



Chair, Committee on Youth Affairs

Public Roundtable on the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services' (DYRS) Fifth
Rulemaking on the Community Placement of Juvenile Offenders

October 7, 2026

*Changes made in DYRS' Fifth Rulemaking
on the Community Placement of Juvenile Offenders*

- **Removal of right to notice to youth before Community Status Review Hearing**
 - Under former regulations, youth were given notice prior to Community Status Review Hearings.
 - The fifth rulemaking would establish that only youth counsel receives notice.
- **Addition of youth's right to counsel in Community Status Review Hearings**
 - Under the fifth rulemaking, every youth would be entitled to a lawyer to represent them in these adjudications.
- **Removal of limits on length of detention period prior to Community Status Review Hearing**
 - Under former regulations, youth can only be held for five days in pre-trial detention.
- **Elimination of the Community Status Review Panel**
 - Under the former regulations, there was a three-member panel.
 - Under the fifth rulemaking, there would be one hearing officer that would no longer be required have a legal license to practice.
- **Appointment of the Deputy Director of Youth and Family Programs to multiple roles in Community Placement Review adjudications**
 - Under former regulations, the Community Status Review panel made both the determination of a violation of community placement and the level of restrictiveness decision. The new regulations split these processes: the determination of a violation will be determined by the new Hearing Officer, and the level of restrictiveness by the Deputy Director.

- **Addition of new violations that trigger immediate removal of youth from the community to secure detention:**
 - Aggravated assault;
 - Assault with significant bodily injury;
 - Assault with a dangerous weapon;
 - Assault on a police officer (felony);
 - Strangulation;
 - Gang recruitment, participation, or retention by the use or threatened use of force, coercion, or intimidation; and/or,
 - Extortion or blackmail accompanied by threats of violence.

- **Explicitly bars the use of marijuana by youth in placement if expressly prohibited in a CPA (Community Placement Agreement)**

- **Expansion of violations outside the CPA**
 - Under the former regulations, a youth can only be in violation of their community placement if they are in violation of their Community Placement Agreement. Under the new regulations, “unsuccessful discharge from a community placement”; or behavior of youth in community that “poses a risk to public safety,” enables DYRS to file a petition to revoke their community placement.

- **Establishes that the DC Superior Court judge’s dismissal of an offense pursuant to a plea agreement is not enough for DYRS to dismiss a Community Status Review Hearing for the same offense**

- **Extends power to the DYRS Director to overrule a youth’s restrictiveness decision following an appeal of a Community Status Review Hearing**
 - Under the former regulations, a DYRS Director could only affirm or lower a youth’s restrictiveness level. Under the new regulations, the Director can make their own unilateral determination as to whether a child should remain in secure detention after they have successfully appealed their community placement violation.