

CIVIL CITATION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO ARREST

Civil citation and other alternative-to-arrest programs (civil citation) are designed to give law enforcement an alternative to arrest or formal processing that provides swift and appropriate consequences to youth for minor, misdemeanor delinquent acts. The goals of the civil citation process are to divert the youth prior to arrest, hold the youth accountable for delinquent behavior, involve the parents in sanctioning the youth, and prevent the youth's further involvement in the juvenile justice system. Law enforcement officers are allowed the discretion of issuing a citation rather than a formal complaint.

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Local civil citation providers oversee youth participating in the civil citation process. Youth are required to participate in an assessment of needs, perform community service hours, and complete various sanctions, which may include reparations and treatment services. The civil citation process provides an alternative that greatly reduces case processing and paperwork time for law enforcement, the courts, and juvenile justice personnel. Additionally, civil citation is more cost-effective than formally processing a youth in the court and juvenile justice system, and offers the youth an opportunity to receive sanctions, treatment, and to make reparations without receiving a delinquency record that may interfere with educational, work, and military service opportunities for many years into the future. The extremely low recidivism rate (4%) for youth who participate in civil citation is an important indicator of the success of this approach.

The success of the civil citation process depends on the collaborative effort of many agencies and personnel throughout the community. These include, but are not limited to: law enforcement, state attorneys, judges, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), public defenders, work sites, as well as the coordinating entity for the local civil citation process.

Profile of Youth

The following table provides demographic data from DJJ’s Juvenile Justice Prevention Web System. Demographic profile data are based on the number of unduplicated youth who received civil citation services during Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19.

Civil Citation (FY 2018-19 Youth Served)						
	AGE					Youth Served
	0 - 7	8 - 11	12 - 14	15 - 17	18+	
Statewide	5	542	4,803	8,589	360	14,299
Percentage	0%	4%	34%	60%	3%	100%

	GENDER/RACE								Youth Served
	Male				Female				
	White	Black	Hispanic	Other/ Unknown	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	
Statewide	3,612	2,972	1,629	65	2,565	2,314	1,098	44	14,299
Percentage	25%	21%	11%	0%	18%	16%	8%	0%	100%

Outcome Evaluation Performance

The following table shows the civil citation process profile summaries and outcomes, which includes total releases, number of completions, completion rates, demographic characteristics, average length of stay, and recidivism rates. Summaries and outcomes are based on the number of youth released from a civil citation program during FY 2017-18. **Note:** completions in FY 2017-18 are evaluated during FY 2018-19 in order to permit a full year of tracking for recidivism. It is important to note that some programs served very few youth and the resulting outcomes and performance figures should be interpreted with caution.

During FY 2017-18, there were a total of 10,237 releases and 8,195 completions for youth participating in the civil citation process throughout Florida. The overall recidivism rate for youth completing the civil citation process was 4%, which is the lowest recidivism rate of any program type monitored by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. While participating in the civil citation process, 3% of youth were identified as committing any new offense. The majority of youth who completed the civil citation process during the year were male (60%) with an average age at admission of 15.5. The average length of stay for youth in the civil citation process was 122.3 days.

Civil Citation: Program Profile
Summaries and Outcomes on Youth Completions FY 2017-18

Program Name	Completions											
	Total Releases	Percent ODS ¹		Total		Percent Male	Percent Black	Percent Hispanic	Average Age at Admission	Average Prior Seriousness Index ³	Average Length of Stay	Recidivism Rate ⁴
		Any Offense	New Law	N ²	Percent							
Civil Citation												
01 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Okaloosa County Teen Court	45	2%	2%	40	89%	68%	43%	10%	14.9	0.0	106.8	8%
01 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Santa Rosa County Teen Court	33	6%	6%	28	85%	50%	18%	4%	16.1	0.0	99.9	7%
01 Circuit-Civil Citation-Escambia County Court Administration	185	4%	4%	157	85%	46%	43%	3%	15.4	0.0	111.8	10%
01 Circuit-Civil Citation-New World Believers	60	5%	5%	33	55%	52%	76%	6%	14.3	0.0	152.2	9%
01 Circuit-Civil Citation-Walton County DJJ	8	0%	0%	8	100%	50%	13%	13%	14.3	0.0	96.0	0%
02 Circuit-Civil Citation-BAYS	5	0%	0%	3	60%	100%	100%	0%	15.5	0.0	106.7	0%
02 Circuit-Civil Citation-DISC Village	180	3%	3%	161	89%	63%	34%	4%	15.8	0.0	89.3	8%
02 Circuit-Civil Citation-Living Stones - Leon	73	4%	4%	60	82%	47%	83%	8%	15.0	0.0	111.7	8%
03 Circuit-Civil Citation-Columbia County DJJ	21	0%	0%	20	95%	65%	35%	5%	16.0	0.0	69.2	10%
03 Circuit-Civil Citation-Hamilton County DJJ	8	0%	0%	6	75%	100%	83%	17%	14.6	0.0	140.5	0%
03 Circuit-Civil Citation-Lafayette County DJJ	4	0%	0%	3	75%	67%	0%	0%	16.6	0.0	261.3	0%
03 Circuit-Civil Citation-Suwanee County DJJ	10	20%	20%	7	70%	71%	29%	14%	15.5	0.0	74.3	0%
04 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Clay County Teen Court	97	4%	4%	77	79%	57%	27%	8%	16.0	0.1	155.1	3%
04 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Duval County Teen Court	330	2%	2%	237	72%	52%	49%	7%	15.8	0.0	114.4	4%
04 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Nassau County Teen Court	71	1%	1%	57	80%	67%	7%	2%	15.4	0.0	124.3	5%
04 Circuit-Civil Citation Assessment-Clay County	40	3%	3%	32	80%	50%	50%	3%	15.6	0.0	88.5	3%
04 Circuit-Civil Citation-BAYS	3	0%	0%	2	67%	50%	100%	0%	14.8	0.0	91.5	0%
05 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Citrus County Teen Court	50	6%	6%	44	88%	61%	5%	2%	15.6	0.0	249.1	0%
05 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Hernando County Teen Court	126	2%	2%	103	82%	66%	19%	22%	14.9	0.1	165.7	1%
05 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Lake County Teen Court	121	0%	0%	119	98%	60%	25%	15%	15.5	0.0	57.8	3%
05 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Marion County Teen Court	64	3%	3%	57	89%	49%	37%	19%	14.7	0.0	106.9	5%
05 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Suwanee County Teen Court	7	0%	0%	7	100%	57%	14%	0%	16.9	0.0	56.1	0%
05 Circuit-Civil Citation-Marion County Work-In-Lieu-of-Arrest [JAAP]	202	0%	0%	179	89%	60%	35%	18%	14.2	0.0	39.7	6%
06 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Juvenile Arrest Avoidance Project [JAAP]	416	4%	4%	307	74%	61%	53%	12%	14.8	0.0	120.2	4%
06 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Juvenile Second Chance Program	78	0%	0%	75	96%	49%	49%	3%	14.8	0.0	N/A ⁵	0%
06 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Pasco County Sheriff's Office	402	5%	5%	319	79%	63%	15%	12%	15.5	0.0	116.0	5%
06 Circuit-Civil Citation-Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Juvenile Diversion Program	440	3%	3%	362	82%	56%	22%	14%	15.4	0.0	119.2	4%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-BAYS	64	5%	5%	38	59%	55%	16%	11%	15.1	0.0	111.8	5%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-EPIC	108	3%	3%	87	81%	71%	10%	7%	16.2	0.0	119.7	3%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-Flagler County DJJ	25	0%	0%	21	84%	62%	29%	5%	16.3	0.0	96.8	10%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-My Refuge Community Church	17	0%	0%	17	100%	71%	29%	12%	14.1	0.0	167.5	6%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-Putnam County Juvenile Crime Prevention Office	64	5%	5%	45	70%	62%	24%	7%	15.0	0.0	98.6	7%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-St. Johns County Sheriff's Office	91	1%	1%	87	96%	67%	25%	5%	15.2	0.0	83.6	2%
07 Circuit-Civil Citation-Volusia County DJJ	260	4%	4%	248	95%	52%	28%	16%	15.8	0.0	301.1	6%
08 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Alachua County Teen Court	145	7%	7%	122	84%	59%	57%	6%	15.5	0.0	134.2	6%
08 Circuit-Civil Citation-Union County DJJ	5	0%	0%	5	100%	60%	60%	0%	15.5	0.0	144.8	0%
08 Circuit-Civil Citation-Baker County Teen Court	5	0%	0%	4	80%	50%	0%	0%	14.7	0.0	148.3	25%
08 Circuit-Civil Citation-BAYS	2	0%	0%	2	100%	50%	100%	0%	14.1	0.0	90.0	0%
08 Circuit-Civil Citation-Gilchrist County DJJ	1	0%	0%	1	100%	0%	100%	0%	12.8	0.0	643.0	0%
08 Circuit-Civil Citation-Levy County DJJ	1	0%	0%	1	100%	100%	0%	0%	13.8	0.0	917.0	100%
09 Circuit-Civil Citation-BAYS	29	3%	3%	15	52%	33%	93%	7%	15.3	0.0	107.0	0%
09 Circuit-Civil Citation-Orange County Restorative Justice	187	2%	2%	143	76%	63%	27%	34%	15.5	0.1	81.6	6%
09 Circuit-Civil Citation-Orange County Teen Court	340	1%	1%	223	66%	57%	35%	41%	15.4	0.0	81.5	2%
09 Circuit-Civil Citation-Osceola County Teen Court	56	0%	0%	51	91%	71%	18%	51%	16.0	0.0	83.2	2%
10 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Highlands County Teen Court	10	0%	0%	8	80%	50%	38%	13%	14.0	0.0	118.1	0%
10 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Polk County Teen Court	513	13%	13%	370	72%	65%	29%	29%	15.3	0.0	110.0	6%
11 Circuit-Civil Citation-Equal Justice	953	2%	2%	742	78%	63%	36%	58%	16.0	0.0	153.4	3%
12 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Sarasota County Teen Court	142	4%	4%	113	80%	61%	16%	12%	15.7	0.1	164.9	6%
12 Circuit-Civil Citation-DeSoto County DJJ	12	0%	0%	11	92%	27%	18%	9%	12.8	0.0	62.6	0%
12 Circuit-Civil Citation-Manatee County Civil Diversion Program	188	2%	2%	129	69%	67%	36%	19%	15.0	0.0	144.1	7%
13 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Juvenile Arrest Avoidance Project [JAAP]	591	2%	2%	476	81%	52%	34%	14%	15.6	0.0	111.9	1%
14 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Bay County Teen Court	171	8%	8%	80	47%	70%	29%	1%	16.1	0.1	143.1	8%
14 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Holmes County Teen Court	5	0%	0%	4	80%	100%	100%	0%	14.0	0.0	92.5	0%
15 Circuit-C C Alternative Div-Juvenile First Offender Program [JFOP]	657	3%	3%	503	77%	63%	30%	23%	15.8	0.0	171.3	4%
16 Circuit-Civil Citation-Monroe County Sheriff's Office	109	0%	0%	101	93%	71%	17%	28%	15.4	0.0	55.5	0%
17 Circuit-Civil Citation-Broward County Countywide Coordination	817	2%	2%	730	89%	59%	51%	24%	15.9	0.0	141.7	3%
18 Circuit-Civil Citation-Brevard County Crosswinds	172	3%	3%	116	67%	66%	16%	3%	15.2	0.0	95.6	3%
18 Circuit-Civil Citation-Seminole County Community Services [PAY]	408	7%	7%	302	74%	60%	31%	16%	15.8	0.0	144.3	5%
19 Circuit-Civil Citation-Martin County Health and Human Services	69	0%	0%	59	86%	64%	14%	7%	15.8	0.6	82.3	3%
19 Circuit-Civil Citation-Martin County-Stuart Police Department First Offender Program	25	4%	4%	23	92%	78%	26%	17%	16.3	0.0	137.4	13%
19 Circuit-Civil Citation-St. Lucie County Court Administration-St. Lucie and Indian River Counties	204	3%	3%	176	86%	65%	41%	19%	15.2	0.2	82.0	7%
19 Circuit-Civil Citation-St. Lucie County PSLPD First Offender Program	84	4%	4%	68	81%	69%	35%	25%	15.8	0.0	89.4	1%
19 Circuit-Civil Citation-Wave Crest Shelter/CHS	51	4%	4%	42	82%	62%	10%	29%	14.0	0.0	103.5	7%
20 Circuit-Civil Citation-Charlotte County Human Services	88	0%	0%	80	91%	50%	13%	11%	15.5	0.0	70.7	1%
20 Circuit-Civil Citation-Collier County Sheriff's Office	255	2%	2%	242	95%	65%	18%	15%	15.2	0.0	69.2	5%
20 Circuit-Civil Citation-Hendry County DJJ	14	0%	0%	14	100%	79%	14%	64%	15.2	0.0	30.2	0%
20 Circuit-Civil Citation-Lee County Sheriff's Office	220	0%	0%	193	88%	52%	12%	22%	16.2	0.0	38.5	3%
Subtotal	10,237	3%	3%	8,195	80%	60%	33%	21%	15.5	0.0	123.5	4%

¹ ODS is the percentage of releases adjudicated for an offense during supervision. This includes any new violation of law (misdemeanor or felony) or non-law violation.

² N = number of cases. Italics indicate the program completed 15 or fewer youth; therefore, care should be taken in interpreting these data.

³ The 'Average Prior Seriousness Index' is explained in greater detail in the Department's Common Definitions document, which can be accessed online:

<http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/csr/common-definitions>

⁴ As of the 2011 Comprehensive Accountability Report, violations of community supervision are no longer counted as recidivism. The official definition of recidivism is all adjudications, adjudications withheld, and convictions for any new violation of law within twelve months of program completion.

⁵ Unable to report length of stay based on local data entry practice during the fiscal year.