

## **Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court records, 1948-1974, bulk 1960-1974**

Descriptive Inventory for the Collection at Chicago History Museum, Research Center  
By Shanna Seiberlich; ed. by Sarah Dorpinghaus, 2010

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**Title:** Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court records, 1948-1974, bulk 1960-1974

**Main entry:** Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (Cook County, Ill.)

**Inclusive dates:** 1948-1974, bulk 1960-1974

**Size:**

9.5 linear ft. (21 boxes)

**Access:** This collection is open for research use.

**Provenance statement:** Gift of the Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (M1977.0069) and the Chicago Sun-Times (1989.0291).

**Terms governing use:** Copyright may be retained by the creators of items, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law, unless otherwise noted.

**Please cite this collection as:** Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court records (Chicago History Museum) plus a detailed description, date, and box/folder number of a specific item.

### **This descriptive inventory contains the following sections:**

Historical note,

Summary description of the collection,

Description of some material related to the collection,

List of online catalog headings about the collection,

Arrangement of the collection,

Detailed description of archival series in the collection,

List of contents of the collection.

### **Historical note:**

The Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (CCJC), formerly known as the Citizens Committee on the Family Court, was appointed in January 1962 as an advisory board to the Circuit Court of Cook County, based in Chicago, Illinois. The committee recommended improvements and studied the operations of the juvenile court (formerly, the family court), and in the 1970s, created several specialized subcommittees responsible for handling detained children. The committee was composed of concerned citizens with a background in social service, volunteer, religious, labor, and legal endeavors.

### **Summary description of the collection:**

Meeting minutes, reports, printed material, correspondence, newspaper clippings, publications and newsletters, memorandums, proposals, and other papers of the Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (CCJC), formerly known as the Citizens Committee on the Family Court, an advisory board to the Circuit Court of Cook County, based in Chicago. Materials relate to the juvenile court, Illinois Youth Commission, Department of Children and Family Services, and the Illinois Committee of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD). Also present are research material and studies conducted by the CCJC and NCCD on the Cook County family court, juvenile detention, and decentralization of the juvenile court. Publications and newsletters address topics such as legal issues, juvenile courts, social workers, statistics, and detention centers, and include issues of *The Court Reporter* (1971-1974) published by the Juvenile Division, Circuit Court of Cook County. In addition there is a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings from the *Chicago Daily News* and *Chicago Sun Times* about juvenile delinquency and the CCJC (1963-1968).

**Description of some material related to the collection:**

Related materials at Chicago History Museum, Research Center, include publications by CCJC and its predecessor, the Citizens Committee on the Family Court (Cook County, Ill.), cataloged separately.

**List of online catalog headings about the collection:**

The following index headings for this collection were entered in the online catalog.

Subjects:

Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (Cook County, Ill.)--Archives.

Citizens Committee on the Family Court (Cook County, Ill.)--Archives.

Arthur J. Audy Home (Chicago, Ill.)

Illinois. Circuit Court (Cook County)

Illinois. Juvenile Court (Cook County)

Child welfare

Crime--Illinois--Cook County.

Juvenile courts--Illinois--Cook County.

Juvenile delinquency--Illinois--Cook County.

Juvenile justice, Administration of--Illinois--Chicago.

Cook County (Ill.)--Social conditions--20th century.

Form/genre:

Correspondence.

Minutes.

Newsletters.

Newspaper clippings.

Reports.

Scrapbooks.

Statistics.

Added entries:

Kahlert, John

Macey, Eleanor.

Ranney, George A.

Citizens Committee on the Family Court (Cook County, Ill.)

Illinois. Juvenile Court (Cook County)

Illinois. Circuit Court (Cook County)

United States--Illinois--Cook County--Chicago.

**Arrangement of the collection:**

The collection is arranged in five series:

Series 1. Meeting minutes, reports, and administrative files, 1962-1977 (box 1-4)

Series 2. Correspondence, 1961-1968 (box 4-5)

Series 3. Juvenile Court and other court material, 1948-1949, 1958-1974 (box 6-8)

Series 4. Related organizations files, 1958-1974 (box 8-15)

Series 5. General material, 1959-1974 (box 15-21)

**Detailed description of archival series in the collection:**

**Series 1. Meeting minutes, reports, and administrative files, 1962-1977 (box 1-4)**

Series 1 consists of monthly meeting minutes, memorandums, proposals, newspaper articles, agendas, progress reports, speeches, printed material, and other administrative papers of the Citizens Committee on the Juvenile Court (CCJC). Included are reports on the Family Court of Cook County and juvenile court laws from other states. Also present is material on the Illinois Committee of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) and the Unified Code of Corrections (1971).

**Series 2. Correspondence, 1961-1968 (box 4-5; & 1 separate folder)**

Series 2 contains correspondence, printed material, articles, and other papers related to the CCJC. A significant portion includes general correspondence between Chairman George Ranney, Jr., and various organizations and personnel such as Seymour Simon, president of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and the chairmen from the League of Women Voters regarding a study on Family Court conducted by the NCCD. Correspondence from the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago regarding agency-court relationships and protective and temporary care programs are also present. Also included are 3 binders containing copies of correspondence from the CCJC executive secretary John Kahlert (October 1963-May 1967). There also is a separate folder on a land-use controversy in the Hyde Park neighborhood.

**Series 3. Juvenile Court and other court material, 1948-1949, 1958-1974 (box 6-8)**

Series 3 consists of memorandums, brochures, printed material, reports, newspaper clippings, articles, and other papers related to the Juvenile Court, Family Court, and additional courts presiding in Cook County. Also included are statistics and records on youth cases from the Juvenile Court, Youth Bureau, and Chicago Police Department. Publications include "Fairness to the Juvenile Offender" (1957), "A View from the Bench: The Juvenile Court" (1964), "Guides for Juvenile Court Judges on News Media Relations" (1965), and "Standards for Juvenile and Family Courts" (1966). Also present are issues of the monthly newsletter *The Court Reporter* (1971-1974) published by the Juvenile Division, Circuit Court of Cook County.

**Series 4. Related organizations files, 1958 -1975 (box 8-15)**

Series 4 contains progress reports, memorandums, printed material, organization and member lists, correspondence, publications, and other papers related to organizations associated with the CCJC. Included is material regarding the League of Women Voters, Mental Health Society of Greater Chicago, National Association of Social Workers, Department of Children and Family Services, and the Illinois Youth Commission. The monthly newsletter *News and Views* (1968-1974) and Legislation alert bulletins (1969-1974) published by the Illinois Commission on Children are also present as well as legislation documents regarding the Unified Code of Corrections (1970-1971).

Also included are materials of the CCJC sub-committees for community education, lawyers and social workers, decentralization, and detention.

**Series 5. General material, 1959-1974 (box 15-21)**

Series 5 consists of proposals, reports, printed material, bibliography and reference material, financial records, committee lists, and other general papers of the CCJC. A significant portion of the series is research materials and studies conducted by the CCJC and NCCD. Topics include probation, the Family Court, Cook County Jail, decentralization of the Juvenile Court, and juvenile detention. Publications in the series include "Constitutional Rights in Juvenile Courts" (1961), "Community Cooperation" (1959), and "Family Court and the Role of the Lawyer" (1965). Other materials on staff training, receptions, speaking engagements, legislation documents, and issues of *The Detention Administrators' Newsletter* (1963-1967) are present. A scrapbook (oversize box 21) containing newspaper clippings from the *Chicago Daily News* and *Chicago Sun-Times* relative to the CCJC and juvenile delinquency (1963-1968) is also included.

**List of contents of the collection:**

Box 1-4	Meeting minutes, reports, and administrative files 1962-1977
Box 4-5	Correspondence, 1961-1968 (and 1 separate folder in Alpha2)
Box 6-8	Juvenile Court and other court material, 1948-1949, 1958-1974
Box 8-15	Related organizations files, 1958 -1974
Box 15-20	General material, 1959-1974
Box 21 (Oversize)	General material, 1959-1974