



State of Kansas

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November 14, 2016

Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight
Implementation of 2016 Senate Bill 367

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My name is Amy Raymond and I am the Director of Trial Court Programs for the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA). I am the chair of the SB 367 Judicial Branch Implementation Team (JBIT) and serve as the OJA representative on the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee.

Since its passage, the Supreme Court and OJA have been working on implementation of SB 367. Early in the process, the Judicial Branch Implementation Team was created to facilitate the implementation. This team is composed of various members of the judicial branch who bring their experience and expertise to the table. The team meets monthly to discuss the various pieces of SB 367 that pertain to the judicial branch.

Several sections of SB 367 require collaboration between the Supreme Court, OJA and the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC). To assist with the work, OJA staff and KDOC staff meet on a regular basis to discuss the progress of implementation. Three subgroups, consisting of three individuals representing the judicial branch and three individuals representing KDOC or county-operated community corrections, were created to draft proposals for certain elements of SB 367, specifically: (1) earned discharge and graduated responses, (2) immediate intervention, and (3) cutoff scores. The subgroups consulted with the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) as necessary for technical assistance. Two of the three subgroups, immediate intervention and earned discharge and graduated responses, submitted proposals for OJA and KDOC to review and consider. OJA staff is reviewing the proposals internally at this time.

OJA and KDOC staff are working with CJI regarding data collection as it relates to SB 367. CJI staff meet with OJA and KDOC staff each month to discuss the steps necessary to ensure both agencies are collecting and validating all data, such as that from risk and needs assessments, needed to fulfill the reporting requirements of SB 367. The discussions at this time have centered on data collection and an interrater reliability study.

JBIT created an additional subgroup to examine the training requirements of SB 367. The subgroup has asked CJI to provide assistance with the training protocol required in new Section 10 of SB 367. District court judges and district magistrate judges have received training at the annual judicial conference and regional trainings. The judicial branch contracts with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) to train court services officers. UCCI is a national leader in evidence-based practices training. CSOs receive training on the Youth Level of Service risk and needs assessment and on evidence based practices to ensure officers are trained in accordance with the bill. One such training, Effective Practices in Community Supervision, is scheduled for this winter.

Implementation has its challenges; it is a long and slow process. Judicial branch staff members are working through the SB 367 requirements and challenges logically and systematically. The issues that require collaboration with KDOC are complex for both entities. The topics require significant effort, hours of discussion and good faith negotiation from both sides. Judicial branch staff continue to collaborate and work diligently toward solutions that are in the best interests of the youth of Kansas.