

To: Councilman Michael J. Gallagher
Chair, Cuyahoga County Public Safety and Justice Affairs Committee

From: Judge Ronald B. Adrine (ret.)
Chair, Juvenile Court Advisory Subcommittee

Councilman,

As chair of your Juvenile Court Advisory Subcommittee, I am proud to present its Final Report on our examination of the Juvenile Division of Cuyahoga County's Court of Common Pleas.

The subcommittee was tasked to review existing programs, outcomes, and recidivism rates in Cuyahoga County's Juvenile Justice system. We believe that the objective to assess current practices, pinpoint areas needing improvement, and propose recommendations and suggestions for greater efficiency, enhanced outcomes, and fiscal responsibility has been met. Our review responsibilities included to:

1. Examine Juvenile Court Programming and Recidivism.
2. Review the Juvenile Court's current programs and their effects on rates of recidivism.
3. Assess the existing programs utilized by the Court.
4. Identify any barriers or challenges in the current system.
5. Identify existing best practices.
6. Research and recommend additional programs and best practices, drawing from successful models implemented in other jurisdictions.
7. Conduct a financial needs and resource assessment, including a thorough assessment of the financial resources required to implement recommended changes and improvements, and, finally;
8. Provide a detailed budget outlining the financial needs associated with proposed reforms.

We organized our work to help the County Council implement the guidance provided effectively and responsibly.

After the report has been reviewed, subcommittee members are ready to discuss its content and provide the reasoning behind their conclusions.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if I can assist you further with this matter.

Very truly yours,

Ronald B. Adrine