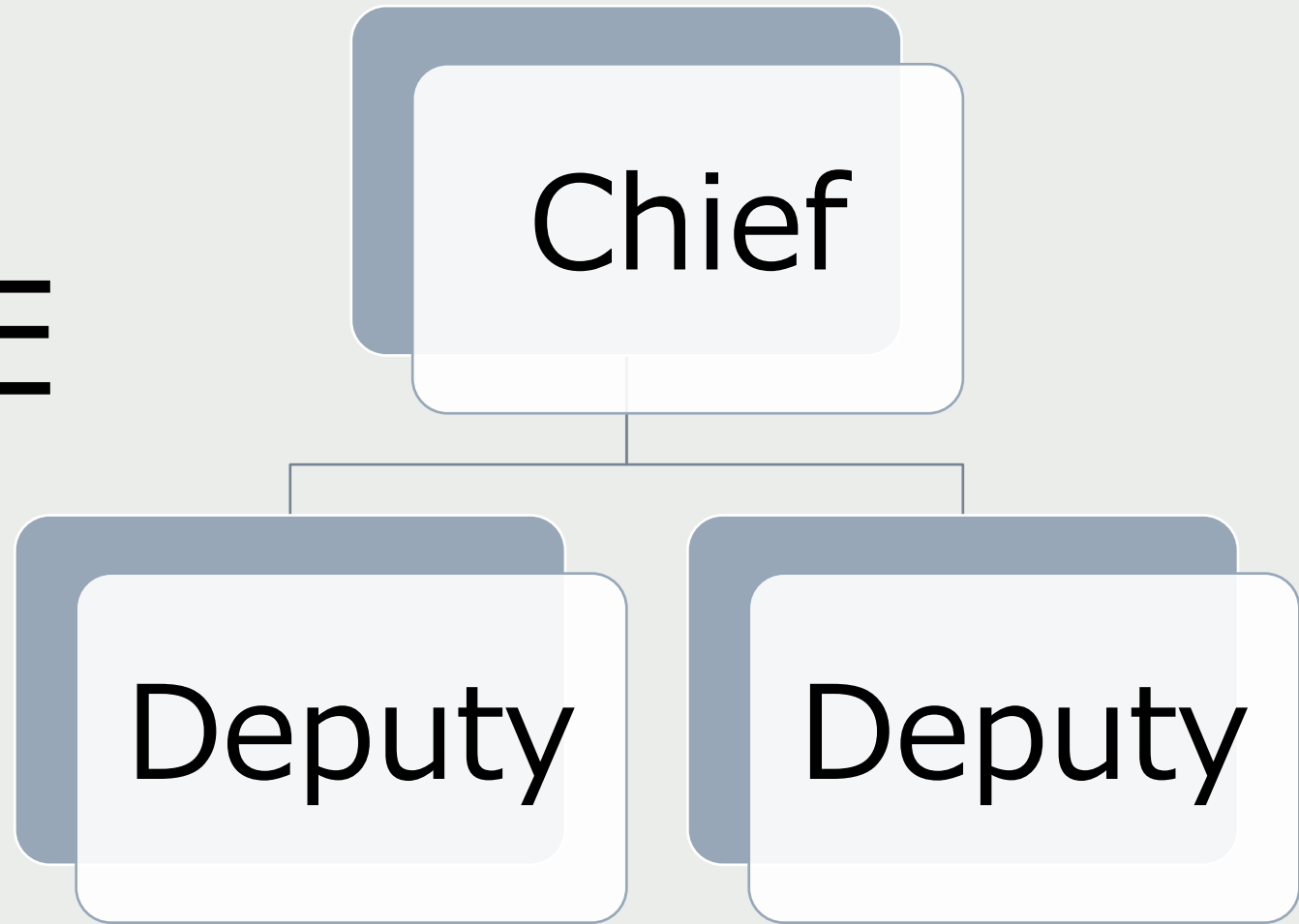


**WASHOE COUNTY PUBLIC  
DEFENDER'S OFFICE  
JUVENILE DIVISION**

# WHO WE ARE



We are supported by two Legal Assistants who also support 1 criminal chief, the appeals department, 2 criminal line deputies, and our adult hospitalizations.

We share our investigator with the misdemeanor team.

# WHAT WE DO



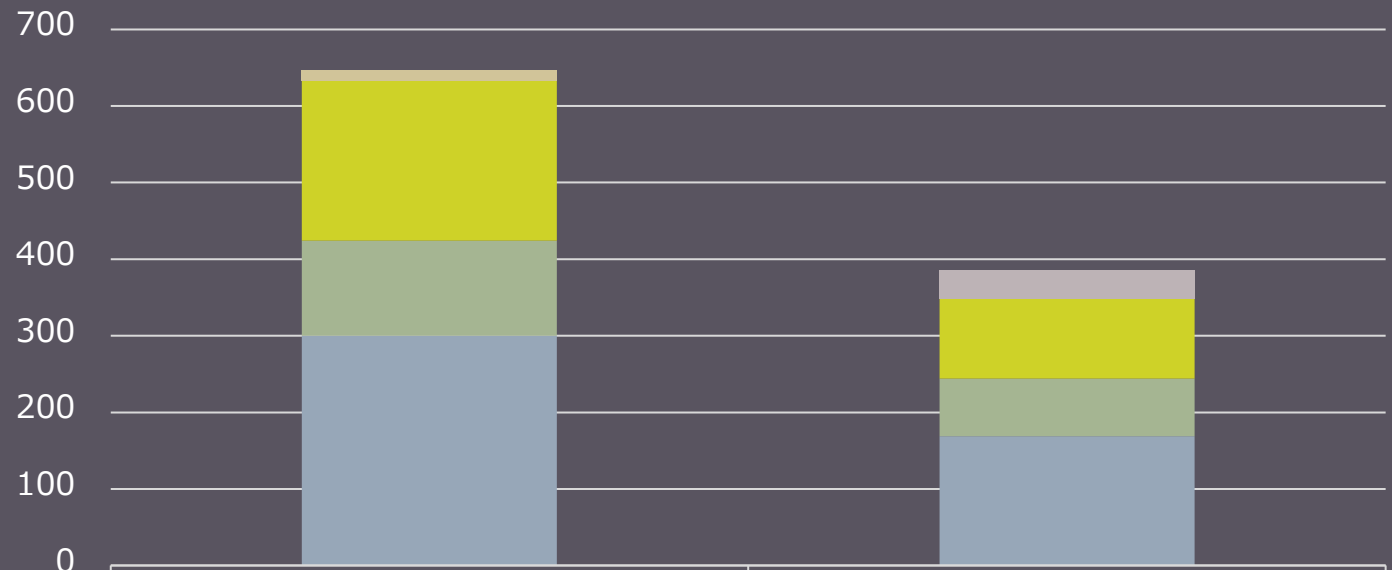
## ***In Re Gault* 387 U.S. 1 (1967)**

Was a landmark U.S. Supreme Court case that decided that juveniles accused of delinquent acts are entitled to due process rights, including the right to counsel, the right to confront witnesses, and the privilege against self-incrimination.

Juvenile legal defenders exist to ensure that young individuals who are involved in the legal system receive fair and appropriate representation.

We specialize in understanding the unique needs and circumstances of young people, advocating zealously for their rights and practicing bravely towards rehabilitative rather than punitive outcomes.

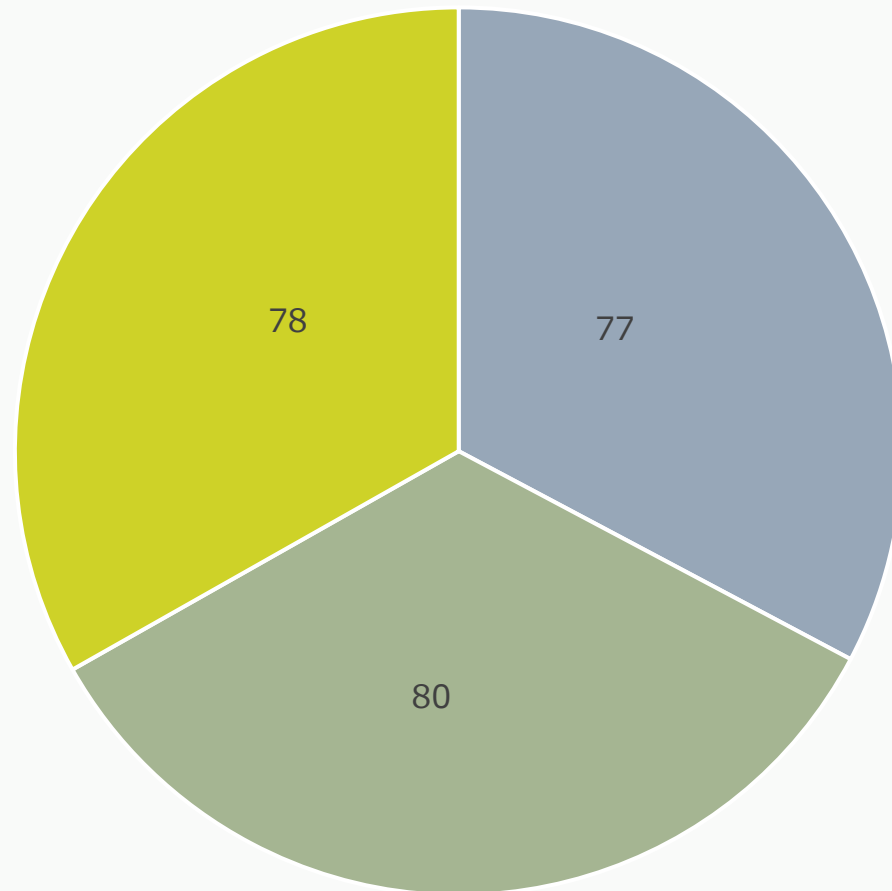
# 2023 Juvenile Cases



|                   |     |     |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| Other             |     | 37  |
| TPO               | 14  | 0   |
| Misdemeanor       | 209 | 104 |
| Gross Misdemeanor | 124 | 75  |
| Felony            | 300 | 169 |

Felony   Gross Misdemeanor   Misdemeanor   TPO   Other

## Current Caseload (4/23): 235 open juvenile cases



- Chief Stephanie Cook
- Deputy Katherine Maher
- Deputy Sean Sullivan

In addition to our juvenile caseloads, we...

1. Handle and cover discretionary certifications and automatic certifications through the juvenile court and throughout the adult criminal process.
2. Cover parole revocation hearings for adult clients once per month.
3. Serve as back up coverage for the misdemeanor team and the Justice Court specialty courts.
4. Serve as co-counsel in adult criminal matters.

## **Juvenile Defenders' Additional Responsibilities at the WCPD**



# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session

2025

# JUVENILE MIRANDA

In situations of custodial interrogation, and prior to making a waiver of rights under *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), youth under 18 years of age should consult with legal counsel to assist in their understanding of their rights and the consequences of waiving those rights.

**FELONY**  
**POSSESSION OF SCHEDULE 1 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE**  
**concentrated cannabis**

A child in possession of 1/8 ounce or less of concentrated cannabis for a first or second offense should be treated the same as a child who commits an alcohol or marijuana offense pursuant to NRS 62C.073 and 62E.173.

## **JUVENILE COURT DISCRETION TO REFER A CASE FOR INFORMAL SUPERVISION BY A PROBATION OFFICER**

Give the court discretion, after hearing argument from all interested parties, to refer a case for informal supervision regardless of the severity of the charge and regardless if there is an agreement from all parties.

## *Adam Walsh* requirements

Given significant research regarding the ability to rehabilitate juvenile sex offenders through treatment, juveniles should not be required to register as sex offenders and be subjected community notification.

# FUNDING

The Juvenile Legal System is intended to be rehabilitative. We, as stakeholders, are tasked to providing rehabilitative services in the least restrictive means available to treat youth. Given the dearth of community-based behavioral health services, youth can be unnecessarily penetrated into the system and placed outside of their home for treatment.

What we need:

- More providers available to conduct evaluations
- More providers trained in child/adolescent behavioral health to provide services on an outpatient basis
- More local residential services when the need arises to keep children in their community and close to familial supports
- Adequate funding for state-run facilities

**THANK YOU**

Stephanie Cook

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