



JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

RESOLUTION ON TRYING YOUTHS AS ADULTS

WHEREAS, the Mission of the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice Commission is to serve as the public conscience in the best interest of juveniles, advocate for programs and services that prevent youth incarceration, and uphold respect for the human dignity of all minors who enter the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice System.

WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice Commission is dedicated to evidence-based juvenile and criminal justice reform measures that improve public safety and reduce recidivism.

WHEREAS, decades of research and the U.S. Supreme Court have confirmed that youth are neurologically, socially, and developmentally different from adults, and therefore are more likely to be rehabilitated by developmentally appropriate treatment and intervention.

WHEREAS, the juvenile justice system was developed to address the specific behavioral, developmental, and mental health needs of youth and are therefore better equipped to hold and treat them after an offense has been committed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice Commission supports efforts that grant juvenile courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving youth under the age of 18.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice Commission supports efforts to keep all youth under the age of 18 in juvenile justice detention facilities instead of adult jail and/or prison.