

Detention Services

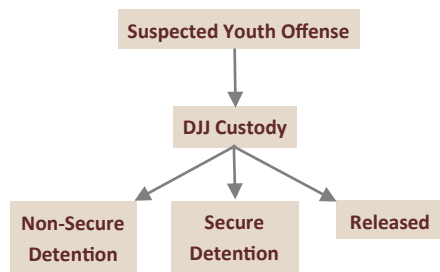
Once at DJJ, a staff member—usually a Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO)—“screens” your child. The JPO evaluates your child using a form called the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI). The DRAI looks at your child’s:

- ◆ Current and prior offenses,
- ◆ Legal status (detention, commitment or probation), and
- ◆ Circumstances that increase or decrease the seriousness of his offense.

The DRAI score determines whether your child is to be released, placed on home detention or held in secure detention until a final decision is made about his case.

Detention is the term for youth under the age of 18 who are arrested and taken into custody by DJJ.

- ◆ Lower scores allow DJJ to **release** your child back to your custody. This happens when your child is charged with a minor crime, not considered a risk to public safety and likely to show up for his court hearings.
- ◆ Higher scores require DJJ to place your child on detention. There are two types of detention:
 - ◇ **Non-secure detention** allows your child to wait for his next court appearance at home under a JPO’s supervision. You and your child sign a supervision contract that lists rules your child must follow. If the contract is broken or your child is charged with a new crime, he can be placed into secure detention.
 - ◇ **Secure detention** is used if your child is a risk to public safety or himself or is not likely to show up for court. He must remain in a locked detention center while waiting for his court hearings. Usually secure detention is limited to 21 days, but those charged with serious offenses can be held up to 30 days.



Then a detention hearing is held within 24 hours of your child’s arrest if he is on secure or non-secure detention. At the hearing, the judge will confirm whether your child is to be held in secure detention, placed on non-secure detention or released, possibly with charges dropped.

Detention Services

While in Detention your child will receive:

- ◆ Educational assessments full time school classes.
- ◆ Mental health and substance abuse screening.
- ◆ Crisis intervention services.
- ◆ Medical screenings, care and referrals.
- ◆ Access to daily structured recreational activities.
- ◆ Meals certified by a licensed dietitian that meet the National School Lunch Program Requirements and age-specific nutrition daily reference intakes. Dietary substitutions are made for youth with food allergies or religious restrictions.
- ◆ Protection from any form of abuse. All youth have unrestricted access to the Abuse Hotline.
- ◆ His property inventoried, stored safely, and returned when he is released.

Your child may also:

- ◆ Receive visits from parents, legal guardians and grandparents. Other family members may visit if it is ordered by the court or approved by the detention center’s superintendent. Contact your child’s JPO for arrangements.



NOTE: All visitors will be electronically searched. No personal items (e.g. keys, purses, cell phones, etc.) are allowed. Any unauthorized items brought into a detention facility is a Third Degree Felony.

Visitation Schedule

Phone: _____

- ◆ Receive visits from his lawyer, DJJ staff, law enforcement officers, clergy members, and other professionals. They may visit your child outside regular visitation hours as necessary.
- ◆ Participate in religious services if he chooses.
- ◆ Call you during the admission process at the facility’s expense. Once admitted to the facility, he may make at least 15 minutes of collect calls per week.

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Rick Scott, Governor

Christina K. Daly, Secretary

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