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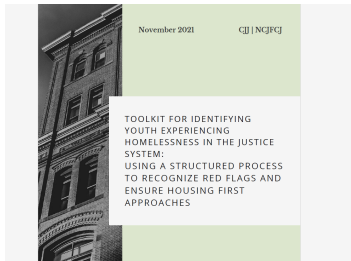
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Forward



November 2025 | Vol. 36, No. 2

Grantee Spotlight: Addressing Homelessness for Youth Involved in the Juvenile and Family Justice System



The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ) is proud to have the opportunity to further local efforts to address the unique needs of our children and families. In 2021, the NCJFCJ published the first of its kind, a toolkit for family court judges to better recognize red flags of families facing or experiencing homelessness. In 2023, SJI funded this project to pilot the toolkit locally within Washoe County, Nevada. Our judges who reside within the 2nd Judicial District Court were thrilled to utilize... [Read more](#)

In the News

The Reaching Rural Resource Center: Justice and Behavioral Health (R3C) Has Officially Launched!

The [Institute for Intergovernmental Research](#), in partnership with the [State Justice Institute](#), created the [Reaching Rural Resource Center: Justice and Behavioral Health](#). This site serves as a comprehensive resource hub and connection point to share timely publications, complementary websites, webinars and other virtual learning opportunities, and solution-oriented guidance specifically focusing on rural communities at the nexus of justice, behavioral health, and substance use disorder (SUD). The R3C will be maintained by IIR as a “living” space, evolving to reflect the dynamic disciplines, experts, and organizations driving solutions for rural America by continually canvassing... [Read more](#)

AI Literacy Curriculum Assists Judges, Court Personnel in Implementing AI Responsibly

Generative AI is transforming how courts automate processes, streamline workflows, and serve the public — creating opportunities for efficiency while raising questions about ethics, accuracy, and fairness. Judges, administrators, and court staff now have access to free, role-specific training to help them adopt artificial intelligence responsibly in court operations. To help courts implement AI responsibly, the Thomson Reuters Institute (TRI)/NCSC AI Policy Consortium for Law & Courts has launched AI Literacy for Courts. The new educational program was created by the consortium's workforce readiness workgroup and offers tailored learning pathways for judges, administrators, staff attorneys, court reporters, clerks, and interpreters. The program offers more than... [Read more](#)

Court Statistics Project Releases Data

Traffic cases continue to dominate state court caseloads while growing civil dockets are surpassing criminal cases with the second largest number of filings, according to newly released data from NCSC's [Court Statistics Project \(CSP\)](#). "We've been tracking traffic trends for some time, so we're not surprised by the 2024 data showing that traffic filings continued to recover after one of the largest drops during the pandemic," said Nicole Waters, NCSC's director of data, analytics, and forecasting. "By tracking these state and national trends, we provide important data-driven insights courts can use... [Read more](#)

Announcements



Upcoming Webinar!
The [National Association of Women Judges](#) (NAWJ) will be

hosting: *Court-Appointed Neutrals (Special Masters): When to Use Them, How to Pick Them, How to Benefit From Them* on **November 14th, 2025, at 1:00 PM EST**. The NAWJ has been at the forefront of efforts to rethink and rename the "special master" profession to make it more useful for judges. This webinar will be a practical discussion that will help attendees better understand this rule, when to use neutrals, how to choose excellent neutrals fairly and how



Upcoming Webinar!
The [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC) will be hosting: *How*

to Train Court Navigator Staff, Part 1 on **December 5th, 2025, at 1:00PM EST**. Join in for a year of learning and fun at **Court Navigator School** — a series of one-hour virtual webinar sessions that provide information, ideas, and tangible suggestions to help you start a navigator program or enhance your existing program. This session will look at how court navigator programs effectively train new staff and keep experienced team members current on the law, court

they can help the administration of justice. Register [here](#).

procedures, and community referrals. Register [here](#).



Ready to move from planning to doing?

Module 5 of the [Collaboration in Action:](#)

[A Toolkit for Courts and Counties](#) is your go-to guide for turning plans into action. Inside you'll find:

- ◆ A sample data-sharing agreement
- ◆ A reentry program flowchart
- ◆ Actual job descriptions from active county efforts
- ◆ Advice from county officials on what worked — and what to avoid.

This module is all about **implementation** — with real tools and honest insights from peers who've been there. This toolkit is an easy-to-use online resource created to support courts, county officials, and criminal justice system stakeholders. Click [here](#) to access Module 5 of the Learning Series.



Upcoming Conference!
The [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ) will be hosting the 2026

National Conference on Juvenile Justice taking place **March 15th – 18th, 2026**, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the [Hyatt Regency Minneapolis](#). The conference will feature amazing presentations on current and cutting-edge topics that will inspire you, broaden your knowledge, and provoke discussions about issues facing the juvenile and family court system. There will be plenary and breakout sessions on juvenile justice, trafficking, child welfare, court best practices, and innovative solutions. For more information and to register now, click [here](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to contact@sjj.gov by the 10th of the month.

Are you a SJI grantee interested in being featured in our monthly newsletter and on our website? Follow the instructions on our [Grantee Spotlight Submission Instructions page](#).



The next deadline to submit a grant application to SJI is **Feb 1, 2026**.

Learn more about [SJI grants](#) and [apply](#) today!



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