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Juvenile Justice Forum Encourages Agency Collaboration

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Sep 14, 2010

It was a chance meeting, but highly impactful. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Commissioner Garland Hunt struck up what he expected to be a casual conversation on an elevator Tuesday. It turns out the man alongside him worked as a prosecutor in the state and had a lot to say to the newly appointed DJJ chief....

Zero Tolerance, Zero Common Sense? Author Proposes Widespread School Security Reform

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Sep 14, 2010

Police officers, armed security guards, surveillance cameras and metal detectors are now commonplace at schools across the country. They go hand in hand with zero tolerance policies adopted by school systems in the wake of highly publicized outbreaks of violence. In a new book, *Homeroom Security: School Discipline in an Age of Fear* author Aaron...

Saggy Pants Ban: Will It Overload Dublin, GA Courts, Encourage Racial Profiling?

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Sep 9, 2010

By Chandra R. Thomas Dublin, Ga. Juvenile Court Judge William Tribble, Sr. says he has plenty of work to keep him busy on the bench. Now's he's concerned that a new ordinance signed into law Tuesday banning saggy pants in the middle Georgia city might end up overloading an already jam-packed court docket. "I can..."

Cobb Alcohol Taskforce Targets Adults, Recruits 100+ Teens

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Sep 8, 2010

The Cobb County Alcohol Taskforce has a unique approach to curbing the number of young people who drink illegally – crack down on adults. "It's about rattling adults out of complacency and rubbing the sleep out of politician's eyes to get them to wake up to the problem of underage and youth binge drinking that..."

DJJ School System Loses Out On Some Federal Money, But Is Preparing For Dual Accreditation

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Sep 3, 2010

By Chandra R. Thomas Department of Juvenile Justice School System leaders are recovering from a major disappointment, but also celebrating other victories while working toward maintaining the system's academic standing. First the bad news: The school system did not get any of the Race To The Top grant money received by 26 other school systems...

GA Non-Profits: Kids Will Suffer In Aftermath of State Budget Cuts

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Aug 31, 2010

By Chandra R. Thomas Wanted: Hard working employee. Must enjoy engaging with children. Ability to work long hours as part of a skeletal staff for minimal pay is required. Morale low. Employer's future status uncertain. Leaders at many non-profit organizations in the state that serve children say a bogus ad like this epitomizes the work...

DJJ Unveils Severe Budget Cuts: Is There A Silver Lining?

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Aug 27, 2010



By Chandra R. Thomas Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice Board members say there's possibly a silver lining to the proposed 2011 budget cuts released today. They say despite the many challenges the cuts raise, there's great potential for positive outcomes from the reductions recently mandated by Governor Sonny Perdue, but they're mostly contingent on legislative...

Sept. 1 Target Date for ABA "Collateral Consequences" Campaign Launch

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Aug 24, 2010



By Chandra R. Thomas Many young people are ignorant of the penalties that they could face for breaking the law. American Bar Association (ABA) leaders, however, think that even fewer are aware of how those same penalties could affect their lives well after they've fulfilled their debt to society. The effects – everything from suspended...

Former DJJ Commissioner: "Shock Incarceration" Ineffective,

Expensive

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Aug 20, 2010

Just over a decade ago former Juvenile Justice Commissioner Orlando Martinez, 70, was the highest-ranking Latino in state government. He resigned abruptly from his post in 2003 amid fallout over his decision to close a troubled Augusta youth prison. Now the Founder and Senior Partner of the Atlanta-based consulting firm, Martinez Tjaden, LLP keeps plenty...

Former DJJ Commissioner: Stop “Wholesale Incarceration of Kids”

Written by [Chandra R. Thomas](#) on Aug 17, 2010

Georgia’s former Juvenile Justice Commissioner has a lot to say about the state of the system. Orlando Martinez was once credited with helping to address what a federal report called “egregious” conditions in the state’s juvenile detention system, but he resigned abruptly from his post in 2003 amid fallout over his decision to close a...

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