



GLOSSARY OF TERMS & ACRONYMS

Glossary of Terms/Acronyms

AMBER Alert – an alert provided by the emergency response system that disseminates information about a missing child or a child that is in imminent danger of bodily injury or death.

CANS – Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths - a multi-purpose tool developed for children’s services to support decision making, including level of care and service planning, to facilitate quality improvement initiatives, and to allow for the monitoring of outcomes of services (praedfoundation.org)

Ceasefire Program – a collaborative effort between Juvenile Court, the Tennessee Department of Corrections, the US Attorney’s Office and Memphis Police Department. Ceasefire is a court-ordered program that works toward deterring serious gang and youth gun violence.

Children’s Bureau – A department of Juvenile Court whose mission is to serve the community by protecting the community, upholding the dignity of the law and working with delinquent, unruly and dependent and neglected children.

Child Protection Investigative Team (CPIT) - housed in the Child Advocacy Center, the Child Protection Investigation Team is a coordinated interagency multidisciplinary response to prevent, detect, investigate, treat and prosecute child sexual abuse and serve physical abuse.

Commission on Missing & Exploited Children (COMEC) - a non-profit agency that was established in 1984 as a cooperative effort between the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County and area law enforcement to better address the issues surrounding missing children and the issues that affect them.

Community Service Program - a symbolic restitution program for children who have committed various types of offenses. Delinquent youth are placed with public and private non-profit agencies that provide work assignments and supervision.

Corrective Services Department – This department is part of the Children’s Bureau and handles all delinquent and unruly complaints brought before the court.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) - a non-profit agency whose mission is to support and promote court- appointed volunteer advocacy so every abused and neglected child in Shelby County can have a voice to be heard, a permanent home, and the opportunity to thrive.

CPSS – Child PTSD Symptom Scale - used to measure posttraumatic stress disorder severity in children aged eight to 18

CRAFFT – Car, Relax, Alone, Forget, Friends, Trouble. - a short clinical assessment tool designed to screen for substance-related risks and problems in adolescents.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) - the rates of contact with the juvenile justice system among juveniles of a specific minority group that are significantly different from rates of contact for white non-Hispanic juveniles

Evaluation & Referral Section (E&R) - the goal of the Evaluation and Referral Section is to promote healthy development, resilience, reduce recidivism and assist youth in developing into productive members of society. The Evaluation and Referral Section takes a holistic, strength-based approach when working with court-involved youth and their families.

Foster Care Review Board –a quasi-judicial board comprised of volunteers who come from our community and include nurses, teachers, counselors, attorneys and retirees.

Foster Care Services – the department is responsible for the oversight and review of post-adjudicatory children placed in the custody of the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services subsequent to findings of dependency, neglect, and unruly or delinquent behavior to ensure their safety, well-being, permanency, and rehabilitation.

Guardian ad litem – a lawyer appointed by the court to advocate for the best interests of a child and to ensure that the child’s concerns and preferences are effectively advocated.

Hope Academy - a partnership with the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County and Shelby County Schools that provides a quality education to address the academic and social needs of scholars detained at Juvenile Court.

Interagency Services – a department at the court that develops and maintains youth services initiatives and projects shared by Juvenile Court and outside agencies.

JIFF - Provides juvenile justice system involved youth with the skills, support, and direction necessary to break the destructive cycle of delinquent behavior. JIFF provides holistic, intensive intervention with a goal of successful reintegration to the community for youth.

Juvenile Court Clerk – An elected official who ensures the efficient operation of the court by maintaining dockets and records, handling administrative matters, generating revenue through collection and court ordered fines, fees, grant contracts and state reimbursement to offset the cost of court operation, and serving as good will ambassadors to the public.

Juvenile Court Precinct Liaison (JCPL) - The Precinct Liaison is an experienced Juvenile Court staff member that is placed at MPD precincts and assists law

enforcement officers in screening and/or referral of juveniles brought to the precinct. The JCPL also serves as a facilitator for communication and coordination with the Court. The objective of the JCPL is to reduce the need for detention where possible and assist MPD officers in communicating and dealing with juveniles and Juvenile Court staff.

Juvenile Defender – an attorney who provides legal defense to all indigent juveniles detained on delinquency matters, which include felony, misdemeanor, paternity, truancy cases, and unruly behavior issues.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) - was designed to support the Annie E Casey Foundation's vision that all youth involved in the juvenile justice system have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults. The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative is a detention reform and juvenile justice system improvement initiative that has demonstrated over 20 years that jurisdictions can safely reduce reliance on secure detention.

Juvenile Detention Services – a 135-bed single occupancy secure detention center designed for children who are identified as being a danger to themselves or the community or a flight risk.

Law Enforcement Assessment Phone-In (LEAP) - a project to reduce the number of youths transported to Juvenile Court who do not pose a danger to themselves or the community. LEAP allows law enforcement to phone in information about a youth taken into custody to determine if they may be issued a Juvenile Summons in lieu of transport.

Memphis and Shelby County Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) – This board provides direction in developing and implementing school safety programs and strategies and

works collaboratively with partners in seeking improvements and policy changes addressing emerging and changing needs of Memphis and Shelby County youth at risk of delinquency.

Memphis and Shelby County Truancy Prevention Initiative (TPI) – Group of school and community-based agencies that meet monthly to study and formulate truancy reduction strategies.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) - The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is the oldest judicial membership organization in the country and provides all judges, courts, and related agencies involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases with the knowledge and skills to improve the lives of the families and children who seek justice.

NIAAA – National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism - an empirically derived tool for identifying youth at risk for alcohol-related problems

Non-Custodial Diversion Section – This section of the Corrective Services Department of the Children’s Bureau helps with unruly children, processes truancy complaints, handles traffic violations, and runs the Ceasefire and Community Services Programs.

Noncustodial Parent – The parent who does not have physical custody of the child or who has custody of the child for the smaller part of the year.

Office of Outcome Evaluation and Performance Improvement (OEPI) - This office gathers and examines data relevant to the many duties and activities of the court in order to assist in the continuous examination of systemic performance and to measure the effectiveness of the numerous programs offered at the court. This office is also

instrumental in addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities and Disproportionate Minority Contact.

Project STAND (Social – Emotional, Transition, Academic and Network

Developing) - a juvenile justice program that provides a mentor-based support focusing on building relationships with the youth and their families to reduce recidivism.

Pro se litigant – a party representing him or herself in court without the assistance of an attorney.

Protective Services Department – This department is part of the Children’s Bureau and handles all complaints alleging children to be dependent & neglect, abused, or abandoned as well as custody and visitation issues.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) - Racial and ethnic disparities exist if a specific minority group's rate of contact at a particular point in the juvenile justice system is different than the rate of contact for non-Hispanic whites or other minority groups.

School Based Probation Liaison (SBPL) - Partnership between Juvenile Court and Shelby County Schools (SCS) whereby trained school faculty/staff serve as liaisons with probation counselors for probationers who are students in those schools. Liaisons are paid a stipend by SCS for their work. Liaisons serve as monitors of school attendance and academic progress of probationers and as advocates and mentors for them in the school setting.

School House Adjustment Program Enterprise (SHAPE) – A Shelby County Schools program that aims to reduce the number of students sent to the court for minor infractions. This program allows students to continue with their academic studies and to

have their behavioral progress monitored by school staff, instead of being transported to Juvenile Court and obtaining a juvenile record.

Scire Facias – a judicial writ requiring the defendant to appear in court and prove why an existing judgment should not be executed against him (or her). This is often used as an enforcement and collection of judgments (such as child support).

Silver Alert – similar to an AMBER Alert, a Silver Alert goes out by email and text message to notify the public that an adult with Alzheimer's, dementia, or other permanent cognitive impairment is missing.

Subpoena – a formal document that orders a person to appear before the court at a specified day/time to give testimony. People that received subpoenas but fail to appear can be found in contempt of court and subjected to civil or criminal penalties.

Summons – a form of legal process that commands the defendant to appear before the court on a specific day/time to answer the complaint made by the plaintiff.

The Summons Review Program (SRP) is an innovative diversionary program for first-time misdemeanor offenders. The purpose of the SRP is to ensure that all children are afforded the same rehabilitative opportunities to decrease disproportionate minority contact by reviewing summonses prior to processing through the Juvenile Justice System while offering services and assistance to families as needed.

Trauma Informed Court - one in which judges recognize the people appearing before them have personally experienced acts of violence or other traumatic life events, and are also cognizant of the stress of the courtroom environment impact on trauma survivors.

Trauma Responsive Court – Being trauma responsive is multifaceted. We strive to create a trauma-sensitive culture by developing and upholding policies that address the

role that trauma may have on the youth that have contact with the court. We do this by providing a safe environment, assessing for trauma and referring families for services in the community to address trauma. Another way to make sure that the court is trauma responsive, all staff have been trained on trauma and secondary traumatic stress or vicarious trauma, so they learn to recognize when the nature of the work may be affecting them and constructive ways to address it.

TCSES – Tennessee Child Support Enforcement System.

Volunteer Service Bureau – the section of the court that oversees and provides administrative support for Court volunteer programs.

Youth Court - a volunteer-driven and youth-led Youth Justice and Juvenile Justice Diversion program in which a youth who has admitted culpability appears for a sentencing hearing before a jury of peers. The Youth Court volunteers are drawn from local high school students. While being mentored by licensed practicing attorneys, youth volunteers fulfill roles as, prosecutors, defenders, bailiffs, jury forepersons and jurors and have completed twelve to fifteen hours of program training. The Youth Court Program strives to promote feelings of positive self-esteem, a desire for self-improvement, and foster a healthy attitude toward community, rules and authority. The goal of Youth Court is to use positive peer pressure to ensure that young people who have committed minor offenses repair the damage they cause to their victims, families and our community.

Youth Services Bureau (YSB) - The mission of the Youth Services Bureau is to develop, manage and supervise community-based programs for youth in Shelby County who require supervision by the Court. The goals of the Youth Services Bureau are to correct, re-educate, redirect, and habilitate delinquent youth who come before the Court.



INDEX



Collections Department.....	8
Minute Department	8-9
Process/Parent Location.....	10-11
Court Services Division	16-17
Dedication to Leon Gray	129
Delinquency Placements (DCS – Corrective)	32
Dependency and Neglect Placements (DCS – Protective)	33
Detention Admissions	31
Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC).....	28
Employment and School Status by Complaint Type.....	115-119
Employment and School Status - Children with Delinquent Complaints	116
Employment and School Status - Children with Unruly Complaints	117
Employment and School Status - Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	118
Employment and School Status - Children with Other Complaints.....	119
Estimated Mental Capacity by Complaint Type.....	120-124
Estimated Mental Capacity - Children with Delinquent Complaints	121
Estimated Mental Capacity - Children with Unruly Complaints	122
Estimated Mental Capacity - Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	123
Estimated Mental Capacity - Children with Other Complaints.....	124
Evaluation & Referral Section.....	20
Family Income by Complaint Type	82-86
Family Income – Children with Delinquent Complaints	83
Family Income – Children with Unruly Complaints	84
Family Income – Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	85
Family Income – Children with Other Complaints.....	86
Foster Care Services.....	24-25
Glossary of Terms and Acronyms	134-142
Grade Placement in Relation to Age by Complaint Type.....	101-105
Grade Placement in Relation to Age – Children with Delinquent Complaints	102
Grade Placement in Relation to Age – Children with Unruly Complaints	103
Grade Placement in Relation to Age – Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	104
Grade Placement in Relation to Age - Children with Other Complaints.....	105
Graphs and Charts	29-128
Highlights - 2021.....	6
Homicides Committed by Juveniles 2012 - 2021.....	37
Hope Academy.....	22

Interagency Services.....	26-27
Judge’s Action Center	13
Judge, Legal Officers & Magistrates Photo.....	3
Juvenile Defender Panel	14
Juvenile Detention Services Center	21-22
Last Grade Completed by Race, Gender and Complaint Type.....	106-114
Last Grade Completed by Race – Males with Delinquent Complaints	107
Last Grade Completed by Race – Females with Delinquent Complaints.....	108
Last Grade Completed by Race – Males with Unruly Complaints	109
Last Grade Completed by Race – Females with Unruly Complaints.....	110
Last Grade Completed by Race – Males with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	111
Last Grade Completed by Race – Females with Dependent & Neglected Complaints.....	112
Last Grade Completed by Race – Males with Other Complaints.....	113
Last Grade Completed by Race – Females with Other Complaints	114
Living Arrangements by Gender and Complaint Type	73-81
Living Arrangements - Males with Delinquent Complaints	74
Living Arrangements - Females with Delinquent Complaints	75
Living Arrangements - Males with Unruly Complaints	76
Living Arrangements - Females with Unruly Complaints	77
Living Arrangements - Males with Dependent & Neglected Complaints	78
Living Arrangements - Females with Dependent & Neglected Complaints.....	79
Living Arrangements – Males with Other Complaints.....	80
Living Arrangements – Females with Other Complaints	81
Location of Residence and Length of Residence	90-95
Length of Residence - Children with Delinquent Complaints	92
Length of Residence - Children with Unruly Complaints	93
Length of Residence - Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints.....	94
Length of Residence - Children with Other Complaints	95
Location of Residence	91
Memphis and Shelby County Juvenile Court Mission.....	1
Non-Custodial Division, Children’s Bureau.....	18
Office of Clinical Services	14-15
Office of the Guardian ad litem	13-14
Office of Outcome Evaluation and Performance Improvement.....	20-21
Organizational Chart	4

Partnerships/Programs	24
Prior Referrals.....	87-89
Prior Delinquent Referrals.....	88
Prior Unruly Referrals.....	89
Protective Services Department.....	18-19
Referral Sources	125-128
Referral Sources - All Children (without SRP children).....	126
School Systems Referrals - All Children (without SRP children)	127
Summons Referrals (with SRP children).....	128
School Behavior by Gender and Complaint Type.....	96-100
School Behavior - Children with Delinquent Complaints	97
School Behavior - Children with Unruly Complaints.....	98
School Behavior - Children with Dependent & Neglected Complaints.....	99
School Behavior - Children with Other Complaints.....	100
Statistical Summary.....	5
The Court in Action (pictures).....	130-142
Traffic Violators	39-42
Traffic Violators by Age	41
Traffic Violators by Race.....	40
Traffic Violators by Gender.....	42
Trauma Informed Intervention.....	15
Types of Offenses 2011 – 2020	35
Volunteer Services Bureau	23-24
Youth Services Bureau.....	19-20

