



The
news
letter
of

The Judges' Page website - March 2010

Dear Michael Nash:

Crossover Cases: Children and Youth Involved in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems

Collaboration and coordination — among public agencies, attorneys, judges and CASA volunteers — are critical when dealing with crossover cases. This issue of *The Judges' Page* reviews multiple aspects of handling the crossover case. Thanks to the Permanency Planning for Children Department for taking the lead in securing most of the articles for this issue.

~ J. Dean Lewis, editor

[Click to go to *The Judges' Page* newsletter and read the new issue .](#)

Articles:

Crossover Cases: Children and Youth Involved in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems

*J. Dean Lewis, Judge (retired), Former Member, National CASA Association Board of Directors
Past President, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges*

Summary: Crossover cases vary in definition but share several commonalities: these are challenging cases which require collaboration and coordination among all entities involved to achieve positive outcomes for youth. [Article...](#)

NCJFCJ Recognizes and Actively Addresses Needs of Crossover Youth

Mary Mentaberry, Executive Director, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Summary: Throughout the process of guiding systemic change in both dependency and delinquency cases, it has become clear to model court lead judges and others within NCJFCJ that there is significant overlap in one particular area: the crossover youth population involved or at risk of being involved in both the dependency and delinquency systems. [Article...](#)

Message from the President of NCJFCJ

Judge Douglas F. Johnson, President, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Summary: For those who have crossover youth in delinquency and dependency courts, I encourage you to break down the silos between courts to better serve these youth and families. [Article...](#)

The Leadership Role of the Judge in Coordinating the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare System to Achieve Effective Outcomes

*Judge Ernestine Gray, Chief Judge, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, New Orleans, LA
President, National CASA Association Board of Trustees*

Summary: Now is the time for juvenile court judges, as a part of their leadership, to call attention to the special needs of crossover youth and use their collaboration skills to bring the various systems together to more effectively manage these cases. [Article...](#)

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Cross-Over Committee

Judge Amy Davenport, Administrative Judge, Superior Court of Vermont, Member, NCJFCJ Board of Trustees

*Judge Patricia Escher, Presiding Juvenile Court Judge, Pima County Juvenile Court Center
Tucson, AZ*

Judge Nan Waller, Circuit Court Judge, Multnomah County Courthouse, Portland, OR

The three authors serve on the NCJFCJ Cross-Over Committee.

Summary: Achieving successful outcomes for crossover youth relies on effective collaboration both inside and outside the court. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has made crossover youth a priority by creating a cross-departmental committee to develop practice recommendations for judges hearing family and juvenile cases. [Article...](#)

Red Rover, Red Rover, Our Youth Are Crossover

*Karen Adam, Commissioner, Pima County Juvenile Court, Co-Lead Judge, Tucson Model Court Member,
NCJFCJ Board of Trustees*

Summary: In Pima County, the crossover effort has evolved into a sophisticated and nuanced system for ensuring the best possible results for children and families. [Article...](#)

Resiliency and Crossover: A Framework for Case Conceptualization

Jessica Pearce, Projects Coordinator, Juvenile and Family Law Department, NCJFCJ

Shawn C. Marsh, PhD, Director, Juvenile and Family Law Department, NCJFCJ

Summary: The judicial system has traditionally focused on reducing risk. We must also work to cultivate protective factors by developing a process for identifying enhancing and these attributes.

[Article...](#)

Summary of “Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice: Two Sides of the Same Coin”

*Shay Bilchik, Director, The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University
Former Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention*

*Judge Michael Nash, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court in the Los Angeles Superior Court
Secretary, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges*

Summary : Paula Campbell summarizes the author’s two-part series on the topic of crossover youth, which originally appeared in the Fall 2008 and Winter 2009 issues of NCJFCJ *Today* magazine. [Article...](#)

Summary of “An Imperative: Evidenced-Based Practice within the Child Welfare System of Care”
Candice L. Maze, JD, Consultant, Maze Consulting, Inc.

Summary: Synopsis of an article authored by Maze and others about the importance of evidence-based practice published in the Fall 2009 issue of *Juvenile & Family Justice Today*. [Article...](#)

Crossover Children Need CASA Volunteers

Jeanne Meurer, Lead Judge, Travis County’s Model Delinquency Court, Austin, TX

John Hathaway, Associate Judge, Travis County Juvenile Court and District Court, Austin, TX

Summary: We see in court everyday that CASA is an invaluable partner in reducing upheavals and moving children more quickly to safe, permanent homes. We look forward to the day when every abused and neglected child, including all crossover youth, will have the life changing benefit of a CASA volunteer. [Article...](#)

Meaningful Advocacy for the Dually Involved Youth

Cynthia Chauvin, Director, CASA Jefferson, Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court, Harvey, LA

Summary: Children in foster care who cross over into the delinquent population almost immediately forfeit their victim status. As advocates for child victims, CASA/GAL volunteers play a critical role in maintaining the child victim’s status. [Article...](#)

The Power of a CASA Volunteer in Juvenile Court

Carrie-Leigh Cloutier, Executive Director, Chaves County CASA Program, Roswell, NM

Summary: CASA volunteers are valued in juvenile court just the same way they are in dependency court. The Chaves County CASA Program has been training volunteers to provide advocacy in juvenile court since 1995. [Article...](#)

Policy Update: ABA Calls for Reform in Child Welfare/Delinquency "Crossover" Cases

Howard Davidson, Director, American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law

Summary: In this article, reprinted with permission, the author shares the ABA Commission on Youth At Risk’s call for reform in the handling of crossover cases. (246.78 KB PDF) [Article...](#)

Web Resources: Dual-Jurisdiction Youth

Paula Campbell, Permanency Planning for Children Department, NCJFCJ

Summary : Children who are involved in dependency courts are more likely to become involved in delinquency courts. The resources listed below contain useful links and resources to help courts work together and address the particular needs of dual jurisdiction youth. [Article...](#)

The comments of article authors do not necessarily reflect the policies of the National CASA Association or the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Connect:  



Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention

The Judges' Page newsletter is a publication of **National CASA** in partnership with **The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges**. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is dedicated to serving the nation's children and families by improving the courts of juvenile and family jurisdictions.

[Visit the NCJFCJ website...](#)

If you would like to update your email address or unsubscribe to *The Judges' Page* newsletter, please send an email to staff@nationalcasa.org.