

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 18-16

Access to Juvenile Justice Data

WHEREAS, section 304(a) of the Comprehensive Youth Justice Amendment Act of 2016, D.C. Law 21-238 (D.C. Code § 22-4234 (b-3)) requires the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (“CJCC”) to submit a biennial report to the Mayor and the Council containing an analysis of the root causes of youth crime and the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences among justice-involved youth, such as housing instability, childhood abuse, family instability, substance abuse, mental illness, family criminal involvement, or other factors deemed relevant by the CJCC; and

WHEREAS, in order to prepare that report, CJCC requests access to the filing and disposition information of youth charged with a delinquency offense for the purpose of determining the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences among justice-involved youth and the effect of those experiences on justice system involvement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Code § 16-2331 (2012 Repl.), juvenile case records are confidential, but access may be provided to “persons having a professional interest in the protection, welfare, treatment, and rehabilitation of the respondent or of a member of the respondent’s family, or in the work of the Superior Court, if authorized by rule or special order of the court.” D.C. Code § 16-2331 (c)(5); and

WHEREAS the CJCC has a professional interest in the protection, welfare, treatment, and rehabilitation of the children under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; and

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

ORDERED, that authorized employees of the CJCC be permitted to gather, inspect, copy, and analyze information in juvenile case records pursuant to D.C. Code § 16-2331, and consistent with the D.C. Courts’ Data Use Agreement executed on September 19, 2018, in order to conduct biennial analyses and reporting of the root causes of youth crime and the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences among justice-involved youth; and

FURTHER ORDERED, that no final analyses or reports prepared by CJCC staff shall contain any information from which it would be possible to identify any party, witness, social worker, judicial officer, or other person contained or mentioned in the juvenile records and, once pertinent analyses and reports have been prepared, CJCC staff shall delete any such identifying information from all of its records and shall retain no copies thereof, paper or electronic; and

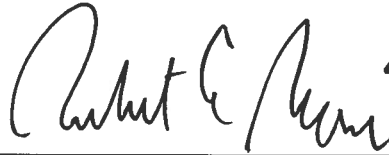
FURTHER ORDERED, that data and information compiled by the authorized employees of CJCC pursuant to this order shall not be distributed otherwise or disclosed to other persons or organizations without further order of the Chief Judge of the Superior Court of

the District of Columbia, *see* D.C. Code § 16-2331 (g); and

FURTHER ORDERED, that any request to distribute or disclose such data and information to other persons shall be made by the CJCC to the Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SO ORDERED.

Date: October 26, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Morin", written in a cursive style.

Robert E. Morin, Chief Judge

Copies to:

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Robert E. Morin, Chief Judge