



# Committee for Public Counsel Services Youth Advocacy Department

## Juvenile Defense Network

### **About Us**

The Juvenile Defense Network (JDN) is an initiative of the Youth Advocacy Department. JDN provides training and support for juvenile defenders throughout Massachusetts.

The Youth Advocacy Department (YAD), a department of the state's public defender office, the Committee for Public Counsel Services, has an office in Roxbury and Worcester and represents hundreds of children each year. YAD integrates the work of attorneys, social workers, and community outreach workers, to fully address the legal and developmental needs of our clients.

### **Trainings and Publications**

JDN trains juvenile defense lawyers across Massachusetts on a variety of issues. Additionally, JDN develops publications to assist juvenile defense lawyers in their practice. The publications are available to download at:

<http://www.youthadvocacydepartment.org/jdn.htm>. Some of the training topics we cover include:

- Adolescent Brain Development
- Collateral Consequences of Juvenile Adjudications
- Competency to Stand Trial
- Juvenile Dispositional Advocacy
- Miranda Waivers
- Probation Surrenders
- School Search and Seizures
- School Suspension and Expulsion
- Understanding Psych Testing
- Youthful Offender Representation

### **Resources for Lawyers**

#### **Advice**

JDN and YAD staff attorneys are available to answer advice calls from lawyers seeking assistance in representing their clients. For advice, contact Wendy Wolf ([wwolf@publiccounsel.net](mailto:wwolf@publiccounsel.net)) or Mona Igram ([monaigram@yahoo.com](mailto:monaigram@yahoo.com)). Or, call either YAD office and ask to speak with a YAD staff attorney.

#### **Expert Database**

JDN maintains a database to assist lawyers in hiring experts for evaluating competency and criminal responsibility, waiving Miranda, adolescent brain development, and juvenile sex offenders. If you are ever in need of an expert

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please contact Wendy Wolf ([wwolf@publiccounsel.net](mailto:wwolf@publiccounsel.net)) or Sarah Sallen ([ssallenyap@gmail.com](mailto:ssallenyap@gmail.com)). For experts in areas such as arson, accident reconstruction and DNA, contact Anne Goldbach ([agoldbach@publiccounsel.net](mailto:agoldbach@publiccounsel.net)).

## JDN Listserv

JDN maintains a listserv for juvenile defenders practicing in Massachusetts. Members can pose questions and share information with other attorneys throughout the state. To join the listserv visit: <http://www.youthadvocacydepartment.org/Listserv.htm>. Motions, articles, news reports and studies are available on the listserv by topic so that members can access them for use in their practice. For questions regarding accessing this information contact Sarah Sallen ([ssallenyap@gmail.com](mailto:ssallenyap@gmail.com)).

## JDN Website

The JDN website features cutting edge research on hot topics in juvenile law, case updates, practice guides, information on upcoming events, as well as frequently asked questions and links to other juvenile justice website. Visit JDN online at <http://www.youthadvocacydepartment.org/jdn.htm>.

## Caselaw Updates

Yearly updates of juvenile law cases are posted on the JDN website.

## Juvenile Defender Support

### Advice

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### Juvenile Defender Advisory Council

The Juvenile Defender Advisory Council (JDAC) is a collaboration of the CPCS private counsel division, YAD, and juvenile supervising attorneys from each bar advocate program in Massachusetts. The JDAC meets four times a year to discuss training, practice and advocacy issues throughout the state. For inquiries contact Mona Igram ([monaigram@yahoo.com](mailto:monaigram@yahoo.com)) or Helen Fremont ([hfreemont@publiccounsel.net](mailto:hfreemont@publiccounsel.net)).

### Educational Advocacy

The EdLaw project is a collaboration between YAD and the Children's Law Center of Massachusetts. EdLaw offers direct advocacy for educational services for Boston area youth and provides training and advice to lawyers state-wide regarding educational issues and school issues. To set up a training or for advice on educational issues contact Marlies Spanjaard ([mspanjaard@publiccounsel.net](mailto:mspanjaard@publiccounsel.net)) or visit : <http://www.youthadvocacydepartment.org/edlaw/edlaw.htm>.

## Contact Us

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