

U. S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20035

The Honorable Thea A. Sherry Administrative Judge Family Court of St. Louis County 105 South Central Avenue Clayton, MO 63105

Ben Burkemper Court Administrator Family Court of St. Louis County 105 South Central Avenue Clayton, MO 63105

Dear Judge Sherry and Mr. Burkemper:

As you know, on December 14, 2016, the United States Department of Justice and the St. Louis County Family Court (collectively, "the Parties") signed a Memorandum of Agreement ("Agreement") to resolve the Department's findings of violations of youth's due process and equal protection rights. In light of certain changes in circumstances since the Department and Family Court signed the Agreement, the Parties have agreed to the following modifications in how the Agreement will be enforced:

Paragraph II.E.23

Paragraph II.E.23 of the Agreement currently requires:

OJJDP will provide technical assistance in the form of training to the Court about DMC training strategy. The strategy will include training on at least: (1) formal petitions; (2) certifications; (3) pretrial detention; (4) findings of delinquency; (5) commitment to a confined facility as an initial disposition; and (6) commitment to a confined facility due to violation of conditions equivalent to probation. OJJDP provided a separate communication about its commitment to the Court. The training strategy will also be consistent with the requirements of this Agreement and coordinated with statewide initiatives and efforts to comply with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 (JJDPA).

The Parties agree to modify Paragraph II.E.23 as follows:

OJJDP, or another mutually agreed upon trainer or technical assistance provider, will provide technical assistance in the form of training to the Court about DMC training strategy. The Court will propose a DMC training plan and strategy and submit that plan to the United States for approval. The training strategy will be consistent with the requirements of this Agreement and coordinated with statewide initiatives and efforts to comply with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 (JJDPA).

Paragraph II.G.44

Paragraph II.G.44 of the Agreement currently requires:

The Family Court Administrator's bi-annual analysis of and report on DMC data referenced in Section II.G(41) shall include a bi-annual professional statistical analysis of DMC in the Court's delinquency system, by the Office of State Courts Administrator. The DMC professional conducting the statistical analysis will have the following qualifications:

- a. understands statistical analyses such as logistic regression and odds ratios; and
- b. understands the range of factors which might contribute to DMC within St. Louis County.

The Parties agree to modify Paragraph II.G.44 as follows:

The Family Court Administrator's bi-annual analysis of and report on DMC data referenced in Section II.G(41) shall include a bi-annual professional statistical analysis of DMC in the Court's delinquency system, by the Office of State Courts Administrator or by the Court's Principal Analyst, Dr. Bradley Wing. The DMC professional conducting the statistical analysis will have the following qualifications:

- a. understands statistical analyses such as logistic regression and odds ratios: and
- b. understands the range of factors which might contribute to DMC within St. Louis County.

We appreciate your ongoing collaboration as we work to bring this matter to a successful resolution. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Acting Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

The above-described modifications to the December 14, 2016 Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Justice and the St. Louis County Family Court are agreed to this 28th day of March, 2018:

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

JOHN M. GORE

Acting Assistant Attorney General

Civil Rights Division

FOR THE FAMILY COURT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI:

HONORABLE THEA A. SHERR

Administrative Judge

Family Court of St. Louis County

- Mex. C. Macres

150