

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Date: July 3, 2025

The Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention 999 N. Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20531

Ms. Eileen M. Garry

Connecticut remains committed to supporting State, local, and Tribal delinquency prevention initiatives, intervention efforts, and juvenile justice system improvements. As a returning State to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Title II Formula Grants Program, Connecticut had every intention of meeting all milestones outlined in the three-year plan that OJJDP presented us with, and becoming a fully compliant and participating state. The State hired a Juvenile Justice Specialist in August 2023 who immediately jumped into training for their various roles within this program but ultimately departed from the position mid-2024. In response to that unexpected departure, Connecticut quickly hired an exceptional replacement in October 2024. Our new Juvenile Justice Specialist immediately sought out the training required and has worked tirelessly on all the areas we need to be addressed to be compliant. She has made great progress, through several changes to available technical assistance options and various other factors out of her control, but we recognize that we have not met all the milestones.

Given these unexpected circumstances resulting in noncompliance with the core requirements, Connecticut was deemed ineligible to receive a FY 2024 OJJDP Title II award. This determination guided the State's decision to not apply for the FY 2025 OJJDP Title II funding opportunity. Connecticut's goals remain aligned with OJJDP's but need time and assistance to attain compliance in accordance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Connecticut recently passed new legislation that supports the establishment of a State Advisory Group (SAG) as a subcommittee of the Juvenile Justice Policy Oversight Committee. On 6/23/2025, The Office of Policy and Management met with the committee to begin discussions addressing SAG membership and bylaws.

With respect to the State's compliance with the other federal core protections, The Office of Policy and Management is in the process of drafting a State Compliance Monitoring Manual and completing a comprehensive monitoring universe. Upon completion, contact will be made with juvenile justice stakeholders to discuss the monitoring of the core requirements and mandated data collection. We have connected with both Georgetown University and The Coalition for Juvenile Justice to obtain technical assistance on proper implementation of the JJDP Act. Additionally, the Juvenile Justice Specialist, who also fills the role of the Compliance Monitor, met with New Mexico's Compliance Monitor on 6/27/2025 to obtain peer support until the OJJDP cohort trainings can resume.

We appreciate your grace and understanding. This pause allows us to dedicate the time necessary to reach full compliance and return to the program as a fully participating state.

Daniel Karpowitz, Undersecretary Office of Policy and Management

07/07/2025

Daniel Karpowitz

Date