**BY-LAWS OF THE**

**KANE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCIL**

The purpose of these By-Laws is to establish the Kane County Juvenile Justice Council (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”), its governing board, and the rules under which the Council and its governing board shall operate.

**Article I- Authority**

The Council is established pursuant to the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, 705 ILCS 405/6-12 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”). Membership in the Council and its governing board is determined by State Statute and these By-Laws.

**Article II- Purpose**

The purpose of the Kane County Juvenile Justice Council shall be as follows:

1. To provide a forum for the development of a community-based interagency assessment of the local juvenile justice system.
2. To encourage the initiation of, or support of ongoing, interagency cooperation and programs to address juvenile delinquency and juvenile crime.
3. To develop a county juvenile justice plan for the prevention of juvenile delinquency. The county juvenile justice plan shall include relevant portions of local crime prevention and public safety plans, school improvement and school safety plans, and the plans or initiatives of other public and private entities within the county that are concerned with dropout prevention, school safety, the prevention of juvenile crime and criminal activity by youth gangs
4. To make recommendations to the County Board for more effectively utilizing existing community resources in dealing with juveniles who are found to be involved in crime, or who are truant, or have been suspended or expelled from school, and for improvements to the juvenile justice system of a Kane County.
5. To promote and effectuate cooperation and coordination between the juvenile court and agencies and departments involved in the juvenile justice system.

**Article III – Duties and Responsibilities**

 The duties and responsibilities of the Council are:

1. To develop a county juvenile justice plan based upon utilization of the resources of law enforcement, school systems, park programs, sports entities, and others in a cooperative and collaborative manner to prevent or discourage juvenile crime.
2. To enter into a written county interagency agreement specifying the nature and extent of contributions each signatory agency will make in achieving the goals of the county juvenile justice plan and their commitment to the sharing of information useful in carrying out the goals of the interagency agreement to the extent authorized by law.
3. To apply for and receive public or private grants, to be administered by one of the community partners that support one or more components of the county juvenile justice plan.
4. To provide a forum for the presentation of interagency recommendations and the resolution of disagreements relating to the contents of the county interagency agreement or the performance by the parties of their respective obligations under the agreement.
5. To assist and direct the efforts of local community support organizations and volunteer groups in providing enrichment programs and other support services for clients of local juvenile detention centers.
6. To develop and make available a county-wide or multi-county resource guide for minors in need of prevention, intervention, psycho-social, educational support, and other services needed to prevent juvenile delinquency.

**Article IV – Membership**

1. Membership in the Council shall be as mandated by the Act. Each of the following county officers shall designate a representative to serve on the council: the Sheriff, the State's Attorney, the Chief Probation Officer, and the County Board. In addition, the Chief Judge may designate a representative to serve on the council.
2. Additionally, the Council members would include the Kane County Public Defender or designee, a representative of the Regional Office of Education, a representative from the Kane County Chiefs of Police, a representative from the Fox Valley Juvenile Officer’s Association, and a representative from the Kane County Bar Association.
3. The members identified in paragraphs A and B shall serve by virtue of their office and shall constitute the Board of Directors.
4. The Board of Directors shall elect the following officers from their members: a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Treasurer and such other officers as are deemed necessary. There can be co-Chairpersons of the Council.
5. These officers shall serve for two years from the date of their election as officers, at which time a new election will be held.
6. If a member of the Board of Directors leaves his or her office, the successor to that person shall assume membership in the Board of Directors. If the departing member is an officer of the Council, an interim election shall be held to fill the position vacated by that member.
7. The chairperson shall appoint additional members of the council as is deemed necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Council. The additional members may include, but are not limited to, representatives of local law enforcement, juvenile justice agencies, schools, businesses, and community organizations.
8. Members appointed to the Council, other than the Board of Directors, shall serve a two year term beginning in July of the year in which they were appointed.
9. Any member, other than the Board of Directors, may be removed by the Chairperson or a majority of the Board of Directors without cause.
10. The Chairperson shall preside at all Board of Director’s meetings and the general meetings of the Council.
11. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve as an assistant to the Chairperson and in the absence, or the inability, of the Chairperson, shall perform the duties of that office.
12. A quorum shall be necessary to conduct a vote. A quorum is the simple majority of currently active Council members, as determined by the Chairperson(s).
13. All matters put to a vote at a Board of Directors meeting shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board members unless otherwise stated in these By-Laws.

**Article V- Committees**

 The chairpersons may appoint committees to accomplish the purpose and goals of the Council.

**Article VI- Fiscal Year and Compensation**

1. The fiscal year of the council shall be the fiscal year of Kane County.
2. The Board of Directors may approve compensation, as needed, for all other professional services required by the Council to fulfill its statutory duties.
3. The Board of Directors will adopt the Council budget, including changes as necessary, with the approval of a majority of the Board members.
4. All disbursement of funds must be reviewed by the Council Chairperson, approved by the Treasurer and reported to the Board of Directors. Disbursements in excess of $500 must first be approved by the Board of Directors. If funds are accounted for in the Council budget, they will be deemed approved at time of disbursement.
5. The Treasurer is responsible for submitting all necessary grant documents to the State of Illinois and providing an annual reporting of the Council’s finances at the close of the fiscal year.

**Article VII – Grants from the Council**

1. The Council will offer Grants to public or private not-for-profit entities. These grants will be subject to an application process.
2. The Board of Directors will appoint a Grant Committee to oversee disbursements of grant monies and review the applications of potential grantees. The Treasurer shall serve on the Grant committee.
3. The Grant Committee will make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the disbursement of grant money to potential grantees. The Board of Directors will vote to approve the award of grant monies.

**Article VIII- Meetings**

General Council meetings shall be held at least semi-annually and the Board of Directors shall meet at least once per fiscal year. The date, time, and place of the meetings shall be determined by the Chairperson.

**Article IX – Rules of Order**

Robert Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of the Council in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with the By-Laws or the Act.

**Article X – Amendments**

 Amendments to the By-Laws shall be made by consent of at least ¾ of the members of the Board of Directors. The membership, purpose, responsibilities and duties of the Council, as set forth in these By-Laws, are intended to conform to the Act and shall be amended to incorporate any future amendments to the Act.