

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 10-17**

Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program

WHEREAS, a significant number of juveniles who have a serious mental illness appear before judicial officers in the Superior Court's Family Court; and

WHEREAS, juveniles with mental health illness are at higher risk of reoffending; and

WHEREAS, the Superior Court recognizes the importance of reducing juvenile's behavioral symptoms that result in contact with the court and improving the juvenile's functioning in the home, school, and community; and

WHEREAS, the Superior Court decided with the support of the District of Columbia Department of Mental Health, Court Social Services, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Public Defender Service to develop a juvenile behavioral diversion program that will connect eligible and suitable juveniles and his or her parent, guardian, or custodian to, and intensely monitor engagement with, mental health services and supports in the community; and

WHEREAS, in order to implement the program, an additional calendar will need to be added to the Family Court;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is by the Court,

ORDERED, that an additional Family Court Calendar (Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program) be and hereby is established; it is further

ORDERED, that all judges presiding over Family Court Calendars where juvenile matters are assigned may certify cases to the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program; it is further

ORDERED, that the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program shall be administered in accordance with the attached memorandum, which provides a detailed description of the program; and it is further

ORDERED, the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program shall begin on January 3, 2011, although referrals to the program can be made and assessments for the program can be

performed prior to that date.

SO ORDERED.

BY THE COURT

DATE: November 19, 2010

/s/

Lee F. Satterfield
Chief Judge

Attachments

Copies to:

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Magistrate Judges

Executive Officer

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