

# JUVENILE DELINQUENCY COURT ASSESSMENT 2008



VOLUME 1



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN  
& THE COURTS



# Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment 2008

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS

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CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN  
& THE COURTS

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## Foreword

I am pleased to present you with the findings and recommendations of the Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment. The assessment represents the most thorough examination of the state's delinquency court system ever conducted.

This project's intention is to help improve both the administration of justice and the lives of youth, victims, and other community members affected by juvenile crime by helping to establish the baseline that should guide efforts over the coming years as we work to ensure the very best in the service of justice.



The areas of inquiry included hearings and other court processes; court collaboration with justice system partners; placement, treatment, and supervision options for youth; the perspectives of parties and interested groups; education and training; and court accountability. The methods of inquiry included statewide surveys of judicial officers and justice partners (judges, commissioners, referees, probation officers, juvenile prosecutors, and juvenile defense attorneys) and focus groups and interviews in select counties with youth, parents, victims, community members, juvenile probation officers, juvenile prosecutors and defense attorneys.

I invite the Governor, the Legislature, the judicial branch, state and local policymakers, and all interested parties to study this assessment's findings and recommendations and implement improved practices in the service of quality justice for the people of California.

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