

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

**RE: ACCESS TO WITNESSES, RECORDS, DOCUMENTS, AND
ANY OTHER EVIDENCE RELEVANT TO THE
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

Whereas, the Juvenile Justice Commission (previously known as the “Adjudicated Juvenile Rehabilitation Review Commission”) was established by the Supreme Court of Appeals to provide a complete and thorough review of West Virginia’s juvenile justice facilities, as well as the rules, regulations, and procedures being utilized in these facilities, in order to ensure that children in custody are being educated and rehabilitated in a safe and protected manner; and

Whereas, the Juvenile Justice Commission subsequently expanded its review of West Virginia’s juvenile justice facilities to include all facilities inside and outside the State of West Virginia where a juvenile may be placed outside of the home as a result of cases involving abuse and neglect, delinquency and status offender matters, which includes, but is not limited to all Division of Juvenile Services facilities, all Department of Health and Human Services facilities inside and outside the State of West Virginia, and all psychiatric hospitals in West Virginia that house juveniles; and

Whereas, by prior order entered October 3, 2014, **Ms. Cindy Largent-Hill** was named a Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission; and

Whereas, by prior order entered October 3, 2014, **Ms. Alicia Lauderman Mascioli** was named a Deputy Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission; and

Whereas, by prior order entered October 3, 2014, it was directed that Ms. Largent-Hill and Ms. Mascioli shall have full and unimpeded access to witnesses, records, documents and any other evidence that is relevant to: 1) the Court-ordered review of the juvenile justice facilities in the State of West Virginia and those outside the State of West Virginia that house juveniles placed outside the State of West Virginia by a circuit court in the State of West Virginia; and 2) to aid circuit court judges in West Virginia in carrying out the judges’ adjudicative responsibilities; and

Whereas, the review by the Juvenile Justice Commission must include complete access to records and evidence related to the full scope of the juvenile justice process, including cooperation and assistance from juvenile probation officers, which was not entirely addressed by the order of October 3, 2014; and

Whereas, the Director and Deputy Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission, as well as juvenile probation officers, are employees of the Supreme Court who are required to comply with all applicable confidentiality requirements;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission, **Ms. Cindy Largent-Hill**, and the Deputy Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission, **Ms. Alicia Lauderman Mascioli**, shall have full and unimpeded access to witnesses, records, documents and any other evidence that is relevant to:

(1) juveniles in the juvenile justice system, who are either arrested by law enforcement, referred to court for a petition to be filed, or involved in pre-petition diversion;

(2) the Court-ordered review of the facilities operated by or contracted by the Division of Juvenile Services;

(3) review of the facilities, inside and outside the State of West Virginia, that house juveniles in the juvenile justice system who are placed by a signed order of a circuit court judge in West Virginia;

(4) aiding circuit court judges in West Virginia in carrying out the judges' adjudicative responsibilities within the juvenile justice system.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED, that juvenile probation officers employed by the Supreme Court are hereby directed to cooperate fully with the Director and Deputy Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission with regard to inquiries about matters that have been referred to or are being handled by juvenile probation officers.

ENTERED this 14th day of July, 2015.


MARGARET L. WORKMAN
Chief Justice

Attest: 
Rory L. Perry II, Clerk
Supreme Court of Appeal

