



# Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

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JUSTICES

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CLERK OF COURT

SILVESTER DAWSON  
MARSHAL

November 6, 2015

Dear Participants:

Thank you for your willingness to participate in the school-justice partnership training event that will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn Westshore in Tampa. The Florida Supreme Court Steering Committee on Families and Children in the Court (FCC) has been charged with implementing strategies that will help ensure that children involved in family court cases stay in school and are less likely to be arrested, suspended, or expelled. The steering committee has determined that the best approach to addressing this issue must be collaborative and locally driven. School-justice partnerships take this approach.

The success of school-justice partnerships requires the active participation of individuals like you. I am thrilled that representatives from key stakeholder groups will be in attendance. Attendees include representatives from local school systems, law enforcement agencies, public defender's offices, state attorney's offices, the Guardian ad Litem Program, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Juvenile Justice, community-based care agencies, community mental health agencies, and other organizations that work with youth and families. Together we will create plans for moving school-justice partnerships forward. Together we can help ensure that more children achieve academic success and are set on a path to productive citizenship.

Finally, the enclosed "homework" packet contains important background materials for the event. Please review these in advance of the training. You may contact Dacia Roberts in the Office of Court Improvement at (850) 414-1507 with any questions. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Tampa.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barbara J. Pariente". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "B".

Barbara J. Pariente

BJP/bdw

# Florida's School-Justice Partnership Implementation Training

November 16-17, 2015  
Holiday Inn Westshore  
Tampa, Florida

## Agenda

### Monday, November 16, 2015

- 9:00–10:15am    **Opening: Welcome to Florida's School-Justice Partnership Kick Off**
- *Justice Barbara J. Pariente, Florida Supreme Court*
  - *Secretary Christy K. Daly, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice*
  - *Secretary Mike Carroll, Florida Department of Children and Families*
  - *Dr. Barbara Jenkins, Superintendent, Orange County Public Schools*
- 10:15-10:35am    **Team Exercise**
- 10:35-10:50am    **BREAK**
- 10:50-11:50am    **School-Justice Partnerships: What, Who, and How**  
*Judge Steven C. Teske, Chief Judge, Clayton County Juvenile Court*
- 11:50-2:30pm    **WORKING LUNCH**
- What Do the Numbers Reveal? State and County-Level Data and Information**  
*Mark Greenwald, Director of Research and Data Integrity, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice*
- Palm Beach County School-Justice Partnership: What Works for Us**  
*Judge Kathleen Kroll, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit and Palm Beach team*
- Title I: Maximizing Federal Funding**  
*Sandy Neidert, Court Operation Consultant, Office of the State Courts Administrator*
- 2:30-2:45pm    **BREAK**
- 2:45-3:30pm    **Trauma Informed Practice – Why it Matters**  
*Judge Steven C. Teske, Chief Judge, Clayton County Juvenile Court*  
*Judge Terrance R. Ketchel, First Judicial Circuit*  
*Sandy Neidert, Court Operation Consultant, Office of the State Courts Administrator*

3:30-3:45pm Trauma Informed Practice – What Can Our Team Do?

3:45-4:55pm Best Practices:

- **Civil Citation:** *Theda M. Roberts, Civil Citation Coordinator, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice*
- **SNAP (Stop Now And Plan):** *Melanie Kretzman, Reform Specialist, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice*
- **Alternatives to Detention:** *James Millan, Central Region Juvenile Alternative Initiative Coordinator, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice*

4:55-5:00pm Wrap-up – Judge Steven C. Teske

## Tuesday, November 17, 2015

- 8:00-10:00am **Trauma Informed Accountability: Restorative Justice and Restorative Practices**  
*Mara F. Schiff, Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University*  
*Sandra Pavelka, Ph.D., Florida Gulf Coast University*
- 10:00-10:20am **Break and Room Change**
- 10:20-11:05am **Alachua County School-Justice Partnership: What Works for Us**  
*Magistrate Nancy Wilkov, Eighth Judicial Circuit and Alachua team*
- 11:05-11:50am **County Roundtables**
- 11:50-12:15 **Break**
- 12:15-1:15pm **WORKING LUNCH**  
**Resolving Barriers to Information Sharing and FERPA**  
*Matthew H. Mears, General Counsel, Florida Department of Education*
- 1:15-2:45pm **Pinellas County School-Justice Partnership: What Works for Us**  
*Judge Patrice Moore, Sixth Judicial Circuit and Pinellas team*
- Broward County School-Justice Partnership: What Works for Us**  
*Judge Hope Bristol, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit and Broward team*
- 2:45-2:55pm **Break**
- 2:55-4:10pm **Putting all of the Pieces Together: Judge Steven C. Teske**
  - Part A - Review of the major features of a functioning school justice partnership
  - Part B - Create a School-Justice Partnership Action Plan
  - Part C – Pilot/Mentor Sites Exercise
- 4:10-4:15pm **Closing**  
*Justice Barbara J. Pariente and Judge Steven C. Teske*

# *What is a School-Justice Partnership?*

A school-justice partnership is a collaborative effort among courts, schools, state agencies, service providers, law enforcement, and families, to keep children in school and out of court. These partnerships provide alternatives to arrests, suspensions, and expulsions. Research indicates that students arrested, expelled, or suspended from school are much less likely to graduate.

## *Understanding Partnerships*

School-justice partnerships are developed through a five step process. These steps require the collaborative efforts of “conveners,” “facilitators,” and “stakeholders.”

### **Who is the Convener?**

The convener is usually a family court judge. The primary role of the convener is to identify key stakeholders, identify a facilitator, and to bring stakeholders together.

### **Who is the Facilitator?**

The primary role of the facilitator is to engage the stakeholders in a fair and open discourse. It is important to identify common or collective interests during the development of the partnership. The facilitator should be neutral.

### **Who are the Stakeholders?**

Stakeholders may include, but are not limited to: parents, youth, family court judges and court staff, school superintendents, law enforcement, Department of Juvenile Justice staff, Department of Children and Families staff, Guardians ad Litem, and any other individual with a vested interest in helping children.

# *Steps to Develop a School-Justice Partnership*

## **STEP 1. The convener identifies stakeholders.**

## **STEP 2. Convene stakeholders.**

*The convener must bring the stakeholders together. At this point, the convener will identify a facilitator, who will engage the stakeholders during the remainder of this process. When gathered, the stakeholders should frame issues using data and research. Stakeholders may wish to consider challenges related to: poverty, zero tolerance policies, suspensions and expulsions, limited access to counseling and mental health services, and funding.*

## **STEP 3. Commit to shared outcomes.**

*Stakeholders should establish desired outcomes. Outcomes may include: increased school attendance, improved school safety, use of positive discipline, increased graduation rates, reduced suspensions, and re-enrollment for court-involved youth.*

## **STEP 4. Establish a new protocol.**

*The heart of a school-justice partnership is the implementation of a formal agreement or protocol developed by the stakeholders. To develop this agreement, the facilitator should guide the stakeholders in answering the following questions:*

- ◇ *Who will decide the terms of the agreement?*
- ◇ *What will be the process for gathering input from stakeholders?*
- ◇ *What school-related offenses should not result in a referral to the court?*
- ◇ *What accountability measures do we have in place or can be established to effectively respond to school-related offenses?*
- ◇ *How will we respond to students that are not amenable to accountability measures because of trauma or other underlying causation?*
- ◇ *How are we going to monitor compliance with the written agreement and measure performance and outcomes?*

## **STEP 5. Collect data to monitor performance and outcomes.**