



LOUISIANA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
E. PETE ADAMS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Louisiana District Attorneys are dedicated to ensuring public safety for all Louisiana citizens and are the gatekeepers in both the adult and juvenile justice systems; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys recognize that developing an effective juvenile justice system that balances services to youth and public safety is the most effective way to achieve stronger communities and improve the quality of life for Louisiana citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association has convened a Juvenile Justice Task Force to research best practices and communicate information to its Board of Directors and General Membership; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association has partnered with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to encourage increasing effective alternatives to formal processing for juveniles; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys agree that crimes committed by juveniles require specific attention to the needs of the victim and the needs of the youthful offender; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys agree that keeping adjudicated youth closer to home increases the successful reintegration into the community and support a regionalized approach to providing services; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys agree that consistent and adequate assessment of youth risks and needs is a critical prerequisite to successful placement decisions; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys agree that a balanced juvenile justice system includes both treatment and accountability; and

WHEREAS the Louisiana District Attorneys Association recognizes that maintaining the adequate capacity of residential placements at the secure, moderate, and community based levels, allows decision makers to provide the most appropriate placement for youth based on needs; and

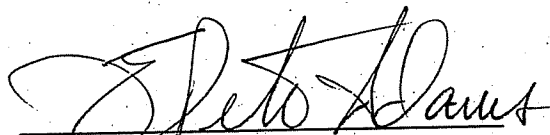
WHEREAS, the District Attorneys support open communication with the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, and the Office of Juvenile Justice to prioritize reform efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana District Attorneys Association does hereby support regionalized, therapeutic, multi-use facilities as the current priority for positive movement in juvenile justice reform efforts.

Certificate

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Louisiana District Attorneys Association Board of Directors at its meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

1/23/09
Date


E. Pete Adams
Executive Director and Secretary