Resolution in Support of the Best Practices and Principles of the
Enhanced Juvenile Justice Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in
Juvenile Justice Cases

WHEREAS, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges provides cutting-edge training and technical assistance to courts handling juvenile justice cases across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges developed and published the original Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines to help courts identify problem areas, plan for change, and implement improvements in handling of juvenile delinquency cases; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges used the original Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines as a blueprint to provide training and technical assistance to judges from courts across the nation presiding over juvenile justice cases; and

WHEREAS, many juvenile courts have used the original Guidelines to make significant, systemic improvements which have improved outcomes for youth and families across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the new Enhanced Juvenile Justice Guidelines build on the foundational material included in the original Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Enhanced Juvenile Justice Guidelines incorporate the most recent improvements in recommended court practice, recognizing advances in neuroscience, an understanding of adolescent development, and juvenile specific rulings from the Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges recognizes the importance of the Guidelines and the impact on the entire juvenile justice system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges endorses the Enhanced Juvenile Justice Guidelines, and encourages and supports the dissemination and implementation of these best practices and principles nationwide.

Adopted by the NCJFCJ Board of Directors, July 27, 2019, in Orlando, Florida.