

An Effective County Government

June 2023



Dual Jurisdiction Protocol

Beginning July 1, 2023, Family & Children's Services (FCS), Juvenile Probation and the Mendocino County Superior Court Juvenile Division will implement a dual jurisdiction protocol under California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 241.1(e). This happens when a youth is dealing with problems that involve both the need for protection and the need to address their actions. Through dual jurisdiction, FCS and Juvenile Probation can share information and work as a team to create a plan that helps the child in the best way possible. They work together to make decisions to ensure that the child's safety and well-being are taken care of.

When WIC 241.1 is applicable to an individual youth, an assessment will be done to analyze the youth's circumstances and the nature of the youth's offense(s) to determine if dual jurisdiction is in the best interest of the youth and the safety of the community. The dual jurisdiction protocol will enable the resources of both FCS and Probation to be utilized in an efficient and coordinated manner to serve the needs of eligible youth and their families, support positive outcomes for youth and help them make better choices in the future. The development of this protocol was a collaborative effort between Probation, FCS and the Juvenile Court over the last two years and we look forward to its implementation.
