measure Wednesday aimed at curbing online sex trafficking, marking a rare bipartisan victory in Washington. [H.R. 1865](#) paves the way [Read more . . .](#)

National News

Out of Juv. Detention, Serving Meals Instead of Time

Chad Houser bought into a popular bistro in Dallas, and his dream of being a top chef & restaurant owner was fulfilled. "I remember the feeling I had was exhilaration," he said. "I had done it." In his first year of ownership, Houser helped grow the business and was nominated by a local magazine as best up-and-coming chef. Then something happened that changed the way he viewed success. "I had an opportunity to teach 8 young men inside a county juvenile detention facility how to make ice cream for a competition," he said. [Read more . . .](#)

Matthew T. Mangino: GAO Finds Racially Disproportionate Discipline in Schools (*Opinion*)

Black students are disciplined at school more often and more harshly than white students according to a report, issued this week by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). In 2014, President Barack Obama released guidance on school discipline in collaboration with the U.S. [Read more and watch video . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

Restorative Justice Helps get Kids where they want to Go

When Emilio first walked into our offices, he looked disheveled. He shuffled through the door wearing sagging pants and an oversized T-shirt. He was standoffish, barely answering basic questions, not making eye contact, and I immediately caught the smell of weed as he placed his jacket down on a chair next to mine. Due to his gang [Read more . . .](#)

Help Crime Victims: Commit to Restorative Justice

From the [federal](#) level to [state legislatures across](#) the country, criminal justice reform measures are a hot topic of conversation and proposed legislation. What is often lost in those conversations are the views and voices of victims. As an organization that fights to end the prosecution, sentencing and incarceration of children in the adult system, we are all too aware that children are often victims of crime and exposed to trauma [Read more . . .](#)

The Young Black Woman from Dixie Looking to Obliterate the Good Old Boys

The 19-year-old young black woman born in a poor neighborhood called Dixie doesn't just want to challenge the Good Old Boy network that runs things in this city. "It's more like obliterate," Myra Richardson said with a wide smile. "Obliterate, that's the word." It is a system she says that has called the [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Big Data in the Era of Big Policing

Big data has already come to big city policing. The technology may be new, but some juvenile justice advocates worry that it may already be compromised by an age-old tech problem: Garbage in, garbage out. "You definitely see the vast majority of people who are being targeted by person-based, predictive policing are young people - young people of color, young people in poor areas, in minority areas," said [Read more . . .](#)

To Understand Probation, Youth Need Other Youth Who Have Been Through It

The deliberative portion of juvenile court proceedings focuses intently upon the "actor," or minor respondent, once the facts of the "act" have been adjudicated by an affirmative plea or after a trial where a finding of delinquency has been entered. Juvenile court judges then weigh the facts of the act on the same scale that considers all the aggravating and mitigating life circumstances present in the [actor's life](#) before [Read more . . .](#)

Different Strategies to Fight Racial Disparities

Those of us who have spent months and years working to make responses to youthful law violations effective, equitable and more just have much to be proud of. The volume of philanthropic investments working in sites directly, supporting research, advancing science, incentivizing [Read more . . .](#)

Why Disproportionate Minority Contact Exists, What to Do

[Disproportionate minority contact](#) means that racial/ethnic minority youth (particularly African American, Latinx/Hispanic American and American Indian/Native American youth) are involved in the U.S. juvenile justice system at rates that are both far higher than European-American youth and also above what would be expected based on a racial/ethnic group's population. For example, African-American males comprise [more than 35% of juvenile arrests](#), yet represent only [8% of the U.S. juvenile population](#). The pipeline from our [Read more . . .](#)

Book Review: 'Everyday Desistance: The Transition to Adulthood among Formerly Incarcerated Youth'

"[Everyday Desistance: The Transition to Adulthood Among Formerly Incarcerated Youth](#)" sheds a critical light on the winding journeys into adulthood of 25 formerly incarcerated young adults ages 18 to 24 in Los Angeles County. Their work is based on stories that speak powerfully to the [Read more . . .](#)

National News – The Marshall Project

When You're 16 and It's Your First Time in Solitary

I was 16 when I was arrested and taken to the Onondaga County Justice Center in Syracuse, N.Y., to wait for my trial on burglary charges. A lot of the people I was locked up with were kids I went to school with. I'd converse with a few of them, but mostly tried to stay out of the way. I had only been in jail a couple of weeks before I got into an altercation with another inmate and they took us both to the SHU - that's [Read more . . .](#)

The Recidivism Trap

Counting failure is no way to encourage success.

Any discussion of criminal justice policy inevitably includes the word "recidivism." Usually more than once. Recidivism is the reoccurrence of crime among people known to have committed crimes before. At all levels of justice, from local probation offices to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, if we judge the impact of interventions at all, we do so in part by measuring recidivism. In a [report](#) published recently with the Harvard [Read more . . .](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange Post-secondary Students

Carefully Designed Internships Create Benefits for Everyone

Part 1, By Michael Mitchell

While we often hear about the challenges in every area of juvenile justice, how often do we hear about the rewards? Perhaps nowhere within "the system" can we find a greater win-win situation for everyone involved than in internship opportunities for post-secondary students. [Read more . . .](#)

Internship Needs Frequent Communication, Sturdy Structure

Part 2, By Michael Mitchell

Timely, accurate and clear communication is the lifeblood of a quality, functional and durable internship. However, there is more to this than just the dialogue necessary to meet the logistical needs of the program. Complete communication demands the processing of information. It is this processing that leads to retention, thereby enabling integration with existing knowledge, thus producing true learning. [Read more . . .](#)

Post-secondary Experience in the Juvenile Justice Environment

Part 3, By Michael Mitchell

Clear and timely communication, flexibility, plus a collaborative mindset are the essential elements of a vibrant juvenile justice or social services internship. However, without enthusiastic initiative taken by students, instructors and supervisors alike, gaps may develop which could undermine the best of plans or intentions. Since the internship is primarily for the [Read more . . .](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner continued from page 1

To help develop a better understanding of the impact that trauma has on the development of a child/youth, you might consider looking at these resources:

- [Treating Childhood Trauma](#), a report by Oprah Winfrey aired on 60 Minutes on how trauma plays a role in childhood development and what new methods are being used to help kids who have experienced it.
- [Child Trauma Academy](#) provides [free online courses](#) that offer creative and practical approaches to understanding and working with maltreated children. A [series of professional articles](#) by Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D., a psychiatrist and a Senior Fellow of the ChildTrauma Academy in Houston, Texas.
- The [National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice](#) (NCMHJJ) provides a national focal point aimed at improving policy and practice for youth with mental, substance use and trauma-related conditions (i.e. behavioral health conditions) who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system.
- The [National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#) (NCTSN) was created by the US Congress as a part of the Children's Health Act (2000) to raise the standard of care and increase access to services for children/youth and families who experience or witness traumatic events.
- The [Orchard Place](#) works with over 10,000 emotionally troubled and helpless children through a wide variety of mental health services while striving to help them develop strong, promising futures.
- The [Trauma Informed Care Project](#) (TIC) is an organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma.

No matter what our specific job focus, whether it be in juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse, education, law enforcement or the practice of law, we will continue to come into contact with children/youth who have experienced traumatic events. By enhancing our understanding of trauma theory, we can improve our ability to more effectively communicate with the children/youth we interact with and make better informed decisions when interpreting their behavior. And by better meeting the needs of the children/youth we work with, we can enhance public safety and achieve improved outcomes for youth, families, and communities in Kansas.