

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice



What is the Department of Juvenile Justice?

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is a government agency with offices located throughout Florida, which reports directly to the Governor.

What does DJJ do?

- ◆ Increases public safety.
- ◆ Works with children, families, schools, law enforcement and communities to prevent youth from getting in trouble with the law.
- ◆ Supervises youth according to court orders.
- ◆ Provides care and treatment according to youth's needs.
- ◆ Works with the court to hold youth responsible for their actions.
- ◆ Determines what help each youth and family might need.
- ◆ Helps youth make better choices.
- ◆ Provides the **right services, in the right place, at the right time and in the right way**.

Our Mission

To increase public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth

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Program Area Overview

Prevention

DJJ provides crime **prevention** services to deal with specific problems of at-risk youth and their families. Programs target youth with risk factors related to family, school and substance abuse, and behavior issues such as acting out of control, truancy and running away from home.

Detention

Detention is used for youth who are held by court order or arrested for breaking a law when less restrictive temporary placement options are not appropriate.

Probation

Juvenile **Probation** Officers (JPO's) provide supervision and case management services for youth and their families in the community and throughout their involvement with the juvenile justice system. JPO's provide a broad range of services including conducting assessments, providing interventions, monitoring court ordered sanctions and making service referrals for treatment.

Residential

Delinquent youth can be ordered by a court into a **residential** treatment facility. DJJ is responsible for recommending the appropriate level of confinement and placement of each youth based on the youth's identified risks and needs, as well as program monitoring.

**Together we can support
safe communities
and successful children.**

Major Steps in the Florida Juvenile Justice System



The First 24 Hours

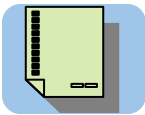
If it is thought that your child broke a law...



A law enforcement officer MAY decide to file a complaint with the court and send your child home...



OR take him to DJJ where staff will assess him and decide whether he is likely to show up for court and stay out of further trouble.



Released to parents without restrictions



Placed on home detention with restrictions and DJJ supervision



Kept in a DJJ detention facility



A judge makes sure your child has an attorney, knows his rights and what he is charged with and finalizes the temporary placement of your child at a detention hearing the next morning.



After The First 24 Hours

Whether your child stays at home or at a DJJ detention facility, DJJ staff will make a complete report of your child and his case to make the best recommendation to the court for your child's future.



The State Attorney reviews DJJ's report. If he decides to file charges, he recommends to the judge what the charges and consequences should be.



Charges are filed and your child must participate in a program but is "diverted" from more court processes.



Charges are filed and your child must appear before a judge.



No charges are filed. Your child's case is dismissed.



With his lawyer, your child tells the judge whether he is guilty or not.

If your child says he is NOT guilty, the judge will schedule a trial to hear all the facts. If the judge then finds him to be guilty, he will decide what his consequences must be.



If your child says he is guilty, the judge decides then or at another hearing what his consequences will be and where he must stay.



At home on probation



In a program, such as day treatment or substance abuse



In a residential commitment facility