

Be Involved!

General Tips for Families Whose Child is Involved with DJJ

Tell us what is going on with your child and family and be supportive by going to court and meetings with us.

Give us frequent input on how we can work together to help your child succeed.

Tell us about your individual situations, experiences, strengths, and needs.

Be honest, reliable, and courteous.

Understand that we have to treat everyone equally, and we will be fair.

Participate in plans, decisions and solutions to help stay connected to your child.

Be available to us and give us complete, clear and accurate information.

Ask questions about your child's care/case.

Be patient as we work together through the juvenile justice system.

Trust we have your best interests at heart.

Work to build positive connections to your community resources.

Contact us for help before problems arise.



Be Involved!!!

What You Can Do if Your Child is Arrested

1. Keep notes.

Make sure you write down the names and numbers of everyone you meet. Write notes about what is said. Keep a list of questions, dates and things to do.

2. Understand and support your child's right to be represented by an attorney.

If you cannot pay for an attorney, the court may provide your child with one before any hearing. The attorney will guide you through the unique and complex juvenile justice process.

3. Tell your child to be honest with everyone:

The attorneys, the judge, DJJ staff, counselors, etc. are all working together to make the best plan to help your child. Everyone shares the goal of making the community safer.

4. Have a working telephone number at all times.

If you do not have one, give your child's Juvenile Probation Officer the number of a trusted friend or family member. Return all calls as soon as you can.

5. Ask questions!

Begin a list here: _____



By St. Pete Prodigy
Artist Destiny

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Rick Scott, Governor

Christina K. Daly, Secretary

This publication is funded by JABG Sub-grant No. Y4105 from the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The content is not necessarily endorsed by OJJDP.

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
www.djj.state.fl.us