



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF
JUVENILE SERVICES

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL:
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT
CRIME REDUCTION AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION
May 13, 2025

Vincent Schiraldi, Secretary

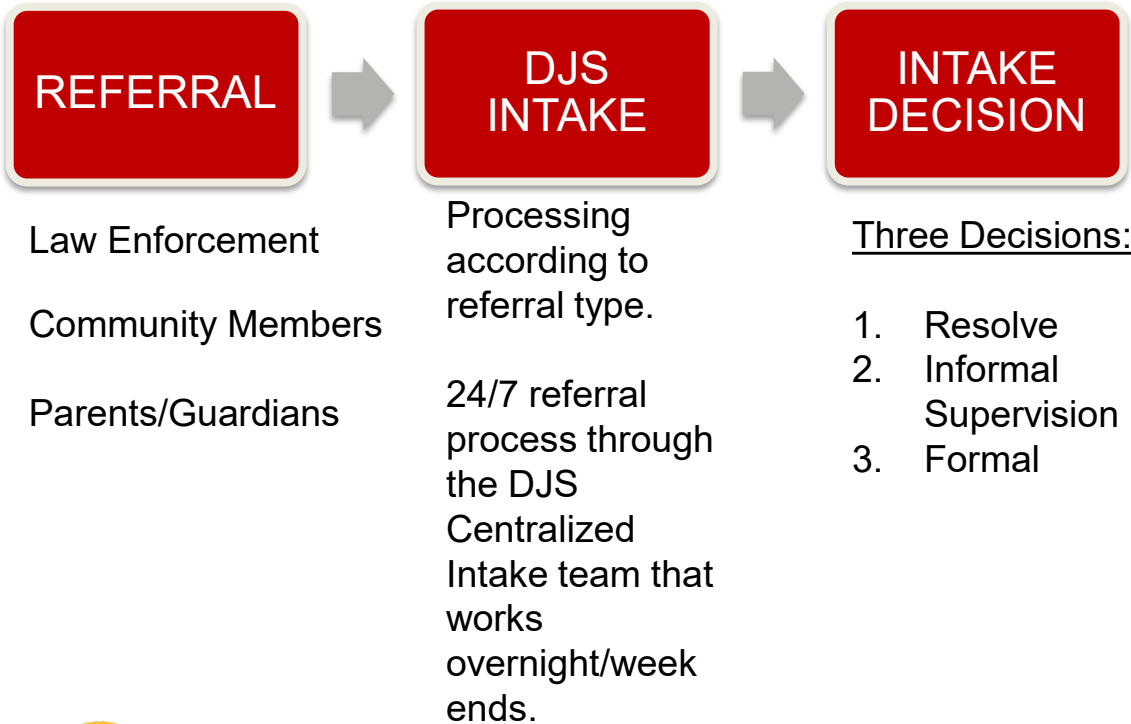
Presenter:

Lisa M. Garry, Deputy Secretary, Community Services


PRESENTATION TOPICS

1. Overview of System Processing
2. Review Data Trends
3. Baltimore City Initiatives and Collaboration
4. Baltimore City Key Outcomes

DJS INTAKE



DJS Intake Authority (from statute):

 Ability to divert misdemeanors
(*not including misdemeanor handgun or firearm offenses*)

 Ability to Divert Felony and Handgun Complaints

* All DJS diversion decisions are appealable to the State's Attorney's Office.*

Baltimore City Diversion Services:

- Teen Court
- Community Conferencing
- Family-Centered Treatment (FCT)
- Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- Behavioral Health Services
- Mentoring
- Victim Awareness Classes

82% of Baltimore City's diverted cases have no new sustained offense within one year.

DETENTION REQUESTS

DETENTION REQUEST

BPD or BCPS
School Police can
request detention

OBJECTIVE SCREENING

DJS uses a validated Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) to assess a youth's **risk of failing to appear in court and/or reoffending prior to their hearing.**

DJS INTAKE DECISION

DJS decisions based upon DRAI score and other factors (mitigating and aggravating)

DJS ATD and Detention Holds for 24-48 hours pending court decision next business day

COURT DECISION

Juvenile Court holds Emergency Arraignment for all youth DJS placed in detention or ATD on the next business day. Court can

1. Continue the DJS decision by order
2. Modify the DJS decision

Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI)

The DRAI is a tool utilized to determine whether to:

1. Authorize Detention;
2. Authorize Community Detention or another alternative to detention (ATD); or
3. Decline to authorize detention or Community Detention



COMMUNITY DETENTION CONTINUUM

(EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2024)

	LEVEL 1 COMMUNITY DETENTION WITH CURFEW	LEVEL 2 COMMUNITY DETENTION WITH EVENING REPORTING HOURS	LEVEL 3 GPS WITH CURFEW	LEVEL 4 GPS/CD WITH ELECTRONIC MONITORING
MONITORING SERVICES:				
DIRECT CONTACTS with SUPPORT Face-to-Face Contacts Phone Contacts (Youth and Parent)	YES	YES	YES	YES
COMMUNITY SUPPORT Home and Community Check-Ins Service Referrals	YES	YES	YES	YES
EVENING REPORTING HOURS Evening Reporting Hours: 3 pm – 9 pm		YES	For additional support as determined	For additional support as determined
LOCATION MONITORING Use of Electronic Monitoring or GPS			YES	YES
TOTAL HOUSE ARREST (THA) Required to remain in assigned residence at all times, with the exception of attending school, scheduled work, and approved family events/activities				YES



Adjudication

State's Attorney Review and Decision

- State's Attorney can elect to:
- File the petition;
 - Return to DJS for informal supervision; or
 - Refuse to file petition.

Adjudicatory Hearing

- At adjudicatory hearing, the Court can elect to:
- Find a youth delinquent;
 - Return the case to DJS for informal supervision; or
 - Find the youth not delinquent.

Delinquency Finding

If the Court finds the youth delinquent, the case moves to the disposition hearing where a disposition recommendation is made.

Court Decision

- For youth who DJS recommends an alternative to detention or detain until court, the Court will determine whether to:
 - Release to community
 - Implement an Alternative to Detention
 - Detain until next court hearing.

Disposition Recommendation

DJS uses the validated Maryland Comprehensive Assessment and Service Planning (MCASP) Tool to identify the youth's strengths, risk, and needs

After DJS meets with the youth and family to complete the MCASP, DJS then makes the recommendation to the Court at the Disposition Hearing.

Disposition Hearing and Court Determined Placement

Disposition Hearing

- For youth who are found delinquent, the Court conducts a disposition hearing



Court Determined Placement

- At the Disposition Hearing, the Court can choose to place the youth:
 - In out of home placement
 - On probation through DJS

Statutorily Mandated Probation Terms*

- **Misdemeanor Offenses:** One (1) year, not to exceed two (2) years with extensions ordered by the Court.
- **Non-Violent Felony Offenses:** Two (2) years, not to exceed four (4) years with extensions ordered by the Court.
- **Felonies:** No statutory time limit up to age 21.

Only the court has the authority to release a youth from probation.

Out of Home Levels of Care*

Level 1 - Community Residential:

- Treatment Foster Care
- Group Home
- Therapeutic Group Home
- Independent Living

Level 2 - Staff Secure Residential

- Treatment Program (DJS Operated)
- Group Home (on grounds school)
- Therapeutic Group Home (on grounds school)
- Residential Treatment Center (RTC)

Level 3 – Hardware Secure

- Treatment Program (DJS Operated)
- Residential Treatment Center (RTC)

Only the court has the authority to release a youth from treatment.

KEY HB 814 LEGISLATION



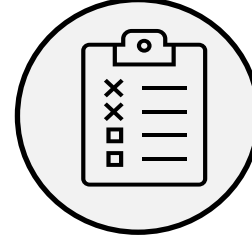
INTAKE OPERATIONS

Changes in
Case Forwarding
Requirements



LAW ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES

Changes in police
handling of youth
under 13 with motor
vehicle theft charge



DETENTION REQUIREMENTS

Changes in
placement of youth
under age 13 in
secure detention



ELECTRONIC MONITORING NOTIFICATION

Changes in DJS
reporting of
violations

Baltimore City Trainings

DJS conducted numerous trainings regarding HB 814 implementation leading up to and following November 1, 2024 including but not limited to:

- **The Baltimore City Juvenile Court**
- **The State's Attorney's Office**
- **The Public Defender's Office**
- **Baltimore Police Department**
- **Community Stakeholders**

Baltimore City Juvenile Complaints Are Down Long-Term, and Year to Date in 2025

- ↓ Complaints are down **32%** between 2015 - 2024. (From 4,443 to 3,045)
- ↓ Complaints are down **24%** year to date 2025 over 2024. (From 1,115 to 848)
- ↓ Violent Complaints down **52%** year to date 2025 from 2024. (From 437 to 211)

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

- **Thrive Academy**
- **Thrive Passport**
- **ACCESS ATD (TOJ ATD)**
- **Probation Transformation**
- **Community Continuum Expansion**
 - Workforce Development
 - MST

DJS COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES WITH BALTIMORE CITY STAKEHOLDERS:

- BPD Youth of Concern Weekly Meetings
- Electronic Monitoring Headquarters Tours
- Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement
- Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform and Emerging Best Practices
- Youth Violence Stat Participation
- Mayor's Office of Family and Child Success (MOCFS) and Office of African-American Male Achievement (MOAAMA)
- Childhood Fatality Review

BALTIMORE CITY OUTCOMES

- **One-or-Two and Done:** The majority of youth referred to DJS with a complaint have no further referrals.

70+% of Baltimore City youth with first or second-time complaints in FY 2021 did not have a second within five years.

- **Non-Detained Success Rate:** Youth who were initially recommended for detention by law enforcement but were released by DJS Intake or the Court within three days show consistently high success rates

70.5% of Baltimore City youth had no new offense or FTA within 60 days

- **Probation Recidivism (for youth based on probation in FY 2022)**

70.5% of Baltimore City youth had no new sustained juvenile or adult convictions within one year.

- **Treatment Program Recidivism (for youth released from committed treatment programs in FY 2022)**

80.4% of Baltimore City youth had no new sustained juvenile or adult convictions within a year.