



Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

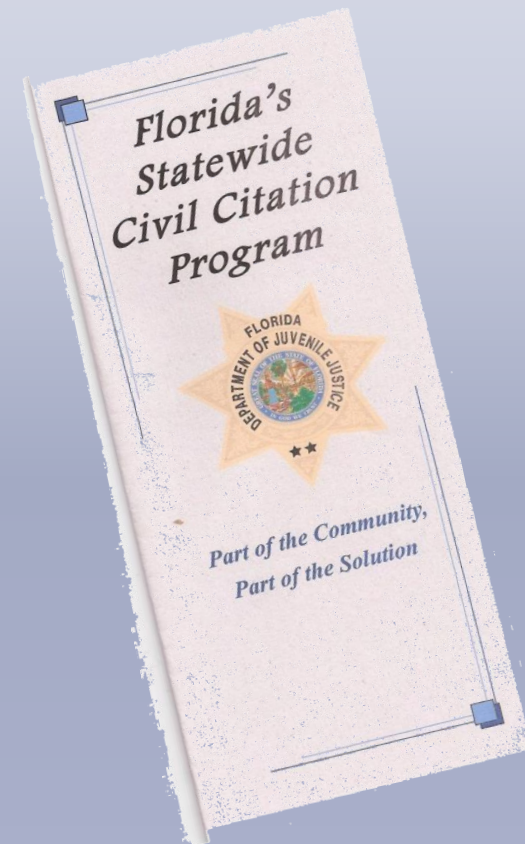
# Civil Citation

Part of the Community, Part of the Solution



# What is Civil Citation?

- ❑ Statewide process
- ❑ Authorized in Section 985.12 Florida Statutes
- ❑ Alternative to judicial handling
- ❑ Non-serious misdemeanor offenders
- ❑ Focus is to prevent further delinquency



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# Legislative Requirements

Section 985.12, Florida Statutes, authorizes local governments to establish civil citation programs and requires:

- Statewide implementation at local level
- Non-serious misdemeanors
- Assessment of needs
- Entity must report youth data to DJJ for tracking and analysis of results and trends



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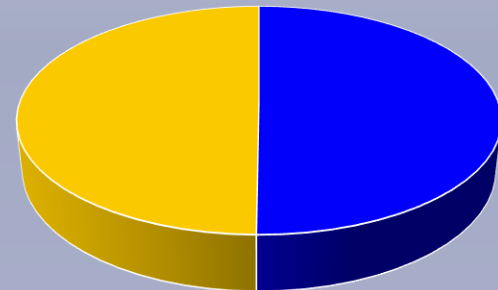
# Benefits of Civil Citation

## Why Civil Citation?

For Florida's 2013-2014 fiscal year:

- **44,634** youth referred to FDJJ
- **22,253** of those committed misdemeanors

### Misdemeanors



- Youth who committed other offenses
- Youth who committed misdemeanors



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# Benefits of Civil Citation

## Why Civil Citation?

Shift to early intervention and diversion model by:

1. Keeping youth that pose no real threats to public safety out of system
2. Reducing costs of processing youth for misdemeanors
3. Freeing up limited resources to focus on more serious and violent offenders



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# Advantages

- Enhances Public Safety
- Avoids Costs
- Services Based on Needs Assessment
- Better use of Resources
- Reduces Disproportionate Representation
- Addresses Zero-tolerance Policies
- No Criminal Record



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# Eligibility

Juveniles have:

- Committed a non-serious misdemeanor offense.
- No prior criminal history.
- Can receive up to three civil citations.



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# Eligibility

The following misdemeanor cases may not be appropriate for civil citation; however, based on the circumstances of the offense on a case by case basis, the youth may be served by civil citation if it is in the best interest of the youth and the public.

- ❑ Any misdemeanor involving the possession or use of a firearm
- ❑ Any misdemeanor involving exposure of sexual organs or other sexual related behavior, i.e., lewd and lascivious behavior
- ❑ A misdemeanor that is directly related to, or a part of, gang activity



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# Eligibility Exceptions

Misdemeanor offenses eligible with approval of victim, family, and state attorney.

- Battery
- Assault
- Non-firearm weapon possessions cases
- Animal cruelty



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# Requirements

- Community Service
- Intervention Services
- Other Sanctions or Services
  - School progressing monitoring
  - Restitution
  - Letter of apology
  - Pre-vocational skills



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# Responsible Agencies

- Law Enforcement
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Juvenile Assessment Center
- County/Municipality or entity they select

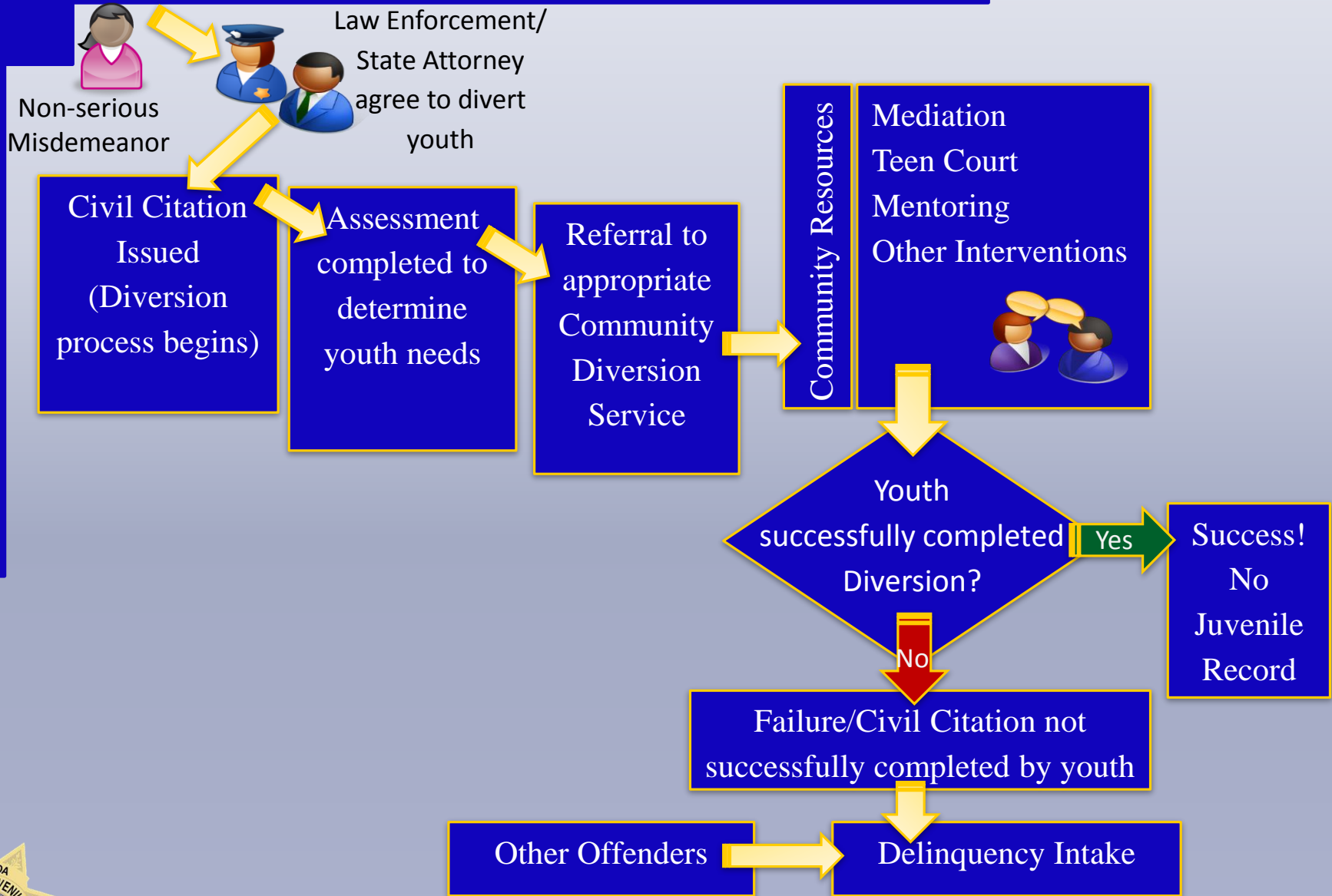


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# The Civil Citation Process



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# Civil Citation Process Steps

## Step 1

Youth taken to Civil Citation Operating Entity

## Step 2

Operating Entity will:

- Conduct search
- Explain program
- Enter information in Prevention Web

## Step 3

Case manager completes assessment and assigns services

## Step 4

Youth participates in civil citation process

## Step 5

Successful completion of civil citation



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# Unsuccessful Completion

Youth will not successfully complete civil citation if the youth:

- Fails to report for a work assignment
- Fails to complete a work assignment
- Fails to comply with assigned intervention services
- Commits a subsequent delinquent act



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# Unsuccessful Case Procedures

1. Complete the booking process
2. Provide state attorney:
  - Recommendation of final civil citation closure
  - Copy of arrest form
  - Notice to appear release agreement
  - Recommended treatment plan
  - Booking documents



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# Civil Citation in Florida

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<http://www.djj.state.fl.us/partners/our-approach/florida-civil-citation>

<http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/delinquency-data/civil-citation-dashboard>



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