



**DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, Georgia 30032  
404-508-6500 FAX: 404-508-7340

June 27, 2011

**TRANSMITTAL #11-06**

**TO:** DJJ Staff

**FROM:** Amy V. Howell  
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Howell".

**RE:** DJJ 11.17, Hunger Strikes  
DJJ 12.7, Clinical Field Placements  
DJJ 15.7, Access to Telephones  
DJJ 17.22, Designated Felon Order Modifications and Terminations  
DJJ 20.4, Interstate Compact and Out-of-State Supervision

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DJJ 11.17, Hunger Strikes, states that any youth who declares, initiates, or participates in a hunger strike shall have a Special Management Plan developed by health care and behavioral health staff. This policy replaces the existing DJJ 11.12, Hunger Strikes. The policy does not require local operating procedures. The following changes were made to the policy:

- After 24 hours or the rejection of 3 consecutive meals because of an apparent hunger strike, the facility Director (or designee) will make the following external notifications:
  - Deputy Commissioners of Youth Services and Programs and Education;
  - DJJ Medical Director (or designee);
  - DJJ Chiefs of Psychiatry and Psychology Services;
  - Regional Health Services and Regional Behavioral Health Services Administrators;
  - Juvenile Probation/Parole Specialist (JPPS);
  - Parent/legal guardian. (See Section E)
- After 48 hours or the rejection of 6 consecutive meals because of an apparent hunger strike, the youth will be referred to the facility psychiatrist or psychologist for a psychodiagnostic evaluation, in accordance with DJJ 12.12, Psychodiagnostic Evaluation, and will receive a thorough physical assessment by a facility physician or mid-level provider. (See Section F)
- In accordance with DJJ 12.23, Emergency Psychiatric Hospitalization and DJJ 11.19, Emergency Medical Services, health care and behavioral health staff, working in cooperation with the facility Director, will determine if the youth may be maintained in the facility or if transfer to a hospital or other facility is necessary. (See Section I)
- The right of the youth to refuse food, liquid, or medical treatment will be recognized as long as the youth is considered clinically stable. (See Section J)
- Monitoring of a youth will continue after termination of a hunger strike based upon the clinical judgment of the supervising physician and/or the Special Management Team. (See Section K)

DJJ 12.7, Clinical Field Placements, states that the Department of Juvenile Justice shall encourage partnerships with colleges and universities to offer clinical field placements for students from various clinically-focused disciplines. This policy is new. This policy does not require local operating procedures.

DJJ 15.7, Access to Telephones, states that to maintain ties with the community, each youth in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice shall have access to a telephone to make and receive personal telephone calls subject to facility/program procedure. This policy replaces the existing DJJ 15.7, Access to Telephones. The policy requires local operating procedures for all secure facilities staff.

- Upon admission to a DJJ facility/program or within two hours of arrival, a youth may make at least two telephone calls to his/her family members, legal guardians, or attorneys. (See Section A)
- The youth's community case manager will develop the initial approved telephone contact list in the Juvenile Tracking System (JTS). After admission to a secure facility, the facility case manager will maintain the approved telephone contact list in JTS. (See Section C)
- If the youth is from an independent court, the facility case manager, after verification with the assigned juvenile court worker, will develop the approved telephone contact list in JTS. (See Section D)
- Except for calls made through the automated phone system, all phone calls (both outgoing and incoming) will be documented in the Contact Log in JTS. (See Section N)

DJJ 17.22, Designated Felon Order Modifications and Terminations, states that all youth adjudicated as a designated felon who meet the applicable criteria shall be eligible to petition the court directly, or to have a petition filed on his or her behalf by the Department of Juvenile Justice, for modification or termination of their dispositional orders. This policy is new. This policy does not require local operating procedures.

DJJ 20.4, Interstate Compact and Out-of-State Supervision, states that the Department of Juvenile Justice shall comply with the 1955 Interstate Compact on Juveniles, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 39-3-1, *et seq.*, and the Association of Juvenile Compact Administrators Rules and Regulations. The Department shall further be authorized to contract and/or enter into Cooperative Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with all other non-member States in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 49-4A-7(a)(4), and to provide services, care, or maintenance costs, including travel costs, for runaways pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 49-4A-7(a)(3). This policy replaces the existing DJJ 20.21, Interstate Compact. This policy does not require local operating procedures. The entire policy was substantially revised.

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

DJJ Policy Manual

Remove the following policies from the policy manual

- DJJ 11.12, Hunger Strikes
- DJJ 15.7, Access to Telephones
- DJJ 20.21, Interstate Compact

Place the following policies in the policy manual

- DJJ 11.17, Hunger Strikes
- DJJ 12.7, Clinical Field Placements
- DJJ 15.7, Access to Telephones
- DJJ 17.22, Designated Felon Order Modifications and Terminations
- DJJ 20.4, Interstate Compact and Out-of-State Supervision

Make the proper notations