

2023-2 Resolution on Youth Tried as Adults
Adopted March 16, 2023

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; and

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

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2022, the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJNPC) adopted a resolution asking that the San Mateo County District Attorney agree to grant juvenile courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving youth under the age of 18 and support efforts to keep youth under the age of 18 in juvenile justice facilities instead of adult facilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee supports the JJNPC in requesting that the San Mateo County District Attorney commit to trying youth as juveniles, not adults; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee forward a copy of this resolution to the San Mateo County District Attorney and Board of Supervisors.