



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PO BOX 085
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0085
TELEPHONE: (609) 984-6500

GURBIR S. GREWAL
Attorney General

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

VERONICA ALLENDE
Director

November 20, 2020

**TO: Director, Division of Criminal Justice
Superintendent, New Jersey State Police
All County Prosecutors
All County Sheriffs
Chief Law Enforcement Executives**

**Re: Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2020-09
Statewide Handle With Care Compliance Reporting Requirement**

Earlier this week, on November 17, 2020, a virtual symposium was held to showcase how the Statewide Handle With Care Program (“HWC Program”) fits within the larger trauma informed policing initiatives by the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Education. As you know, the HWC Program is a valuable tool in a more comprehensive toolkit for trauma informed policing, which is a set of practices designed to enable law enforcement to better understand trauma and address victim needs.

Officers that attended the virtual symposium built upon their knowledge of working with children who have been exposed to traumatic events, or “adverse childhood experiences,” and are now better equipped to play an important role in partnering with schools to break negative cycles and improve outcomes for children who are exposed to adverse childhood experiences.

As a reminder, the Directive *requires all law enforcement officers to either attend the virtual symposium or view its recording by December 31, 2020*. The recording of the virtual symposium is accessible here: <https://youtu.be/9yMTztmXRcM>

In order to ensure compliance with the training requirement contained in AG Directive 2020-9, we are asking that each County Prosecutor report compliance of the law enforcement officers within their jurisdiction, on or before January 31, 2021. The report should document the number of sworn officers who satisfactorily attended the symposium or viewed its recording, the number of sworn officers in the jurisdiction, the number of officers who did not attend or view the symposium, and the steps that will be taken to ensure that the Directive is complied with.



Each local law enforcement agency should report compliance to its County Prosecutor, and each County Prosecutor shall report compliance of the County to the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice. With regard to state agencies, the New Jersey State Police should report compliance to the Office of Law Enforcement Professional Standards who will then report compliance to the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice, and all other state agencies shall report compliance directly to the Director of Division of Criminal Justice. A link for reporting compliance by both the County Prosecutors and the heads of state agencies will be disseminated in the near future. In the interim, attached is a *model form* that County Prosecutors' Offices and state agencies may use to collect compliance data.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation on this, and other, important statewide criminal justice initiatives. If you have any questions on the HWC Program, please feel free to contact AAG Sara Quigley directly by email at QuigleyS@njdcj.org.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey J. Barile
Deputy Chief
Prosecutors Supervision & Training Bureau

