



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE CHILD ADVOCATE**

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, 5TH FLOOR • BOSTON, MA 02108

WWW.MASS.GOV/ORG/OFFICE-OF-THE-CHILD-ADVOCATE

MAIN: (617) 979-8374 • TOLL FREE: (866) 790-3690 • FAX: (617) 979-8379

**CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR**

**KARYN E. POLITO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

**MARIA MOSSAIDES  
THE CHILD ADVOCATE**

December 28, 2018

Steven T. James  
House Clerk  
State House Room 145  
Boston, MA 02133

William F. Welch  
Senate Clerk  
State House Room 335  
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Annual report of the Childhood Trauma Task Force

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Please accept this letter as the first annual report of the Childhood Trauma Task Force, pursuant to Chapter 69, Section 17 of the Acts of 2018 (“An Act Relative to Criminal Justice Reform”).

Under this Act, the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) is charged with convening a Childhood Trauma Task Force (“Task Force”) made up of members of the Juvenile Justice Police and Data Board (“JJPAD Board”), also recently established under the same Act. The Act requires that the Task Force report its findings and recommendations by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The JJPAD Board held its first meeting on December 12, 2018, when a sufficient number of appointments had been made to permit a quorum and allow the Board to begin the important work with which it has been tasked. The OCA has also hired a Director of Juvenile Justice Initiatives, who will coordinate the work of both bodies.

At the first meeting, it was determined that the Task Force would function as a subcommittee of the larger JJPAD Board, along with subcommittees focused on Data and Community-Based Interventions. This allows JJPAD Board members

to appoint designees who have the most relevant expertise from within their respective organizations to the Task Force and ensures that the two groups will work in alignment moving forward.

The first meeting of the Task Force will take place on January 3rd, 2019, from 11am to 12:30pm. The Task Force looks forward to submitting a full report, with findings and recommendations to improve the Commonwealth's response to childhood trauma, in 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions or want to discuss the work of the JJPAD Board or the Task Force further.

Sincerely,

Maria Z. Mossaides  
Director

Cc: The Hon. Charlie Baker, Governor  
The Hon. Chief Justice Ralph Gants, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court  
The Hon. William Brownsberger, Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary  
The Hon. Claire Cronin, Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary  
The Hon. Michael Moore, Chair, Joint Committee on Public Safety & Homeland Security  
The Hon. Harold Naughton, Chair, Joint Committee on Public Safety & Homeland Security