



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

IN YOUR
STATE



Virginia

2022

The *National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges* (NCJFCJ) continues to provide quality education to judges and other judicial professionals despite the limitations imposed by COVID-19. Through webinars, Zoom calls, and other virtual methods, the NCJFCJ maintained its role as the national leader in judicial education and continued to provide the knowledge and skills that improve the lives of families and children who seek justice.

- In 2021, the NCJFCJ fulfilled 24 requests for technical assistance.
- In 2021, the NCJFCJ trained 244 judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals working to protect **Virginia's** children, families, and victims in our communities.
- The Judicial Engagement Network (JEN) Fellowship Program allows judges to enhance their skills as judicial leaders within the court and in their communities on domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues. A judge from **Fairfax** is a Fellow in the third class of the JEN Fellowship Program, which began in 2021.
- **Virginia** is a Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care (LSC) for Children and Youth Technical Assistance project site and works with the NCJFCJ to promote healing for victims of crime, provide prevention and intervention services to youth and families experiencing trauma, and build capacity within communities to meet the needs of youth exposed to violence.
- As part of the Implementation Sites Project, the NCJFCJ provides targeted training and technical assistance to the **Chesterfield Juvenile and Domestic Relations Circuit Court** (under the leadership of **Judge Scott Landry**) and to the **Roanoke City Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court** (under the leadership of **Judge Heather Ferguson**) to improve the handling of child abuse and neglect cases, reduce the number of children in foster care, and improve outcomes for children in care.
- The NCJFCJ is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention (OJJDP) to provide targeted support to the **Tidewater County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC) Team**, which is in the planning stages of implementing the *Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines*. The NCJFCJ provides targeted support through identification of needs through local data; in-person and remote strategic planning to implement a JDTC program; and individualized training and technical assistance.
- A **Virginia** judge received training on trafficking risk factors, victim identification, effective intervention strategies, and cultural considerations during the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking.
- **Virginia** judicial system professionals received training on opioids and the challenges associated with intervention, treatment, and prevention.
- In partnership with the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, the NCJFCJ conducted a juvenile probation data capacity assessment for **Fairfax County** and provides technical assistance to improve data use and dissemination.
- The NCJFCJ has 103 Judicial and Associate Members in **Virginia**. **Communities In Schools**, headquartered in **Arlington**, is an Organizational Member of the NCJFCJ.
- **Judge Gayl Branum Carr** of **Fairfax** is an NCJFCJ Board Director. **Judge Roy B. Willett (Ret.)** of **Roanoke** is an NCJFCJ Past President. **Dale Erquiaga** of **Arlington** is a Sustaining Member of the NCJFCJ.

National Impact

In 2021, the NCJFCJ fulfilled more than **529** requests for technical assistance and trained more than **5,749** judges, judicial officers, attorneys, and other juvenile and family court-related professionals across the nation.

Areas of Focus

- ▶ **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
Diversifying the bench to better represent the children and families served
- ▶ **Domestic Child Sex Trafficking**
Improving outcomes for vulnerable and victimized children through judicial education and action
- ▶ **National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence**
Enhancing judicial skills to promote victim safety and batterer accountability
- ▶ **Juvenile Justice GPS**
Providing juvenile justice policy, practice, and statistics by state
- ▶ **Trauma-informed Courts & the Adolescent Brain**
Promoting trauma-responsive courts and practices informed by science
- ▶ **Child Abuse & Neglect Institute**
Improving outcomes for abused and neglected children through dependency court best practices
- ▶ **Linking Systems of Care for Children & Youth**
Promoting healing for victims of crime through trauma-informed prevention and intervention services
- ▶ **Military-connected Families**
Enhancing judicial skills to best serve military-connected families
- ▶ **Tribal Courts & ICWA**
Promoting collaboration between tribal and state courts
- ▶ **Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts**
Enhancing effectiveness in addressing youth and substance abuse
- ▶ **Animal Cruelty & Its Link to Violence**
Understanding the link between animal abuse and other forms of violence
- ▶ **Implementation Sites & Project ONE**
Approaching families holistically and improving outcomes for children in care
- ▶ **Self-care and Wellness**
Promoting judicial self-care and wellness for centering oneself for leadership

Contact information:
Joey Orduña Hastings, CEO
jhastings@ncjfcj.org

P.O. Box 8970
Reno, NV 89507
(775) 507-4777

[NCJFCJ.org](https://www.ncjfcj.org)

