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**Florida Juvenile Justice Association Announces Appointment**

**Tallahassee** – 4-26-07 John Wilson, President of the Board of Directors for the Florida Juvenile Justice Association, announced today that Cathy Craig-Myers has been hired as the organization's permanent Executive Director. Craig-Myers has been serving as the interim Executive Director since last fall. She replaces long time executive director Mark Fontaine who left to head the Florida Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

"Cathy brings knowledge, vision and a track record of success to the leadership of this organization," said Wilson. "We are confident that she will build on the Association's thirteen years of achievement and will continue to advocate for prevention, intervention and treatment programs that are responsive to the diverse needs of Florida's youth."

Craig-Myers has a broad-based background in organizations serving the citizens of Florida. Most recently, she was Vice President of Government Relations and Strategic Planning for Eckerd Youth Alternatives, which serves at-risk and troubled youth in residential and community-based programs in nine states. Previous appointments include the Pinellas County Education Foundation, the Florida WAGES board, the state welfare reform agency, and Workforce Florida, the state's workforce policy organization.

"I was drawn to the Association because of their commitment to advocate for high quality services to youth and their families served in the juvenile justice system," said Craig-Myers. "I support the new direction of the Florida juvenile justice system and will work to make it nationally recognized."

The selection of Cathy Craig-Myers is applauded by leaders in the child advocacy community. "Cathy has a long track record of exemplary public service. Our children and our state will be well-served by her leadership," said Roy Miller, President of Children's Campaign, Inc., an independent watchdog group.

**About FJJA**

Founded in 1994, the Florida Juvenile Justice Association has promoted public awareness and education of juvenile justice issues and contributed to the development of public policy. The association supports research of juvenile justice issues and provides training, technical assistance, and consultation to members who operate 80% of the programs delivered through the Department of Juvenile Justice.