I. POLICY:

DJJ Employees who are POST certified as peace officers and sworn by the Commissioner to perform their duties as certified law enforcement officers per OCGA §35-8-2 (8) and 49-4A-8, will be issued a Sworn Identification Card.

Sworn members of the department who retire in good standing and meet all other criteria of retired law enforcement officer per 18USC 926C, shall be issued a “Retired Identification Card” by the Department upon their separation from service.

II. DEFINITIONS:

Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer: as defined in 18 USC 926C, is an individual who:

- Has separated from service as a law enforcement officer in good standing with a government agency for an aggregate of ten years or more, or separated from such an agency due to a service-connected disability after completing any applicable probationary period of such service;

- Was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, or the incarceration of any person for any violation of law; and

- Is not prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm.

III. PROCEDURES:

A. Sworn Identification Card:

1. Members of the Department who are POST certified as peace officers, are in good standing with POST, and are sworn by the Commissioner to perform the duties of law enforcement officers shall be issued a “Sworn
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Identification Card”. The Sworn ID Card will be in addition to the DJJ Employee Identification and Locator Cards.

2. The sworn identification card will be two sided with one side displaying the DJJ Seal with the words “Official Identification” above the seal and the word “SWORN” below the seal. This side of the card will also display the Officer’s POST Training OKey number in numeric symbols as well as a bar code.

The second side will display the photo of the sworn member along with rank and name. Below the name will be the following language of authorization:

*Is authorized by Georgia Law [O.C.G.A §35-8-2(8) and 49-4A-8], and by the Commissioner of Juvenile Justice is hereby designated as a Peace Officer while in the course of his/her employment duties with the Department of Juvenile Justice who is authorized to exercise the power of arrest. Additionally, the Commissioner authorizes this peace officer to carry weapons, including firearms.*

Below the authorization will be the DJJ Seal, Signature of the Commissioner, and Employee ID number of the sworn officer.

B. Use of Identification Card:

1. The Sworn ID card will be used by the Officer to identify him/herself as Sworn Law Enforcement Officer acting in official capacity with the Department of Juvenile Justice.

2. Use of the Sworn ID card for personal gain, favor, or in any other non-official capacity is strictly prohibited. Penalty for using the ID card in this manner will subject the employee to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

C. Retired Identification Card

1. Members of DJJ who are sworn and certified law enforcement officers and who retire from the Department as a “Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer” as defined in this policy shall be issued a “Retired” Identification Card.

2. The retired identification card will be two sided with one side displaying the DJJ Seal with the words “Official Identification” above the seal and the word “RETIRED” below the seal. This side of the card will also display the Officer’s POST Training OKey number in numeric symbols as well as a bar code.
The second side will display the photo of the sworn member along with rank at retirement and name. Below the photo will be the DJJ Seal and the Signature of the Commissioner.

D. Use of Retired Identification Card:

1. The Retired ID card will be used by the Retiree to identify him/herself as Retired Law Enforcement Officer from the Department of Juvenile Justice.

2. The DJJ Retired Identification Card satisfies the requirements of “photographic identification issued by the agency for which they were employed” under 18 USC 926C to identify bearer as a “Qualified Retired Law Enforcement Officer”.

3. An officer separating from service with DJJ, who has been officially found by a qualified medical professional to be unqualified for continued service for reasons related to mental health and, for that reason, is not issued the photographic retired identification card, is not a qualified retired law enforcement officer as described in 18 USC 926C. Similarly, an officer who has been found by a qualified medical professional to be unfit for duty as a law enforcement officer, related to mental health issues, shall not be issued a DJJ Retired Identification Card.

IV. LOCAL OPERATING PROCEDURES REQUIRED: NO