



Office of  
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY  
ATTORNEY**

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney  
William K. DeBaal, Deputy County Attorney  
Kate Pingolt Cotner, Assistant County Attorney

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Kate Pingolt Cotner, Assistant County Attorney *DKC*

**DATE:** December 6, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Interlocal Agreement with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice to Administer Local Juvenile Diversion Program

**Background:** Pursuant to Section 939.185, Florida Statutes, the Indian River County (County) collects fees specifically for the operation and administration of juvenile alternative programs. Historically, the local juvenile diversion program has been administered by the Court Administration for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit (Court Administration).

On April 9, 2018, Chief Judge Metzger of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit wrote a letter to the County which indicated the Court Administration would no longer administer the juvenile diversion programs after July 31, 2018.

On May 14, 2018, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) sent a letter to the County stating that it intends to partner with agencies in the community to ensure that the local youth receive civil citations and/or diversion opportunities. To do so, however, DJJ would need the remaining funds collected pursuant to Section 939.185, Florida Statutes, for current fiscal year 2017/2018.

On July 3, 2018, the Indian River Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved the recommendation by the County's Director of the Office of Management and Budget to authorize DJJ to assume responsibility for the administration of the local juvenile diversion program. The Board directed the County Attorney's Office to develop an interlocal agreement between the County and the DJJ for the Chairman's signature.

Subsequently, the County Attorney's office worked with DJJ to come up with an interlocal agreement.

**Funding:** Funding for any costs associated with the local juvenile diversion program would come from additional Court Costs/ Department of Juvenile Justice/Teen Court 14191023-088401. Funding in the amount of \$27,500 is budgeted and available for fiscal year 2018/19.

**Recommendation:** The County Attorney's Office recommends the Board of County Commissioners approve the attached interlocal agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign for the County.

**Attached**

Interlocal Agreement Between Indian River County and State of Florida Department of Juvenile Justice