USE BY MASS NEWS MEDIA OF NAMES OF JUVENILES IN POLICE MATTERS

Adopted by Convention Delegates May 7, 1971 Reviewed by Board of Managers November 2010

WHEREAS, We are concerned with the use by mass news media of the names of juveniles in police matters; and

WHEREAS, These arrests are public record, but the court dispensation, by law, is strictly private; and

WHEREAS, It is presently at the discretion of news media personnel to determine the use of juveniles' names in their own media; and

WHEREAS, The American tradition of justice is that any person accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond reasonable doubt, but juveniles charged with offenses and later found innocent may never be exonerated by the news media which have published accounts of their arrests; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the California PTA support action by legislators and other authorities that would prohibit the disclosure to the news media of names of juveniles subject to legal proceedings due to arrests.