



Maryland Department of  
**Juvenile Services**  
Treating • Supporting • Protecting

## **DJS Response**

Facility Closure Report  
Mt. Clare House  
April 2009

The decision to close the Mt. Clare House was predicated upon two required processes to award a vendor a contract – the Statement of Need and the Request for Proposal. DJS' Counsel advised that it would be contrary to State procurement laws to proceed with a contract recently awarded (and yet to be approved by the Board of Public Works) to a new vendor to operate the Mount Clare House. A new law that went into effect October 2008 required notice of the issuance of a Statement of Need to first be published in the Maryland Register prior to a new license being granted. A license for the vendor could not be granted before the end of the contract. The Department attempted to extend the contract with the original vendor; however, this was not successful.

The Department is currently reviewing procedural processes to align the Statement of Need with the Request for Proposals in conjunction with the Department of Budget and Management to ensure that abrupt closures of needed programs do not occur again.