



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Date: October 1, 2021

To: Sheriffs and Court Holding Administrators

From: Wisconsin Department of Justice - Juvenile Justice Compliance Staff

Subject: Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act (JJDP)

Amendments to the Act by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act

Congress passed the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA) in December 2018. This Act, which was effective October 2019, has made some amendments to the JJDP. One of the amendments changed the definition of an adult jail or lockup to now include court holdings. This change went into effect December 21, 2020.

Court Holding - "Court holding room" means a secure room outside the secure perimeter of the jail adjacent to or near courtrooms. (Wisconsin Administrative Rule, Chapter DOC 350)

What Does This Mean?

Beginning December 21, 2020, records must now be collected from court holdings to ensure juveniles are being sight and sound separated from adult inmates and not being held in excess of the 6 hours allowable under the JJDP. Court holdings will be requested to fill out a JJDP Annual Survey and submit a full year of records once every three years.

Why Does This Matter?

Wisconsin participates in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Title II Formula Grants Program. Compliance with the JJDP is required for Wisconsin to receive full funding.

What Should We Do?

If you are not currently keeping records of adults and juveniles being held in your holding rooms, please start. At a minimum, records should include for all offenders: date of hold, name of offender, date of birth, most serious charge, room held in, time in and time out.

If you are currently keeping records, please ensure the above information is currently being collected. Have questions? We're here to help!

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