

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
AND
THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH**

WHEREAS, The *Emily J.* Settlement Agreement dated June 3, 2005, will expire on September 30, 2007; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Children and Families (hereinafter DCF) and the Judicial Branch (hereinafter Judicial) recognize that many of the services, protocols, interventions, and procedures developed through the *Emily J.* Settlement Agreement are in the best interest of court-involved children ; and

WHEREAS, DCF and Judicial recognize that their working relationship that has developed during the course of the implementation of the *Emily J.* Settlement Agreement has been beneficial to DCF and Judicial and to the interests of court-involved children;

THEREFORE, in order to continue to promote the interests of court-involved children DCF and Judicial agree, subject to the right to terminate or extend this Agreement as set forth below, to continue the following through September 30, 2009:

DCF will continue to provide a liaison to each of the state-operated Juvenile Detention Centers. The liaisons will facilitate information-sharing between the DCF area offices, the Detention Centers and the Juvenile Probation offices. The liaisons will continue to screen all detention admissions for DCF involvement, notify area offices of DCF-involved children admitted to detention, ensure that area office triage meetings occur for DCF-involved children, and provide information on DCF services to Detention and Probation staff and other court personnel. Judicial will continue to provide office space, access to equipment and, as allowed by law, client information.

DCF will continue to hold triage planning meetings for all DCF-involved children admitted to detention, will develop service plans as appropriate, and will provide detention release service recommendations to the child's probation officer for presentation to the Court. Judicial, through its Juvenile Probation Officers, will present DCF detention release service plans to the court at detention hearings

DCF and Judicial will continue to jointly consider and develop, as appropriate, community-based treatment plans through the Case Review Team (CRT) process or as part of the Child and Adolescent Needs And Strengths (CANS) residential planning process, in order to divert detained children determined to be at imminent risk for residential treatment into appropriate community-based services.

Additionally, Judicial and DCF will develop and implement a second-level CRT for children in detention for whom a residential treatment match has not been found after 45 days or when the child was matched by the CRT but 45 days have elapsed since the match and placement has still not occurred. This second level CRT will be convened with the original CRT and with a senior level representative(s) with some clinical expertise from DCF and/or Judicial.

DCF will continue to fund the services and flexible funds as described in the Settlement Agreement, based on funding availability and service effectiveness. If, during the term of this agreement, any services are determined not to be effective, DCF may terminate specific contracts and reallocate any funds to other services or programs that benefit detention-involved children at risk for residential treatment. DCF will seek Judicial's agreement on the reallocation of any funds to other services or programs.

Further, within available resources, DCF will provide, or arrange for, additional technical assistance to the MTFC provider in order to expedite the development and expand the utilization of treatment foster care beds statewide. DCF will authorize the MTFC provider to immediately hire staff for Team 3 for the Bridgeport area.

DCF and Judicial will continue the current practice of assigning management level staff members to oversee and coordinate the services, protocols and procedures outlined in this memorandum. Both agencies will continue to support local coordination and service-planning by the DCF area offices, the local probation offices, the detention centers, providers and community stakeholders.

DCF will continue to fund a quality assurance project through the University of Connecticut Health Center through June 2008 and if funds permit, either DCF or Judicial may continue this project beyond that date. DCF and Judicial will continue to monitor service utilization and effectiveness, and rates of triage and diversion for detention-involved children. Contracted providers and agency staff will continue to submit utilization and/or program reports on a monthly basis to DCF and Judicial management staff, as required, and DCF and Judicial staff will continue to aggregate and analyze these data.

DCF and Judicial will jointly establish a Diversion Review Committee (DRC) that will meet quarterly to review overall progress in diverting detained children from residential treatment, through the review of aggregate data, and will make recommendations regarding any systemic or programmatic impediments to diversion. The DRC will be provided with such written reports, generated through the quality assurance project, as are necessary for it to conduct its review. A representative from the Center for Children's Advocacy will be invited to join this committee.

DCF and Judicial will conduct periodic training and retraining for all probation supervisors and adolescent treatment supervisors and voluntary services supervisors in regard to the availability and efficacy of community-based services and flex funds to maintain class members in their communities.

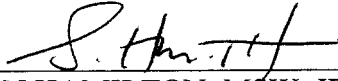
DCF and Judicial agree to work cooperatively to develop, request, and advocate for budget appropriations to advance the purposes of the MOA as deemed necessary by DCF and Judicial.

This agreement may be cancelled by DCF or Judicial upon (90) ninety days written notice, or may be extended or otherwise modified by the written agreement of both DCF and Judicial.

AGREED:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES

DATE: 9/7/07

BY: 
SUSAN HAMILTON, MSW, JD
COMMISSIONER

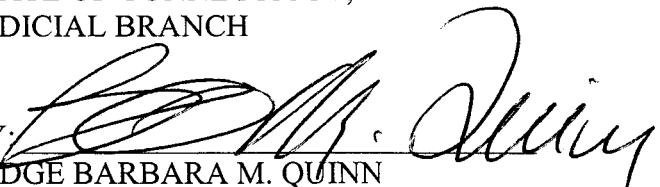
STATE OF CONNECTICUT,
JUDICIAL BRANCH LEGAL SERVICES
APPROVED AS TO FORM

DATE: 9/11/07

BY: 
MARTIN R. LIBBIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,
JUDICIAL BRANCH

DATE: 9/11/07

BY: 
JUDGE BARBARA M. QUINN
DEPUTY CHIEF COURT ADMINISTRATOR