

18th Judicial Family First and Juvenile Justice Reform Presentation

7-28-2021

Question and Answer

- 1) **Question:** On the Juvenile Detention Screening and Assessment Guide (JDSAG), question #24 asks, **family or responsible adult can supervise?** Is the response to that question, that the family is saying they are willing to supervise? Or that it is believed they can actually effectively supervise the juvenile? The factual scenario given in the training, made it sound like parents may want to supervise but aren't really able to?

Answer: Question #24 is asking if they (family or responsible adult) are willing and able to supervise? If there are concerns or doubts about the ability to supervise JAC will contact Department of Human Services to discuss and staff (distinction willing and able).

- 2) **Question:** What happens if youth and parents refuse to sign Consent for Release of Information forms prior to assessment or regarding assessment and stand on confidentiality/privilege? How does this system discussed today sync with Title 27-Article 65 - for example youth placed on M-1 and is certified for mental health treatment in middle of assessment? While hospitalized, follow up treatment recommendations made which may include discharge plan to lower level of care - perhaps RCCF?

Answer: The JAC does require a release of information (ROI) to be signed for all intakes- Community Assessment Program (CAP) & Law Enforcement Program (LEP). For the law enforcement side, the JAC doesn't always get an ROI signed if the child is under 15, because the parent is not present. In those cases, it just means protected information that is reported in the assessment cannot be released. Per the Colorado Children's Code, an assessment is done no matter what, but protected information (substance use, mental health, medical, and IEP or 504 info) can only be released when a release is signed. This is true for all reports regardless of who the report is going to, courts, schools, etc. JAC can still make recommendations regarding mental health and substance use if a release was not signed. JAC trains its partners to know that if a recommendation has been made for something that is not detailed in the summary of the report, it is because an ROI has not been signed.

The court can order an ROI be signed.

- 3) **Question:** Is the Juvenile Probation Assessment Summary Report (JASR) going to be done on sex offenses? Is it validated regarding sex offenses?

Answer: No, an Offense Specific Evaluation and Pre-Sentence Investigation Report (PSIR) will be required for youth that have committed sexual offenses.

For juvenile's who have committed sexual offenses, the YLS, MAYSI, SUSR as well as the JSOAP in addition to all collateral information will continue to be included in the Pre-Sentence Investigation Report (PSIR).

- 4) **Question:** Are screenings for Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation (JISP) still being done separately or is that going to be part of Juvenile Probation Assessment Summary Report (JASR)?

Answer: *We will be providing the JISP screen to probation when we provide information for the JASR.*

For those who aren't aware a JISP referral can be made on anyone meeting JISP qualifiers determined by statute. The court could order JISP at the time of sentencing. The screen is completed at the same time; The JISP can be recommended even after the JASR is completed.

- 5) **Question:** Is all the information that has been provided in all the other assessments this kid has done, provided to probation as well for these assessments... including bond violations etc.

Answer: *Yes, all assessments completed with the youth will be provided to probation.*

- 6) **Question:** Are there currently any Qualified Residential Treatment Provider (QRTP) placements in CO?

Answer: *There are several residential providers working with the Colorado Department of Human Services to transition to provide QRTP level of care by October 1st, 2021.*

Here is a helpful list:

<https://www.co4kids.org/sites/default/files/Transitioning%20Placement%20Facilities.pdf>

- 7) **Question:** In all the discussions about Families First, it seems to apply to older kids being placed out of home and how to assess for the needs of the kiddo. Where do the younger kids fit into this to avoid removal?

Answer: *The Family First legislation is geared toward prevention services for any age child/youth with the hopes of keeping them safely at home. If those services are not successful, then the least restrictive placement is sought. Preferably the child/youth is able to be placed with kin or in a family foster home. If a higher level of care is needed for a child or youth the process of an independent assessment for QRTP is the same regardless of the age of the child/youth.*