



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

**Rick Scott, Governor**

**Wansley Walters, Secretary**

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## **Detention Cost Share Workgroup June 27, 2011 Conference Call Minutes**

### Attendees:

Commissioner Wexler, Broward County  
Commissioner Beckner, Hillsborough County  
Wayne Appleby, Sarasota County  
Linda Brehmer-Linosa, Orange County  
Tim Burnes, Pinellas County  
Sarrah Carroll, Florida Association of Counties  
Secretary Walters, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)  
Christy Daly, Chief of Staff, DJJ  
Beth Davis, DJJ  
Theda Roberts, DJJ  
Mike Dunn, DJJ  
Brian Berkowitz, General Counsel, DJJ  
Jason Welty, The Governor's Office of Policy and Budget  
Sarah Toms, Florida House of Representatives Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

The meeting opened at 10:00 a.m. Beth Davis opened the discussion with a follow up to the budget and utilization data presented at the previous meeting. Ms. Davis reconfirmed that a \$2.7M adjustment is needed to align the budget with the utilization split. An additional \$3.3M adjustment would be required should the state assume responsibility for violation of probation stays for non new law violations. If the state were to assume responsibility for youth over 18 and stays over 21 days, an adjustment of \$1.3M would be required. This data is not yet available for foster youth or failures to appear. Ms. Davis will two draft legislative budget requests - one for \$2.7M to align funding to the utilization split and another for \$6M to align the funding and for non new law violations of probation - for the Secretary's consideration and possible submission to the Governor's Office.

Secretary Walters spoke about systemic, state-wide juvenile justice reform. The Department is exploring every policy to divert youth away from secure detention, including youth who are very young as well as youth that do not need to be securely detained. Electronic bracelets will soon be utilized to place youth who score for secure detention in home detention prior to the initial court hearing. It is very important that counties support these reform measures.

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*The mission of the Department of Juvenile Justice is to increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention, and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth.*

Sarrah Carroll voiced support for the Department's commitment to proviso language that the Shared County/State Juvenile Detention Trust Fund be reduced by the actual cost reduction to counties that opt to provide detention prior to adjudication. It was requested that a memo be sent to the counties stating this policy.

Several county representatives voiced support for state operated detention. Orange County suggested that detention be funded at a 50/50 split and that judicial warnings be increased.

Some discussion was had regarding potential language changes to the statute prohibiting use of detention for contempt of court unless youth scored for detention on the original DRAI. This issue will be discussed further at future meetings.

Discussion continued regarding juvenile justice circuit boards and county councils. It continues to be the group's desire that boards and councils have measurable responsibilities and identified voting members. In lieu of a proposal to revise statute, it was suggested that the Department explore policy changes to increase the effectiveness of boards and councils and advance juvenile justice reform. It was agreed that future discussion on this topic would be worthwhile.

The next in-person meeting will be scheduled the week of July 25 in Tallahassee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am