



**RESOLUTION BY THE COLORADO JUVENILE JUSTICE AND
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

ENDORING SPECIALIZATION IN JUVENILE COURT PRACTICE

WHEREAS, One hundred and ten years ago, Colorado was the second state in the nation to establish a separate juvenile court for children accused of misconduct that would be criminal if committed by an adult in order to hold children accountable for their behavior through developmentally appropriate responses and treatment that both protects the public and assists the child in becoming a productive member of society;

WHEREAS, Juvenile delinquency court provides an opportunity for interventions that can help protect communities, restore victims and communities from harm, provide children appropriate treatment, education, and counseling, to improve outcomes for youth and families, and prevent future offending and deeper involvement in the juvenile or criminal justice system;

WHEREAS, Children in juvenile delinquency proceedings face direct consequences, such as secure confinement, shackling, placement outside of their family home, probation, and commitment. The collateral consequences of a juvenile adjudication can have lasting detrimental effects on a child's current and future ability to attend school, the child's or family's ability to secure housing, obtain a job, obtain credit, or enroll in college, all of which hinder the ability to make progress from a delinquency adjudication;

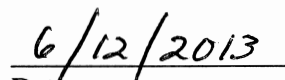
WHEREAS, The quality of legal representation and professionalism is critical to the juvenile court's effective administration of justice, and participants in juvenile delinquency court should understand relevant principles from child development and psychology, brain research, juvenile law and procedure, criminal law and procedure, child abuse and trauma, programs and services, collateral consequences, an ability to communicate with children and youth, in addition to professional responsibilities and ethics;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Colorado Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Advisory Council supports the specialization of attorneys, judges, caseworkers, probation officers, and other juvenile justice system professionals in juvenile delinquency court, to include:

- Specialized training, preparation, and education
- Establishment of standards of practice
- Familiarity with local and state programs and services

ADOPTED on the 31ST of May 2013.


Bonnie E. Saltzman, Chairperson


Date