

Chief Judge, Twelfth Judicial District

**ORDER SUPPLEMENTING  
CHIEF JUDGE  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
2016-04 CONCERNING THE  
USE OF DETENTION IN  
TRUANCY CASES AND  
ADOPTING AN UPDATED  
TRUANCY PROTOCOL**



**CHIEF JUDGE  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
2022-04**

This Chief Judge Administrative Order (CJAO) is intended to supplement CJAO 2016-04, which concerns the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District’s policy regarding truancy matters that are filed in any of the six counties of the jurisdiction. Through this CJAO, the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District hereby adopts an updated truancy protocol. The updated truancy protocol has been revised to reflect changes in Colorado’s School Attendance Law; however, the substance and goals of the current protocol are consistent with the initial protocol. The current truancy protocol and other related materials can be accessed via the following url:

[https://www.courts.state.us/Courts/District/Local\\_Resources.cfm?District\\_ID=12](https://www.courts.state.us/Courts/District/Local_Resources.cfm?District_ID=12)

The updated truancy protocol places greater emphasis on the preliminary requirements school districts must satisfy before filing a petition with the court. Before starting judicial proceedings, (i) the board of education of each school district is required to adopt a written attendance policy setting forth the district’s attendance requirements, (ii) each district is required to designate one or more employees to act as attendance officer for the district, and (iii) after determining a student is not attending school as required by the School Attendance Law, the school district must develop a plan with interventions and strategies geared toward assisting the student to attend school. The appropriate school personnel are encouraged to work with other community organizations to develop a plan.

As with the initial protocol, the current protocol emphasizes the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District’s policy that alternatives to detention will be used as sanctions in truancy cases whenever appropriate. It remains the policy of the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District that juveniles will not receive detention as a sanction for being truant. However, juveniles may receive detention as a sanction for being in contempt of court if they violate a court order compelling attendance. For more information about detention in relation to truancy proceedings, please review the truancy

materials on the courts' website and CJA0 2016-04. The 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District's Chief Judge Administrative Orders can be accessed via the following url:

[https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/District/Custom.cfm?District\\_ID=12&Page\\_ID=251](https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/District/Custom.cfm?District_ID=12&Page_ID=251)

SO ORDERED THIS 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Gonzales', written over a horizontal line.

Michael A. Gonzales

Chief Judge, 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District