

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 9, 2009

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Commission on Crime and Delinquency
Commonwealth News Bureau
Room 308, Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

CONTACT: Tara Mead
(717) 265-8470

PCCD AWARDS RECOVERY GRANTS TO ASSIST COUNTIES, PROSECUTORS WITHIN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

HARRISBURG – The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency this week approved the award of approximately \$1.8 million in federal funds to help improve county juvenile court operations and provide training for juvenile system prosecutors.

Of that amount, \$1.6 million is from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act under the Justice Assistance Grant program for Juvenile Prosecution and Defense Capacity. The funds will be used by nine counties to hire or retain attorneys to assist in juvenile case processing and to reduce caseload size. These federal funds can be used to hire or retain public defenders and assistant district attorneys within the county’s juvenile court operations.

“These funds are a wise investment in improving the quality and efficiency within the juvenile court system,” said PCCD Chairman Walter M. Phillips Jr. “In addition, the funds will provide vital training for court personnel on a variety of juvenile justice issues, including up-to-date information and research on child and adolescent development and treatment programs designed to help juveniles become responsible and productive citizens.”

PCCD also approved four grants, totaling \$90,000, to counties for competency development programs for juvenile offenders. These programs help young offenders understand the impact of crime on victims, accept responsibility for their actions, and promote positive social development and decision-making skills.

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute will receive \$75,000 in federal funds to provide training for prosecutors in the juvenile justice system on legal matters pertaining to juveniles, child and adolescent development, treatment issues and related information.

As the state's justice planning agency, PCCD is dedicated to preventing and reducing crime in Pennsylvania and responding to the needs of victims. PCCD collaborates with the Governor's office, federal, state and local officials, juvenile and criminal justice agencies, victim service agencies, community-based organizations, non-profits, schools and others to achieve these goals.

For more information about PCCD, visit www.pccd.state.pa.us. For more information on how the federal Recovery Act is benefitting Pennsylvania, visit: www.recovery.pa.gov.

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Editor's Note: A by-county list of grant recipients and grant amounts follows:

Juvenile Justice Projects - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grants

Allegheny	\$137,500
Bradford	\$84,920
Dauphin	\$255,200
Erie	\$158,642
Franklin	\$132,094
McKean	\$195,000
Mercer	\$275,240
Philadelphia	\$272,278
Westmoreland	\$137,241

Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grants

Berks	\$3,726
Erie	\$29,385
Northumberland	\$30,000
York	\$26,932