

# JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN THAILAND

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## I. BEST PRACTICE IN THE INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

### A. Development of Model Treatment Programme Provided Separately from Adult Offenders

#### 1. Introduction

Juvenile delinquency refers to the behavior of non-adults which violates the rules and regulations set by the government or society. Today juvenile delinquency is a major problem in both developed and developing countries.

As a result of the growth in science and technology, industrialization, urbanization and the intensive flow of information, Thailand right now is facing a transition in values. The existence of the value transition can be marked by the diminishing of traditional values, the emergence of new values such as changing family patterns and lifestyles, and the lessening of community social controls. Along with this growth and changes, the number, rate and spread of juvenile delinquency, especially drug abuse among children and teenagers is apparently increasing. As per the statistics compiled and published by the Central Observation and Protection Center, the Ministry of Justice during 1996–2000.

#### *Juvenile Justice System*

Juvenile justice is a system distinct from the adult system and it has been

created by legislation; the Act Instituting Juvenile Courts, B.E.2494 (1951) and the Juvenile Procedure Act, B.E.2494 (1951). As a result, the Central Juvenile Court and the Central Observation and Protection Center were established by virtue of the Act in 1952. For the eleven years that followed the Acts were amended to extend to the juvenile courts' jurisdiction and to bring speedy trials in criminal cases in the interests of the child or young person.

Recently, the Act instituting the juvenile and family court and its procedures relating to juvenile and family cases of 1991 superseded all 13 juvenile court laws and amendments. The new Act has extended the court jurisdiction to cover all family matters as provided by the family law, the civil and commercial code. In criminal proceedings and the welfare of juveniles, the law has clearly defined and revised certain provisions to protect the rights of children and young persons.

#### *Organizations*

The Juvenile and Family Court (JFC) is a constituent of the organized judiciary of Thailand. It is a specialized court of the first instance within the meaning of the constitutional Court of the Justice. At present, there are 10 Juvenile and Family Courts and 24 Juvenile and Family Sections in provincial Courts. All juvenile and Family Courts have similar comprehensive structures. They consist of two separate but coordinating parts; judiciary and administration. The Court is staffed by career judges and associate

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judges (lay judges). A quorum consists of associate judges.

The administration is divided into:

1. Office of the Courts' registrar
2. The Observation and Protection Center (OPC)

*The Observation and Protection Center (OPC)*

The OPC was established to serve the JFC before the trial of juveniles and family affairs cases and after the adjudication of juvenile cases, moreover to carry out other activities according to the orders of the court as well as to correct and rehabilitate juveniles to be good citizens.

Professional personnel include probation officers, social workers, psychologists, physicians, psychiatrists, etc. There are 34 centers throughout the country.

In 1993, His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to proclaim that the new Constitution B.E.2540 (1997) had been enacted. Under this Constitution, all courts of justice became independent. Consequently, the constitution for the organization of the courts of justice of 2540 (1997) governs all courts of justice which are separated from the Ministry of Justice and a new organizational structure and administration was set up. The OPC still remains under the office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice.

2. Juvenile Case Procedure

An overview of the juvenile justice system and juvenile case procedure in Thailand shall be described in pursuance of the juvenile law and criminal procedure.

*Pre-adjudication process*

Under the criminal procedure code any injured person may file a complaint to the police against a child or young person. When a child or young person is alleged to have committed an act against the law, his case shall be commenced and investigated by an inquiry police officer, as required by ordinary criminal cases but the handing of a juvenile offender is more informal and lenient.

A competent inquiry police officer, who is assigned to a case, has the power to conduct an investigation within his territorial jurisdiction:

- where an offence has actually been committed,
- is alleged or believed to have been committed; and
- the offender is residing or has been arrested within his territorial jurisdiction.

(i) *Arrest*

In principle, a child shall not be arrested for an offence unless a flagrant offence or an injured person identified and insisted on the arrest or a warrant of arrest is made in pursuance of the criminal procedure code. After apprehension, the police officer in charge of the case or who keeps the child or young person in custody is required by law to notify the Director of the OPC, his parents, guardians or a person with whom he is residing.

(ii) *Investigation*

The officer shall conduct an initial inquiry and is required to complete this within 24 hours from the time a child or young person has arrived at his office. He will then refer him to the OPC. Further inquiry, if needed may proceed under the law.

(iii) *Detention and Provisional Release on Bail*

In general, a child or young person may be detained during investigation at the police station or in a remand home of the Observation and Protection Center (OPC). The Director of the OPC may, if he thinks fit, keep him in custody. Under the law, a request for provision release on bail of the arrestee shall be made to the custodial authorities as the case may be.

(iv) *The OPC is empowered and vested by law to perform the main functions as follows;*

- a. Preparing a social investigation report concerning a child or young person such as historical background, family, occupation, education, character, crime motive and other social data.
- b. Preparing a report on both physical and mental examination.
- c. Preparing an observation report in the case of a child or young person who has been detained in a remand home.

A social investigation report is required in every case, except pre-hearing investigation which is not necessary in trivial cases. In the process a probation officer who is in charge of the case will deliver an investigation report to the police within 18 days. The officer, usually, will conclude his case in 6 days, then forward an inquiry file attached with the report to the public prosecutor who has discretionary power to decide in pursuance of the procedural law whether to enter or drop the charge.

The Director of the OPC will submit the report together with his routine recommendation on causes of delinquency to the JFC.

(v) *Prosecution and Deferred Prosecution*

If the public prosecutor decides to institute prosecution, he has to enter a charge in the JFC within 30 days from the day in which a child or young person has been arrested. In case of necessity when the charge against the offender cannot be filed within the mentioned period, the police officer or public prosecutor who is responsible for the case shall apply by motion to the court for deferment.

In case of a grave offence where the minimum imprisonment is 5 years or over, the court may, if it thinks fit, grant longer deferment.

(vi) *Trial*

The JFC procedure will be informed and simplified for the interest of a child or young person. The judge in charge of the case may call the accused for questioning or explain the proceedings in order to assist him. The trial is held in private. The persons present at the trial are the accused, parents, guardians, legal advisory, witness, prosecutor, members of the court and other persons permitted by the court. Photographs, reports on facts presented at the inquiring proceedings are not to be released to the public. An attorney shall not be appointed in the juvenile court, except a legal advisor. If the child or young person has no legal advisor, the court shall appoint one for him if it considers it desirable.

(vii) *Adjudication*

After the trial is completed, prior to a judgment or an order being given, the court will hear the report and opinion of the Director of the OPC, including his recommendation for measures to be taken.

The JFC always takes the following measures;

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1. Admonish the child or young person and then discharge.
  2. Discharge parents or guardian with probation order.
  3. Place under the care of person or organization the court thinks desirable.
    - a. Suspended judgment with probation order.
    - b. Suspended judgment without probation order.
  4. Commit into juvenile institution.
  5. Substitute imprisonment to commit into juvenile institution order.
  6. Suspension of judgment with probation order
  7. Fine
  8. Imprisonment
2. Forbidding the child or young person to leave his residence at night time except in case of necessity.
  3. Forbidding the child or young person to associate with any person who is deemed undesirable by the court.
  4. Forbidding the child or young person to do any act which might corrupt him.
  5. Order the child or young person to present himself from time to time to the court or probation officer or social worker who was assigned by the Director of the OPC.
  6. Order the child or young person to take up education or carry on any substantial occupation.

**B. Designing a Case Management System to Provide Individualized Treatment**

Treatment and rehabilitation for juvenile delinquents in Thailand are administered by the OPC. There are 2 treatment programmes for as follows;

1. Non-institutional treatment
2. Institutional treatment

1. Non-institutional treatment

*Probation service.* Probation is used by the JFC to place an offender at liberty under the supervision of a probation officer for a period prescribed the court. Probation is commonly used on first offender committing an offence of relatively minor nature.

The following conditions prescribed by the court under the supervision of the probation officer are as follows:

1. Forbidding the child or young person to enter any place or locality which might corrupt him.

A probation officer provides supervision and personal guidance to probationers through regular home visits and interviews them during the probation period, and exercises his/her professional skill and knowledge of local resources to meet the needs of the probationer and, where necessary, that of their family members for financial assistance, employment, etc. The probation supervision is brought back to the courts for review from time to time. The probation report with detailed information pertaining to the probationer's behavior is considered to see how he/she has improved and whether there are reasons for revocation of the original order.

The Ministry of Justice and the Probation Division of the OPC operates a volunteer scheme for probationers which aims at providing greater community involvement in the rehabilitation of offenders as from 1995. Under this scheme, selected volunteers provide probationers with personal and moral support and help them develop meaningful hobbies, habits, cultivate

healthy pursuits, find jobs and provide tuition for them.

The volunteer, however, will not take over the role of the probation officer who is dealing with the legal aspect of duties and solving the behavioral problems of the probationer. The volunteer is expected to assist a probationer in activities which require no professional skills.

Suitably recruited volunteers will be given a training and orientation course conducted by the OPC and Department of Probation, Ministry of Justice before they are considered ready for service. Based on the probation cases, probation officers may select a suitable volunteer from the pool of unmatched volunteers to assist a probationer. Once a case is matched, it is the duty of the probation officer to regularly contact the volunteer to keep track of the progress of service and to review its effectiveness on the probationers.

## 2. Institutional Treatment

A training school is a juvenile institution receiving juveniles committed by the JFC for protective and innovative measures in lieu of a penal sanction. Juvenile institutions set up in the OPC are divided into 3 types;

1. The Training School (There are 22 training schools for males and females in the whole country)
2. The Vocational Training School (There is 1 school.)
3. The Therapeutic Community Center (There is 1 center.)

### *Training School*

These schools take juveniles through the order of the JFC, where it appears to the court that other means of rehabilitating them has failed. It should

also be noted that these juveniles are not in any sense seriously demoralized. The objective of a juvenile training school is to facilitate readjustment to society and to promote sound growth through disciplined communal life, academic and vocational training, counseling and living guidance.

At present, there are 12 training schools for boys and 10 for girls throughout the country. Since juveniles are committed to the training schools in order to receive reformatory treatment and are still at the stage of character formation, educational programmes are conducted. The school programme aims to develop adjustment skills and life skills of inmates through regular guidance, vocational training, education, moral and religious instruction and recreational activities. While most of these activities help instill specific disciplines in them, general discipline is encouraged through a system of granting or revoking rewards and privileges. The rewards and privileges used include home visits, pre-release among others, participation in special activities, etc.

At the beginning of their stay, stress is placed upon developing the social skills required to maintain good human relations with other inmates. In the pre-release period guidance is provided to help juveniles prepare for return to outside social life after release. Juveniles are given the opportunity to return to society as well as to adjust themselves to their families and society. This training school provides various programmes for juveniles, they must choose the course that they prefer and for which they have enough skill, except juveniles who did not finish compulsory school who have to study until they finish. Programmes of these schools are as follows:

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(i) *Academic education.*

Juveniles will be placed at a level relative to their previous academic history prior to their admission. The curriculum of educational programmes and standard of education are under supervision and controlled by the Non-Formal Education Department, Ministry of Education.

(ii) *Vocational training.*

Vocational training is provided in training schools so as to enhance employment opportunities. Each training school arranges different vocational courses depending on the employment market and resources in that area. Juveniles are encouraged to qualify for official licenses and certificates. These cover a wide range of craft and technical subjects including printing, carpentry, welding, air-condition repairing, electricity, automobile repairing, hair-cutting, ceramics, music training, agriculture, dress making, women's handicrafts, cookery, etc. An inmate who has passed the examination of hair-dressing will be given a certificate, issued by the Ministry of Education, and an inmate who passes their welding examination will be given a certificate issued by King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, North Bangkok.

(iii) *Treatment service*

These services are provided by social workers and psychologists in order to develop juveniles' ability to function effectively with peers and family and to change juveniles' behavior and personality. These services include advice, guidance, psychological tests, group activities, etc. which are employed based on the needs and problems presented by juveniles. Moreover, the social workers will provide social services to all inmates who get into difficulties

and need services during their training in the training school.

(iv) *Spiritual and religious services*

Spiritual and religious services include the development of moral and spiritual values. Advising shall be helpful in aiding the solution of individual and family problems. Army moral instructors and volunteers from outside impart social values and moral instruction.

(v) *Medical services*

Medical services provide comprehensive health care education, health care ranging from routine physical examination by nurses and screening procedures to diagnosis, treatment and follow up of illnesses and other medical problems.

(vi) *Sports, recreation and athletics.*

Offer the juveniles the opportunity to engage in constructive activities, to establish peer relationships and to develop the discipline necessary to improve a skill or gain respect for good physical health. Games and sports are held daily to provide fun and recreation, promote interaction, encourage the proper use of leisure, compliance with rules and develop a spirit of group participation.

Regarding the evaluation of the treatment programme, the social worker, the instructor and housemaster will evaluate the result of the treatment. An inmate whose treatment is satisfactory will be given certain rewards such as home visits, or pre-release, or release in a short-term sentence or be able to participate in special activities, or outings, etc. Juveniles may be released sooner depending on the evaluation of the treatment. On the other hand, juveniles will be released at the end of a certain

period even if the result of his treatment is not satisfactory.

The conduct of a juvenile staying in the training school is evaluated by means of ascertaining his behavior under seven general criteria, which are as follows:

1. Performance at training school, study, vocational training, work
2. Personal appearance
3. Language
4. Behavior
5. Respect for authority
6. Care of property
7. Co-operation

The Director of the OPC is powered to send an incorrigible juvenile who is a source of danger to other juveniles for detention in prison.

(vii) *Parole*

A juvenile offender who has been conditionally released on parole from the Training School by the decree of the JFC. The term of parole supervision is usually up to the remaining term of his or her sentence with early discharge in case of serving the period of training for one-quarter and good behavior.

Screening of inmates for release on parole is under the conditions as follows:

- Good result of treatment and rehabilitation
- Good home condition
- The JFC makes the decision to release a juvenile on parole.

Supervision of parole process is the same as the process of supervision of probationer.

(viii) *Aftercare service*

Aftercare plays an important role in the social reintegration of release from

the Training School, the Vocational Training School and the Drug Addiction Treatment Center. It is duty of the Social Work Sub-division, the OPC to do such things as are necessary to ascertain the *modus vivendi* of juveniles released from institutions with a view to assisting them, in so far as may be possible. Aftercare commences soon after an inmate is admitted and includes individual casework aimed at building a solid foundation of confidence and friendship between the inmate, the family and the social worker. The social worker provides solid support to both the inmate and his or her family and those under statutory supervision (probation and parole) overcome obstacles to their rehabilitation.

Regarding the aftercare services, such services are for the released inmates or their families who are confronted with problems. In such a case, the social worker will take care of juveniles and their families and give advice on how they solve problems and what kinds of services will be provided such as bus-fares, scholarships, job placements, basic amenities and personal utilities, etc.

However, the existing juvenile institutions for juvenile delinquency especially in Bangkok cannot afford effective treatment and rehabilitation systems due to inadequacy of buildings and scarcity of equipment and lack the capacity to administer and operate the programmes, to the effect that contents of treatment and rehabilitation become degraded and insufficient.

Under the above mentioned aggravated circumstances in 1991, the Central Juvenile and Family Court, the Ministry of justice, endeavoring to attain more efficient rehabilitation of problem youths, made a plan to newly construct a

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Vocational Training School to help unlawful youth return to society in Nakorn-prathom Province near Bangkok area by a request to the Government of Japan for the grant of aid for the project. The objective of this project is to construct a model vocational training school functioning as an innovated model school along with its implementation of progressive innovative treatment and rehabilitation, and is expected to enhance and strengthen the functions and systems of juvenile corrections of Thailand. Under this request, the government of Japan approved this project by granting aid and technical assistance. The construction of this project was started on February 17, 1994 and completed on March 31, 1995. The Vocational Training School was open on January 15, 1996. This school has served 910 trainees from 1996–2001.

Thailand, has a remarkable situation of drug abuse among children and teenagers and it is increasing year by year. The Central Juvenile and Family Court is endeavoring to attain more efficient treatment and rehabilitation for drug addicts by the establishment of the Drug Addict Treatment Center and the Drug Rehabilitation Center in Bangkok as pilot projects. These Centers were started on June 8, 1994.

In 1994, the Ayudthaya Therapeutic Community Center was opened to serve juvenile drug addicts as well.

In 2001, the Drug Addict Treatment Center and the Drug Rehabilitation Center which were to be used as pilot projects were closed after a follow up and evaluation of ineffective treatment and rehabilitation. At present, only the Ayudthaya Therapeutic Community Center still remains.

Other major topics such as the development of model treatment programmes for juveniles and drug addicts as well as designing a case management system for individual treatment in the Vocational Training School and the Ayudthaya Therapeutic Community Center, will be explained next.

*The Vocational Training School*

The capacity of the school is for 200 persons. The salient features of the Vocational Training School (VTS) emphasize positive working attitudes of juveniles as well as helping juveniles to acquire working skills, arrangements for juveniles to undergo a test of the Trade Standard Testing Committee, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. They conduct effective treatment and operate 8 vocational training courses. The capacity of the school is 200 persons per year.

(i) *Enrollment*

Due to the reasons that the VTS has limited capacity, the new system of treatment correction and rehabilitation is just introduced in order to get the most qualified outcome. It is not possible for every vocational training course to enroll juveniles at the same time, so the enrollment schedule and number of juveniles are fixed. Each vocational course enrolls 13 juveniles twice a year for 7 courses, except for the construction vehicle operation course which enrolls 18 juveniles once a year and the school provides 8 vocational training courses as follows:

- There are 1-year courses (1,216 hours) in machining, automobile maintenance, printing, welding and sheet metal, woodwork, electric wiring and air-condition repairing

- There is a 6-month course (608 hours) in construction vehicle operation.

(ii) *Selection System*

In Thailand we don't have a classification system to enroll juveniles to the VTS. We set up a selection system in order to select juveniles under the selection conditions prescribed as follows:

1. Male
2. Aged 14 through to 18 (until 24 years if specially admitted by case)
3. Juveniles who are not afflicted with any great physical or mental disorder
4. Duration of training is 6 months or more for the construction vehicle operation course and 1 year for other vocational courses.
5. Juveniles can read and write.
6. Juveniles who have appropriate skills for vocational training and interests in vocational training.

The Selection Committee from the OPC selects and screens a juvenile's requirements for training in the VTS form under the enrollment of the VTS schedule.

The committee will review that form and recommend juveniles for selection. The Superintendent will make the selection decision.

(iii) *Dormitory Placement*

We arrange the dormitory for juveniles as follows:

- Introductory stage: dormitory 1–2 for new admissions
- Intermediate stage: dormitory 4–5 for juvenile grades 3 and 2
- Pre-release stage: dormitory 3 for 1-month release.

(iv) *Individual Treatment Plan*

The VTS will be divided into 3 stages for the treatment of juveniles as follows:

1. Introductory stage: 1 month.
2. Intermediate stage: 10 months for 1-year course and 4 months for 6-month course.
3. Pre-release stage: 1 month.

*Introductory Stage (1 month)*

The introductory stage is 1 month prior to the opening of the vocational training course. The stage has the following procedure:

• *Admission*

After juveniles are sent to the VTS, they have to register and have a photo taken, their body checked, take a shower, get their uniform and necessary items, have a physical examination and have a brief introduction regarding the basic rules of the VTS.

• *Orientation*

Orientation starts on the 2nd day of arrival at the VTS by a housemaster, vocational instructor, social worker, psychologist, nurse, librarian, and chief of security. The main themes of orientation are rules, regulation, training system, activities, and services. In order to reduce tension, motivate juveniles to improve behavior and encourage the responsibility to abide by the VTS' s regulations.

• *Treatment Programme*

*Self-supporting work*

For new admissions, juveniles are assigned to self-supporting work such as cleaning the cafeteria, washing dishes, cleaning floors of the dormitory and agriculture work. In order to encourage juveniles to devote themselves, to give them the opportunity to learn about their basic responsibilities and work with others.

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Medical services

A physical and mental check up service is provided to every juvenile, including knowledge about health education, prevention of communicative diseases, basic health care, treatment health promotion which is conducted through morning exercise and sport. Responsible staff are physical instructors, nurses, etc.

Vocational training

At this stage juveniles will study basic security in workshop and hygiene provided by instructors in charge of each vocational course.

- Evaluation and Upgrading  
Evaluation

All juveniles sent to the VTS are instantly categorized in grade 4. Conditions, privileges and services for juveniles in grade 4 are assigned to do self-supporting work and get permission for parents to visit once a month. The result of performance, conduct, adjustment, group activities are used to evaluate juveniles.

Upgrading

After 1 month, the committee shall hold a meeting to make a consideration as to whether to upgrade juveniles to grade 3.

*Intermediate Stage (10 months)*

This stage takes 10 months and is divided into the 2 following courses:

1. Basic course, 7 months
2. Advanced course, 3 months

During the intermediate stage juveniles learn about relevant advanced techniques and practice to improve their skills. Aside from vocational training, juveniles are required to attend academic class in order to widen their academic knowledge and undergo corrective

treatment and rehabilitative programmes as mentioned in individual plans.

- Treatment Programme  
Self-supporting work

At this stage juveniles are assigned to have self-supporting work the same as at the introductory stage

Medical services

This programme is available on many topics to enhance knowledge of juveniles about health protection, for example, the prevention of AIDS, prevention of drug abuse, sex education, unity promotion, sports promotion, etc. Physical instructors and social workers are responsible for these programmes.

As for sick juveniles, nurses will take care of them. For severe cases, they are sent for treatment at hospitals by security guards.

Sports, recreation and athletics

Offer the juveniles the opportunity to develop the discipline necessary to improve skills or gain good physical health. Sports are held daily to provide recreation, promote interaction, encourage proper use of leisure, compliance with rules and develop a spirit of group participation.

Academic education

Academic education consists of 3 levels as follows:

1. Compulsory (6-month course)
2. Junior high school (1-year course)
3. Senior high school (1 and a half years)

This course is started for only half a day every Saturday and instructors from the branch Center of Non-Formal Education, Ministry of Education conduct this course. Moreover every juvenile has to do self-study in the dormitory at night

time under the supervision of the housemaster.

#### Vocational training

The basic course consists of theories and basic practice. The training period for the basic course is 7 months.

The advanced course consists of techniques, practice for improving juveniles' skills, providing working experiences. The training period for the advanced course is 3 months. After completion of this course the skill standard testing of the Department of Skill Development, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare will be provided.

#### Rehabilitation programme

At this stage, the rehabilitation programme is done in accordance with an individual plan. This programme can be done through an individual or group process, such as case/group guidance, individual counseling, role playing, role lettering etc., depending upon a juveniles' problems in individual plans. Responsible staff are social workers, psychologists and housemasters.

#### Special activities by volunteers or other organizations

The VTS cooperates with other organizations and volunteers outside to arrange projects of activities such as camping projects, job placement programmes, short course vocational training, giving lectures, walk rally activities, etc.

#### • Evaluation and Upgrading Evaluation

For this stage, we evaluate juveniles 2 times:

1. From grade 3 to grade 2:  
juveniles are in grade 3 for 3 months before being considered for upgrade to

grade 2. The conditions, privileges and services for juveniles in grade 3 allow them to do self-supporting work and get permission for parental visits and write letters to their parents 2 times a month. They can attend some of the activities organized by the VTS or volunteers outside.

2. From grade 2 to grade 1:  
juveniles are in grade 2 for 4 months before being considered for upgrade to grade 1. The conditions, privileges and services for juveniles in grade 2 allow permission to visit and write letters to their parents 3 times a month and join observation tours and other activities

The results of progressive vocational training, academic education and the improving of their attitudes towards life and performances are used to evaluate juveniles.

#### Upgrading

At this stage, juveniles are in grade 3, and after 3 months the committee shall hold a meeting to make a consideration to upgrade juveniles to grade 2.

After 4 months, the committee shall hold a meeting again to consider upgrading juveniles to grade 1.

#### *Pre-release stage*

The pre-release stage takes 1 month before the release date. Its procedure is as follows:

#### • Treatment Programme

##### Self-supporting work

Juveniles are assigned to have self-supporting work, only laundry work at this stage.

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Medical services

This is the last check up on juveniles' health by nurses and doctors before release.

Academic education

The academic education course will be completed at the pre-release stage.

Vocational Training

At this stage, in order to provide juveniles with more opportunity to gain professional experience, juveniles who have satisfactory training results can go out for job training and, for those who are allowed, training outside they can practice within the VTS set up.

- Rehabilitation programme

Preparation for release

For this stage the objective is to provide more experiences about vocational training and social skills. Juveniles were required to attend special activities. Many topics of lectures provided from lecturers outside or observation tours to significant places, factories, and education institutions or to be volunteers of social services, etc.

Besides preparing juveniles, guidance for their families is necessary too. The main idea is to guide parents about juveniles' jobs, education, services available in society, including the proper care of juveniles.

- Evaluation and Upgrading

At this stage juveniles are in grade 1. Conditions, privileges and services for juveniles in grade 1 allow them to go back and spend a night stay at home during weekends. They can join every activity. The juveniles are entitled to pre-release and after care services. Moreover, the last month before their release date, twenty juveniles in dormitory 3 will get special

privileges by staying without security guards. The juveniles feel more free.

- Release

Release divided into 2 types;

1. Release without parole is applied to juveniles with the following qualifications; a juvenile has completed the vocational course, shown progress in evaluation results and is upgraded to grade 1.

For juveniles who complete these qualifications, the VTS will immediately send their release report to the court for consideration for release without condition.

2. Release under parole is applied to juveniles who have completed the vocational training course but the results of evaluation are unsatisfactory and their grade lower than grade 1. Their release report will sent to the court for consideration for release with conditions.

- Aftercare services

Social Work Sub-division, the OPC will take care of released juveniles who are confronted with problems by giving advice, providing many kinds of services such as job placements, aftercare hostels, foster parents, basic amenities and personal utilities, schools or vocational schools for juveniles, scholarships, etc.

Follow up after release; the VTS will start to follow up 1 month after juveniles are released from the VTS by questionnaire. Follow up is continued for 1 year after juveniles are released.

*The Drug Addict Treatment Center*

The Drug Addict Treatment Center will receive drug dependents who were sentenced by the Juvenile and Family Court.

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- The objectives of the center
  - 1. To assist the juvenile to gain insights into their behavior, attitudes and redirect counterproductive behavior patterns and anti-social attitudes into more positive and constructive ones, furthermore, to change the juveniles to be responsible persons.
  - 2. To enhance the juveniles coping capabilities, trust of others and improved self-image.
  - 3. To rehabilitate and assist the juveniles to change themselves to be good citizens and return them to society free from drugs.
- The aims of the compulsory treatment and rehabilitation programme are as follows:
    1. Restoration of physical health
    2. Uprooting psychological and emotional dependence on drugs.
    3. Juvenile treatment and rehabilitation by applying the therapeutic community models and techniques.

- Treatment and rehabilitation programme  
The therapeutic Community Model and techniques have been applied through treatment and rehabilitation programmes in the Drug Addict Treatment Center. These programmes are divided into 3 stages as follows:

### Rehabilitation Stage

This stage is to root out psychological and emotional dependence on drugs and restore physical health. Furthermore, family therapy is employed based on the need and problems presented by juveniles. The participation of parents and family in the rehabilitation process is encouraged.

### Treatment Stage

This stage is to assist the juveniles to gain insights into their behavior and

attitudes, and redirect counterproductive behavior patterns and anti-social attitudes into more positive and constructive ones and enhance the juveniles coping capabilities, trust of others and improved self-image. Individual and group counseling is conducted on a regular basis throughout the period of treatment. This work programme is aimed to improve the juvenile's personality and encourage good work habits, establish self-confidence as well as a sense of responsibility. At the same time, in order to implement treatment and rehabilitation programmes more effectively, the Drug Addict Treatment Center has applied therapeutic community models and techniques through treatment and rehabilitation programmes, such as the therapeutic community's philosophy, unwritten philosophy, basic (who you are? what you do?) rules and regulations, chains of command for staff and residents, cardinal rules (no physical violence, no use of drugs, no sexual contact), basic house rules, rules of the house (morning meetings, encounter groups, seminars, house meetings, general meetings, static groups, hair cuts, confrontation, peer confrontation)

### Re-entry Stage

This stage is for juvenile's rehabilitation and assistance in order to return and adjust themselves into society by freedom from drugs. This center will arrange and provide the following re-entry activities:

### Preparation for release

Juveniles will be prepared one month before release, this duty is under the responsibility of the social worker, nurse and housemaster who will provide general knowledge to make juveniles prepare themselves for release. Besides, juveniles are

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required to attend special activities outside the center. Parent meetings will provide for guiding parents on how to look after the released juveniles.

After care services

This center plays an important role in the social reintegration and discharge from the center. The social worker on after care duty will provide solid support to both juveniles and their families and others who may assist juveniles' rehabilitation.

Follow up and evaluation

A follow up will be started after juveniles have been released from this center for 1–3 months by home visiting, telephone calling, and questionnaires sent to released juveniles and their parents. Social workers on follow up duty will use this information for solving the juveniles' problems or providing social work services for them to adjust themselves to society free from drugs.

**C. Establishing a Case File/Record System and Linking it to an Offender Database and Statistical Compilation System**

In Thailand, the OPC has just started to develop a computer programme for a juvenile database 2000. This database is separated into 6 parts as follows:

1. Part 1 remand home
2. Part 2 criminal investigation
3. Part 3 supervision
4. Part 4 guardian supervision
5. Part 5 family affairs
6. Part 6 training school

At present, this database is being tested and improved.

**II. BEST PRACTICE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT TO JUVENILE OFFENDERS**

**A. Strategic Utilization of Limited Financial Resources and Maximizing Cost-effectiveness**

Every year the OPC receives a limited fiscal budget. It's not enough for organizational management to provide institutional treatment for juvenile offenders.

The OPC provided a budget to the VTS 2 times per year (6 months per time) for management and administration of the VTS. For special projects the VTS gets a special budget, which is separate from the fiscal budget.

In my opinion, the fiscal budget provided by the government is limited in its ability to develop the VTS. Strategic utilization of limited financial resources and maximizing cost-effectiveness of the VTS is as follows

1. Set up priority for works and projects.
2. Set up criteria for works and budgets.
3. Distribute each budget for the priority of works and projects, respectively.
4. Emergency works or projects will be especially considered by the VTS committee and special expenditure will be paid by the VTS foundation.

**B. Staff Training: Designing Training Systems and Curricula to Enhance Skills and Integrity**

The OPC don't have staff training course institutions. For staff training the OPC provides 3 types as follows:

1. The curriculum that is conducted by personnel, the sub-division which is

- changed year by year depending on the budget
2. Sending staff to attend outside courses.
  3. Request for training by each staff.

In Thailand we don't have specially designed training systems and special curriculums especially for the enhancement of integrity.

### **C. Managing Public Relations and Obtaining Public Trust in Correctional Services**

The OPC and the VTS maintain good public relations by keeping good cooperation and collaboration from GOs and NGOs. Those GOs and NGOs provide many kinds of activities for juveniles during institutional treatment and after release.

## **III. CONCLUSION**

Some lessons are to be drawn from the before-mentioned Thai experiences in the development of institutional treatment for juvenile offenders. First, the basic defects in the non-institutional treatment and institutional treatment systems, whether potential or not, such as the lack of intensity in the continuance of protective and innovative measures or the lack of diversity in treatment and rehabilitation terms and programmes are crucial to the effective management and administration of juvenile treatment systems. This kind of defect cannot be rectified by an effort of a single school or center, however hard it might try. It needs concerted action of all schools or centers and related agencies throughout the country following the model systems approach.

Second, development can be undertaken on management and administrative matters to some extent

within the basic framework of the developmental systems. Although the new model system may make a school or center more effective, the new model systems alone might not produce expected results unless and otherwise all schools or centers and related agencies are determined to affect the necessary following.

Third, development needs some experimental attempt to verify the direction of development, sufficient preparation particularly in terms of complete understanding among staff of all schools or centers and related agencies and, of course, courage in their decision to carry them out.

However, the above-mentioned development is certainly not a panacea for juvenile problems. It will be a help, but it should anticipate well planned, better cooperated and coordinated measures with the wider participation of all schools or centers and related agencies throughout the country so as to meet all juvenile institutions' development systems.

For development of a model treatment programme of the VTS and the Ayudthaya Therapeutic Community Center, though they have the mechanism and synergy for continuous efforts in juvenile treatment and rehabilitation from the moment of enrollment in the school or center until discharge, there are also impediments to the desired goal. Implementation of the treatment, rehabilitation, and aftercare programmes are greatly affected due to a lack of technical knowledge, and the increasing number of juvenile drug addicts in contrast to the shortage of social workers, psychologists and others who are involved in treatment rehabilitation and aftercare. Due to the shortage of qualified

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officers and the restriction of resources, the quality of treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare services are impaired and this places a heavier demand on qualified professional personnel.

In recognizing professional specialization as the basic requirement for social workers, psychologists, and other concerned officers, whether in the institutional treatment or community-based treatment programmes, there is a need to put more emphasis on careful recruitment and training of staff and also to update their technical knowledge and technical know-how through research and development.

**REFERENCE**

Annual report of the Juvenile and Family Court, 1996–2000.

Guide to the Juvenile and Family Court and the Observation and Protection Center, 1996

Juvenile Justice and a Model for Drug Addicts, Programme for Juvenile Drug Addicts in Thailand, Institute for Juvenile and Family Justice Development, 1998

The Act for the Establishment of and the Procedure for the Juvenile and Family Court B.E. 2534 (1991)

Sudjit, J., (2000). The Assessment and Classification of Juvenile Delinquents. Report. Thailand

**Appendix 1**

**The Number of Juveniles Sent to the Observation and Protection Center  
1996–2000**

	<b>No. of offenders</b>				
	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
Male	21,382	27,906	35,181	33,934	32,270
Female	2,209	2,762	3,291	3,454	3,169
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,591</b>	<b>30,668</b>	<b>38,472</b>	<b>37,388</b>	<b>35,439</b>

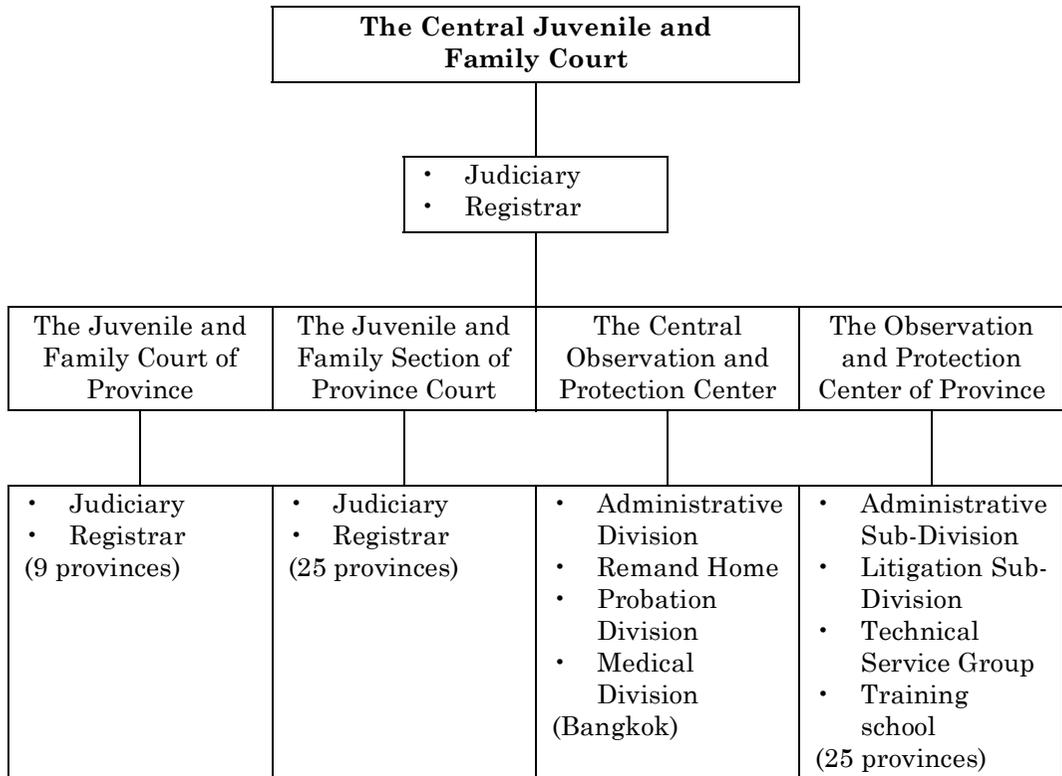
**Juveniles Cases Classified by Types of Offences  
1996–2000**

<b>Type of offence</b>	<b>No. of offenders</b>				
	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
Offence against property	6,277	7,782	9,196	8,325	8,090
Homicide and other violent offence	1,396	1,985	1,919	2,304	1,946
Sex related offence	823	964	947	1,004	961
Offence relating to public peace and security	314	288	203	218	111
Offence relating to drug abuse, gambling, counterfeiting, carrying firearms, etc.	14,781	19,649	26,207	25,537	24,331
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,591</b>	<b>30,668</b>	<b>38,472</b>	<b>37,388</b>	<b>35,439</b>

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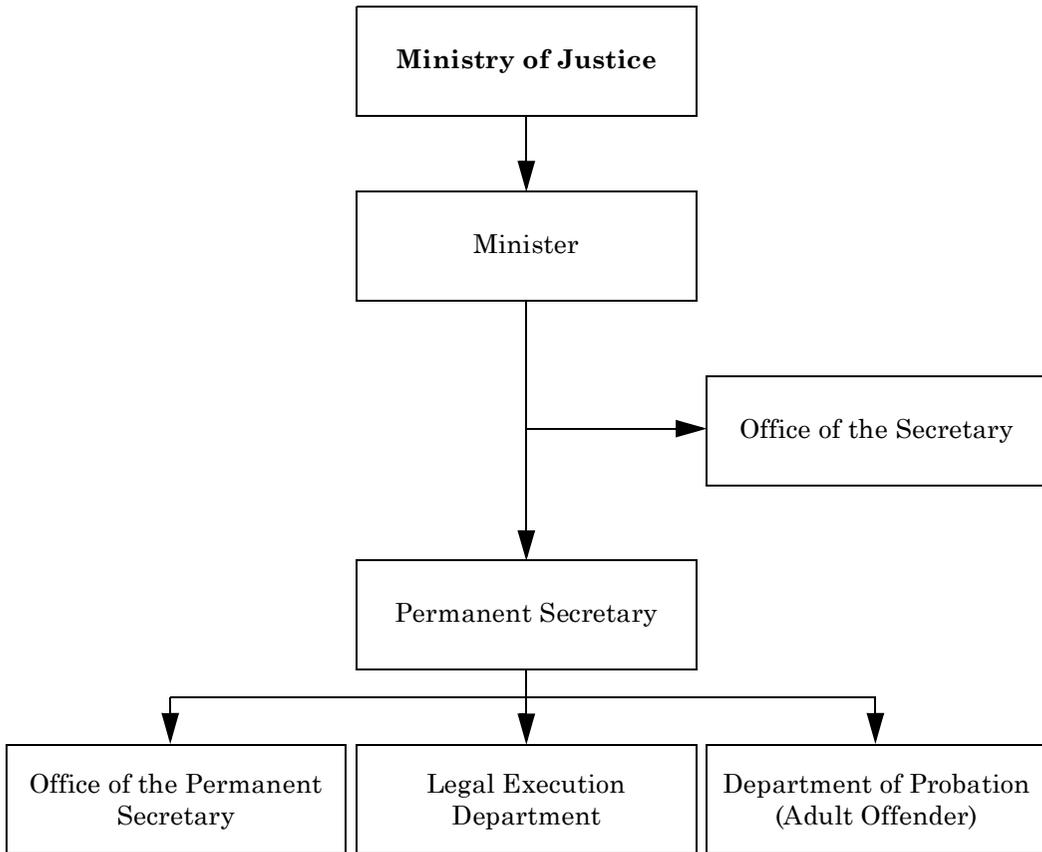
**Appendix 2**

**Organization Chart of the Juvenile and Family Court and the Observation and Protection Center**



**Appendix 3**

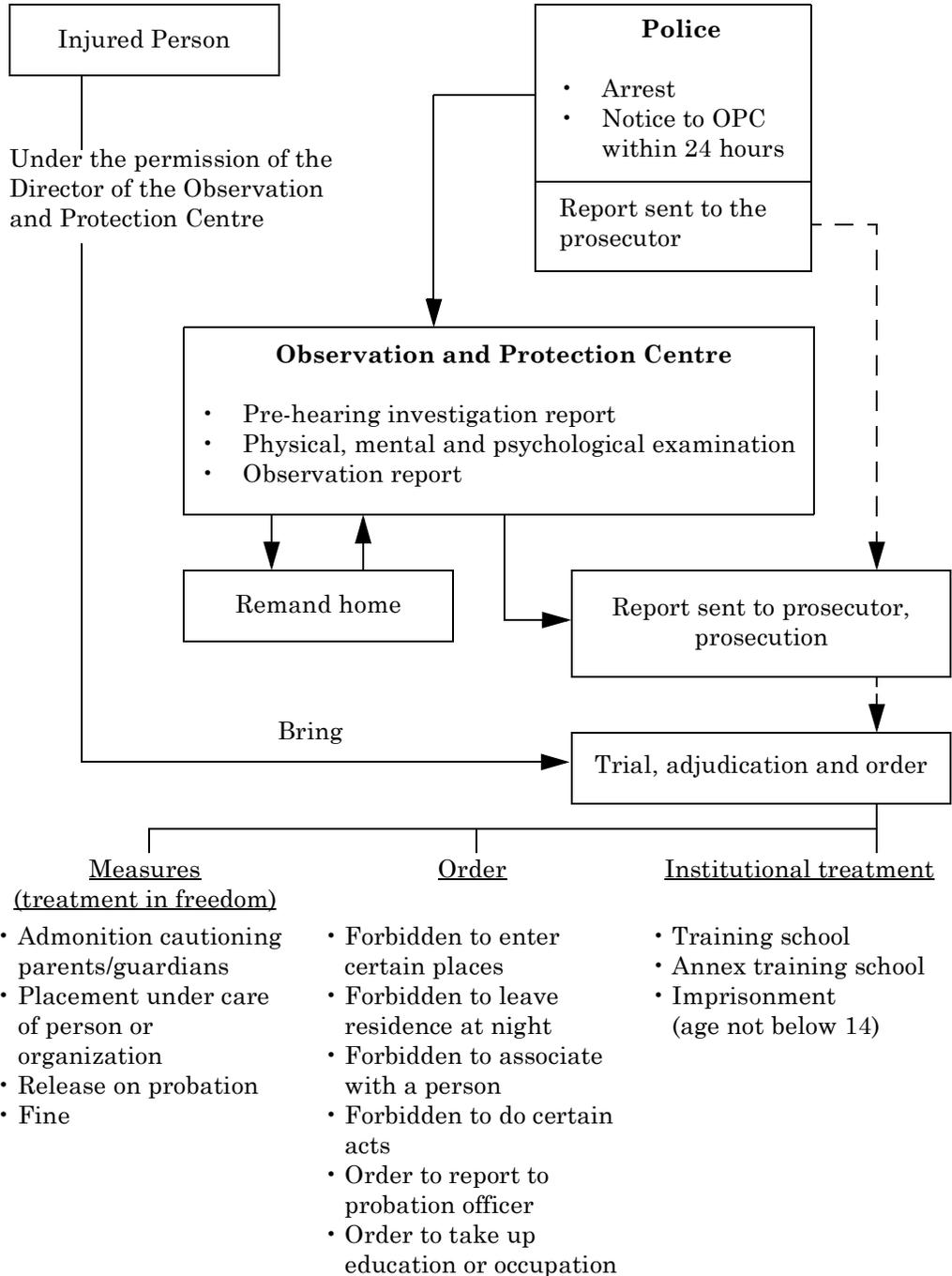
**Structure of Ministry of Justice  
(after separation from Court)**



- General Affairs Div.
- Personnel Div.
- Finance Div.
- Design and Construction Div.
- Policy and Planning Div.
- Computer center
- Justice Planning Institute
- Internal Auditing Unit
- The Central Observation and Protection Center
- The Provincial Observation and Protection Center

**Appendix 4**

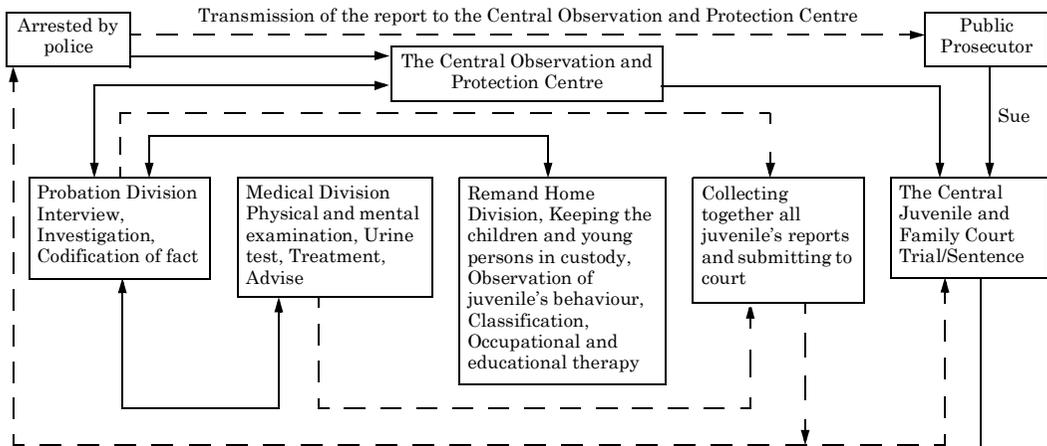
**Juvenile Case Proceedings**



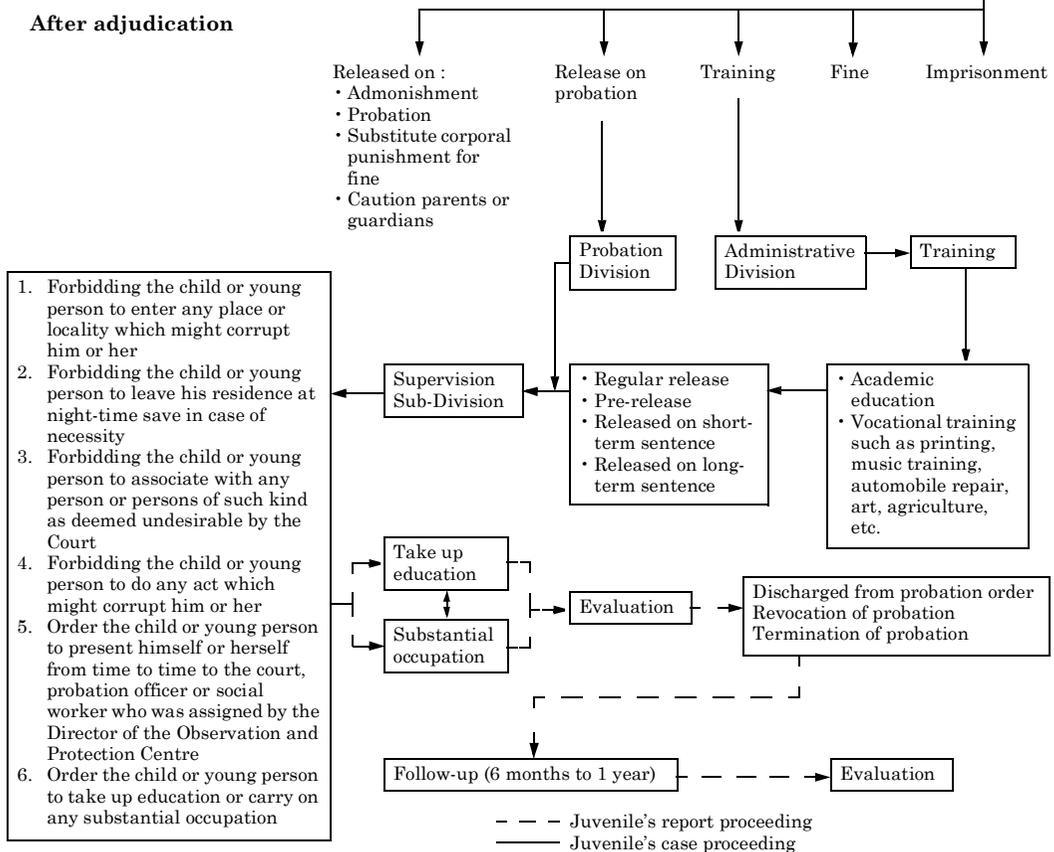
Appendix 5

Chart of Juvenile Cases Proceedings and Treatment Process

Before adjudication

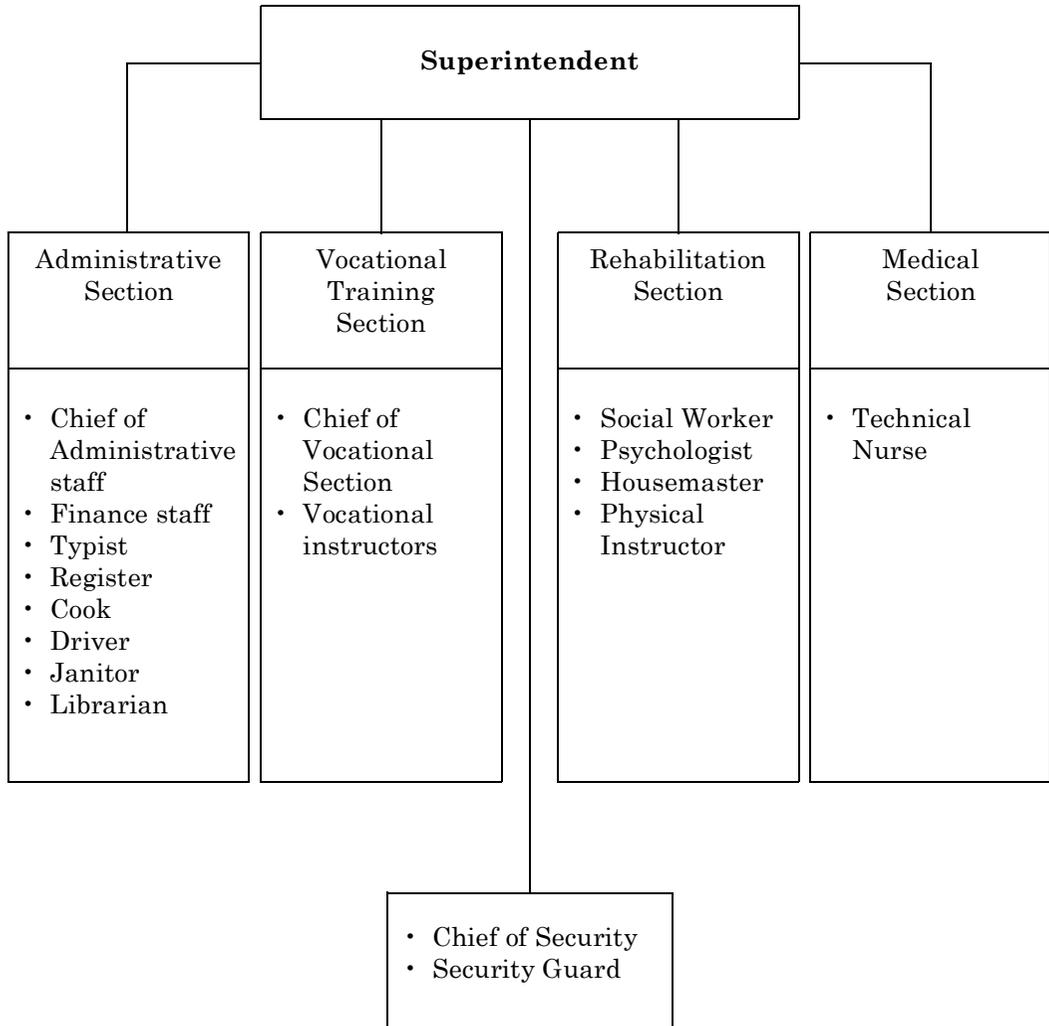


After adjudication



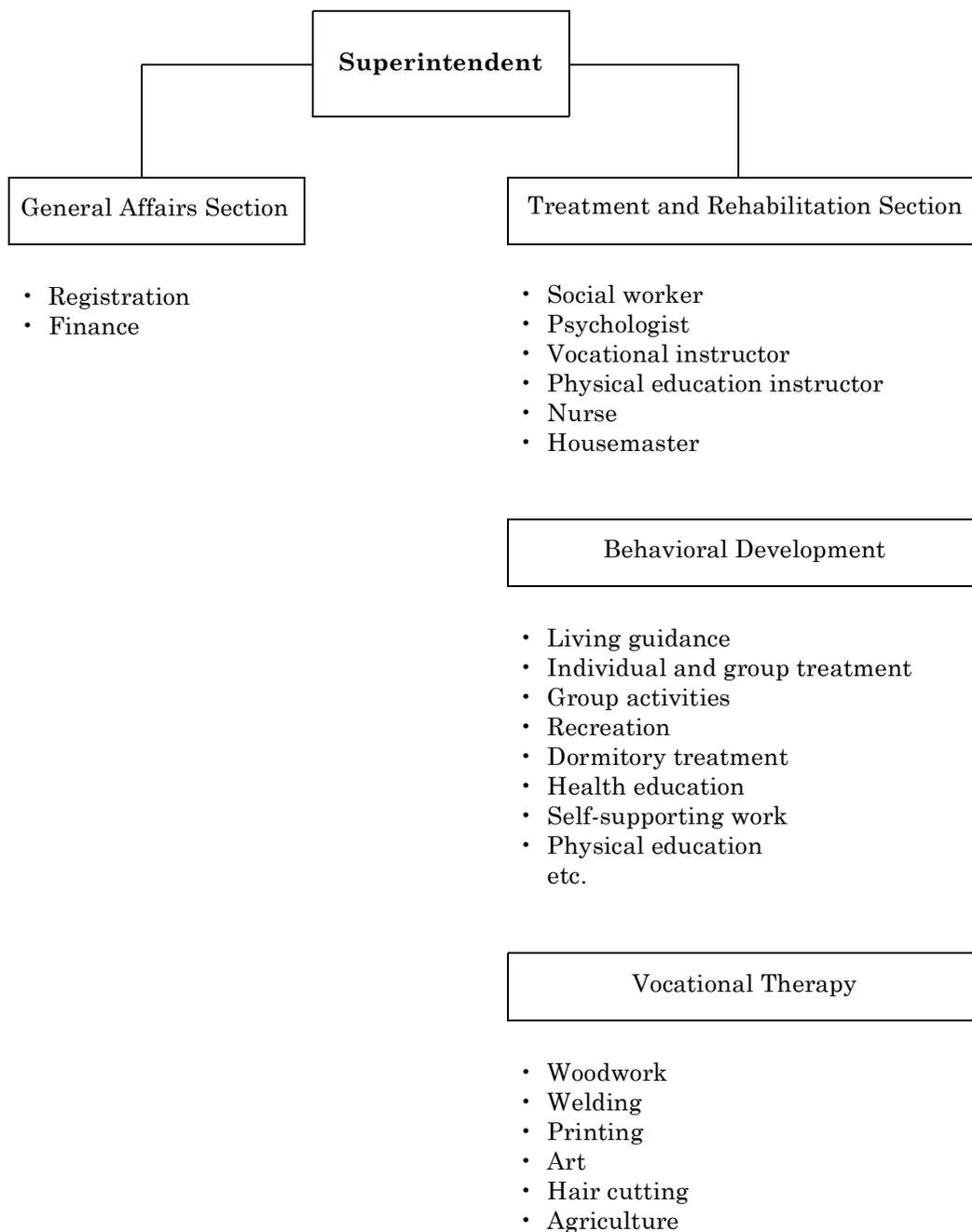
**Appendix 6**

**Organization Chart of the Vocational Training School**



Appendix 7

Organization Chart of the Drug Addict Treatment Center



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**Appendix 8**

**Expenses of the Juvenile and Family Court and the Observation and  
Protection Center**

Year	1998		1999		2000	
	Government budget	Others	Government budget	Others	Government budget	Others
Salary	278,166,600		301,924,674.16		216,208,169.15	
Salary for temporary staff		14,339,138.19		15,291,969.64	10,383,479.43	4,101,521.88
Expenses on materials	118,334,500	34,785,597.93	121,842,760.86	28,162,375.55	131,846,255.35	10,052,803.73
Public Utilities	13,277,000	10,289,243.07	10,657,611.10	10,780,094.05	17,894,943.02	2,531,140.71
Construction	12,970,000	7,945,874.10	116,302,198.00	3,163,774.85	50,346,612.54	1,801,031.50
Support budget	540,200		319,800.00			
Others	2,151,500		938,769.00		18,332,410.29	
Total	425,439,800	67,359,853.29	551,985,813.12	57,398,214.09	445,011,869.50	18,486,497.82
	492,799,653.29		609,384,027.21		463,498,367.30	

40 bahts = 1\$US

RESOURCE MATERIAL SERIES No. 59

Appendix 9

**Expenses of the Sirindhorn Vocational Training School**

<b>Categories</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
Government officer salary	1,435,920.00	2,206,320.00	2,119,870.00	2,443,170.00	2,270,290.00
Permanent employees	169,200.00	739,540.00	1,051,690.00	1,472,180.00	1,561,820.00
Temporary employees	1,682,400.00	1,722,000.00	336,360.00	113,220.00	223,550.00
Overtime	26,500.00	122,400.00	18,000.00	4,500.00	38,600.00
Other allowances					
Per diem, accommodation, transportation	1,636.00			4,403.00	
Vehicle repairs	15,871.00	7,367.16	18,765.00	37,150.20	18,618.00
Repair and maintenance	6,801.00	70,900.17	38,005.83	161,486.52	218,024.19
Service expenses	2,975.00		15,552.83		35,000.00
Office supplies	31,405.28	15,093.95	1,401.00	3,315.00	779.00
Fuel, lubricant and gas	150,407.12	164,190.93	245,588.84	195,229.75	245,401.44
Household and kitchen materials	31,005.00	7,180.50	3,737.22	17,595.50	26,945.22
Science and medical materials	570.00				
Education materials	10,801.00	55,073.67		17,876.15	19,509.42
Juvenile uniforms	135,718.00	160,470.00	19,790.00	23,700.00	9,765.00
Juvenile food	594,000.00	848,306.00	1,016,568.00	1,191,263.00	924,180.00
Sport materials			1,352.50	1,939.00	5,000.00
Supplies and materials for training COV	2,600.00	17,175.00	43,090.25	57,119.20	71,936.90
Supplies and materials for training machinery	4,421.80	1,051.00	15,621.00	832.00	27,033.46
Supplies and materials for training automobile maintenance	36,613.21	4,727.00	8,601.00	5,313.80	33,288.25
Supplies and materials for training printing	4,695.00	12,208.10	22,974.17	7,115.28	12,478.50
Supplies and materials for training sheet metal and welding	4,244.00	15,583.70	29,385.96	29,805.69	20,542.62
Supplies and materials for training wood-work	41,318.00	8,980.00	36,966.50	30,199.15	22,609.13
Supplies and materials for training electric wiring	2,230.00	57,797.55	10,473.00	13,754.00	31,326.74
Supplies and materials for training air condition repairing			18,657.30	15,371.60	19,632.07
Electricity expenses	717,006.24	803,884.28	749,485.67	613,177.11	1,025,532.60
Telephone expenses	129,782.00	80,756.00	60,824.83	46,712.62	71,745.21
Postal service	4,806.00	5,242.00	4,882.00	5,348.69	5,898.75
Juvenile rehabilitation activities	3,093.28	113,654.00	17,106.10	56,049.50	
Newspapers				3,919.00	3,904.00
Expressway					2,590.00
Visitor catering				46,181.00	36,234.28
Agriculture			30,654.00	33,290.50	20,241.00
Project Code 900-03					263,952.91
Project Code 900-05					214,505.25
Others	11,546.00	143,541.00	27,386.25	21,369.25	33,300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,257,564.93</b>	<b>7,383,442.01</b>	<b>5,962,789.25</b>	<b>6,672,586.51</b>	<b>7,514,233.94</b>

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**Expenses of the Sirindhorn Vocational Training School (From 1996–2000)**

