

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 10-17**

**Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program**

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of juveniles who have a serious mental illness appear before judicial officers in the Superior Court's Family Court; and

**WHEREAS**, juveniles with mental health illness are at higher risk of reoffending; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superior Court recognizes the importance of reducing juvenile's behavioral symptoms that result in contact with the court and improving the juvenile's functioning in the home, school, and community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Superior Court decided with the support of the District of Columbia Department of Mental Health, Court Social Services, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Public Defender Service to develop a juvenile behavioral diversion program that will connect eligible and suitable juveniles and his or her parent, guardian, or custodian to, and intensely monitor engagement with, mental health services and supports in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to implement the program, an additional calendar will need to be added to the Family Court;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is by the Court,

**ORDERED**, that an additional Family Court Calendar (Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program) be and hereby is established; it is further

**ORDERED**, that all judges presiding over Family Court Calendars where juvenile matters are assigned may certify cases to the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program; it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program shall be administered in accordance with the attached memorandum, which provides a detailed description of the program; and it is further

**ORDERED**, the Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Program shall begin on January 3, 2011, although referrals to the program can be made and assessments for the program can be

performed prior to that date.

**SO ORDERED.**

**BY THE COURT**

**DATE: November 19, 2010**

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**Lee F. Satterfield**  
**Chief Judge**

**Attachments**

**Copies to:**

**Judges**

**Senior Judges**

**Magistrate Judges**

**Executive Officer**

**Clerk of the Court**

**Division Directors**

**Library**

**Daily Washington Law Reporter**