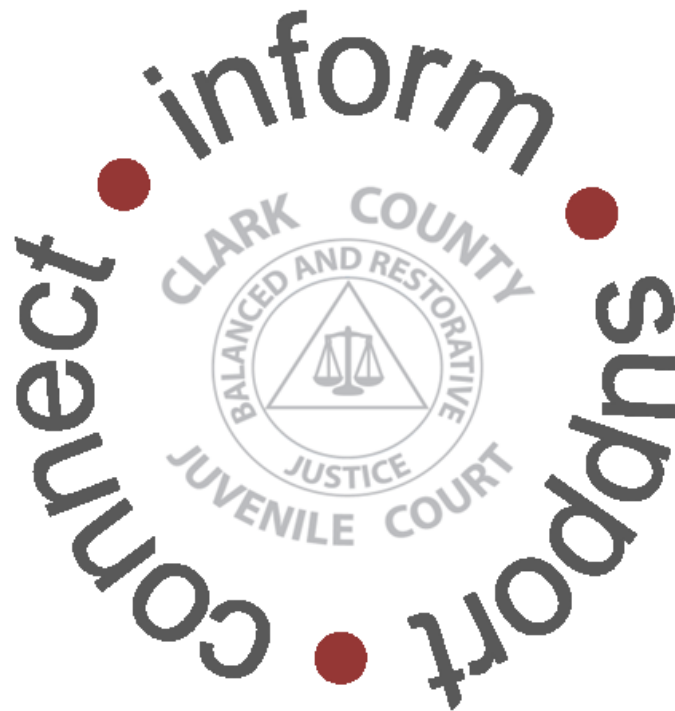


First Time in Court?



Court Session: Monday - Friday - 9 a.m.

*Parking at Juvenile Court is metered.
Bring plenty of quarters. You may be in court for two
or more hours.*

NOTICE:

***Weapons: Guns, knives, and other weapon-like
objects are prohibited in court. All persons entering
the court are required to go through a metal detector.
Food and beverages are not allowed. Turn off or
silence cell phones.***

www.clark.wa.gov/juvenile
500 W. 11th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660
P.O. Box 5000
Vancouver, WA 98666-5000
Office 360-397-2201 Fax 360-397-6109

Balanced and Restorative Justice

“Balanced and Restorative Justice is...a way of thinking about crime, community, and working together for the future.”

- Susan Sharpe



Accountability:

- Crime hurts individuals and the community. Meaningful accountability for an offense includes everyone impacted.
- Accountability also involves the offender taking steps toward becoming a positive citizen.

Community Safety:

- Citizens have a right to live in a safe and healthy community.
- Offenders in the community are carefully supervised by justice system staff.

Competency Development:

- Juvenile offenders should leave the justice system more capable of being positive, contributing members of the community.
- The community, victims of crime, and juvenile offenders should benefit from their contact with the juvenile justice system.

You are bringing a youth to court... **WHAT NOW?**

This booklet is provided to help you understand what is likely to happen in the Clark County Juvenile Court. Inside you will find:

- *How to prepare for court.*
- *Rights and responsibilities.*
- *What to expect regarding court appearances.*
- *Help navigating court proceedings.*
- *Who's who in court.*
- *Vocabulary.*
- *Detention information.*
- *Community resources.*

You may have questions that this booklet does not answer; the Defense Attorney or Intake Probation Counselor assigned to the case can help.

In our view, there are no stupid questions, if you do not understand something, Please ASK! We are here to help.

Clark County Juvenile Court Mission Statement:

We will put our energy and resources into the future. Our focus will be on what needs to be healed, what needs to be repaid, what needs to be learned.

How to Prepare for Court

Court proceedings are a formal and serious event.

Making a good impression demonstrates respect for the court and what happens in court.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Wear clean clothes.

Practice good hygiene before court, comb your hair.

Pants worn at the waist; not sagging.

Avoid strong fragrances.

Dress for court as if it were a formal job interview. Do not come dressed as if relaxed at home or going out with friends.

RESPECT FOR WHAT HAPPENS IN COURT

Arrive on time.

No gum.

No talking or gesturing to youth in custody.

Use low voices.

Silence your cell phone.

Supervise small children outside of court, if needed.

Ask questions if you do not understand.

RESPECTFULLY ADDRESSING THE COURT

Pay attention.

Stand up straight.

Make eye contact.

Address Judge as “Your Honor”.

Respond respectfully (“Yes, Your Honor”).

Speak clearly and loud enough to be heard.

Youth held in detention will attend hearings dressed in detention clothing.

Youth and Parent Rights

- Parents/guardians are a critical part of the Juvenile Court process
- Parents/guardians are able to provide information to probation staff and Court to help determine outcomes. Youth may rely on parent to help understand the court process.
- Please note that defense attorneys are not legally obligated to either consult or inform parents/guardians when defending a youth.

As the defendant, a youth is the only person who has legal rights in the Juvenile Court under the law. These rights include:

- Right to be notified of charges.
- Right to have legal representation.
- Right to cross-examine witnesses (in trial).
- Right against self-incrimination (i.e. saying things that hurt your case)

Court Fees

Parents are responsible for certain fees when their youth is involved with the Juvenile Court. Fees may include Detention costs.

If a parent or guardian feels they are unable to pay court costs, they may complete a financial statement and request a hearing for the court to consider if the parent qualifies to have the fees waived.

When a youth is sentenced they will incur costs that may include fines, restitution (paying for damages), and/or DNA Fee.

Response of The Court To a Youth's Law Violation

Clark County Juvenile Court has many responses when a youth violates the law. The Court will decide which option is the most appropriate, meaningful, and likely to change behavior. The Court will consider:

- Seriousness of the violation.
- Community safety (is youth a risk to self or others).
- Prior criminal history.
- Individual youth's needs.
- Parent/Guardian's ability to control the youth's behavior.

Program Acronyms

ART: Aggression Replacement Training (Class)
CDDA: Chemical Dependency Disposition
Alternative
DD: Deferred Disposition
FFT: Functional Family Therapy
JDAI: Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
JJRA: Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation
Administration
MTR: Making Things Right (Class)
JRC: Juvenile Recovery Court
RCS: Restorative Community Service
SSODA: Special Sex Offender Disposition
Alternative
VIP: Victim Impact Program

BASIC COURT PROCESS

FIRST APPEARANCE

- Youth is advised of charges and rights.
- Court appoints Defense Attorney.
- Next court date set.
- Outcome will be detention, release, or house arrest.

ARRAIGNMENT

- Enter a plea of guilty or not guilty.

GUILTY

NOT GUILTY

- Trial date set

SENTENCED

- Community Service
 - Probation
- Restitution • Fine
- Alternative to Detention
 - Detention • JJRA

TRIAL

- Evidence presented.
- Witnesses testify.
- Judge decides verdict.

PLEA BARGAIN

NOT GUILTY

GUILTY

GUILTY

SENTENCED

- Community Service
 - Probation
- Restitution • Fine
- Alternative to Detention
 - Detention • JJRA

What Parents May Be Expected To Do In Court when Case is Called

- Come forward and stand with your child when their name is called, and speak when asked for information.
- Provide the following information:
 - Is youth under control at the home? Do they follow rules, attend appointments? Does youth run away?
 - Is youth attending school? Is youth engaged in school?
 - Is youth using illegal substances. Is there a mental health diagnosis. Is youth receiving treatment for either?
 - Is youth involved in pro-social activities? Are there positive people in the youth's life?
 - Is youth a danger or threat to safety of self or others?

NOTE:

If you think your child may be detained, you may want to bring their prescription medications with you to court to avoid making a second trip.

See *Detention Center* page in back of book for requirements.

Who's "Who" In Juvenile Court?

Commissioner or Judge:

- In charge of courtroom and all that happens there.
- Makes sure that proper legal procedure is observed.
- Makes decisions around outcome of case.

Prosecuting Attorney:

- Lawyer who represents the state and upholds public safety.
- Prepares and presents case against youth and files criminal charges against them.
- Makes recommendations to the court.

Defense Attorney: It is important for a youth to be represented by an attorney in court.

- Works for the youth's interest.
- Makes sure the youth's rights are protected.
- Will typically meet with youth privately at some point.
- Advises youth on available options to resolve case.
- Presents case that supports youth and appropriate sentencing if youth is found guilty.
- Makes recommendations to the court.
- May or may not meet with or explain court process to parent or guardian.
- Court appoints attorney if youth does not have money to pay for a private attorney.
- You may hire your own attorney for your youth at any time.

It is the youth's responsibility to contact their defense attorney after their first court appearance and before their next court appearance to set up an appointment.

Intake Probation Counselor:

- Gathers information about the youth.
- Makes recommendations to judge /commissioner about participation in court programs.
- Best person for parent or youth to contact about court process (360-397-2201 ext. 4121 or 4029).

Probation Counselor (PC):

- Works with youth if placed on Community Supervision/Probation.
- Meets with youth and family during probation period.
- Monitors progress and compliance with conditions of probation.
- Makes recommendations to court.

Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in meetings with PC to support their youth and probation.

Vocabulary

Adjudication: A court decision in which the juvenile pleads or is found guilty of charged offenses.

Allegation : Something said to be true that hasn't been proven.

Charge/crime/offense : The illegal act the juvenile is formally accused of committing.

Restorative Community Service: Court ordered service projects in the community to make up for harm done within the community.

Community Supervision/Probation: Period of time when a youth is supervised outside of a detention facility by a probation counselor and is expected to follow the rules of the court order.

Due Process: A right that guarantees the fairness of court procedures.

Decline Hearing: Process to determine if a case will be transferred to adult court.

Disposition: Juvenile Court's version of a court sentence; decided by a commissioner or judge.

Felony: The most serious criminal offense.

Gross misdemeanor: An offense less serious than a felony but greater than a misdemeanor.

Guilty Plea: Admitting to the charges.

House Arrest : A court order which sets certain conditions your child must follow while the case is going through the court process.

Misdemeanor: The least serious criminal offense.

Not Guilty Plea: Not admitting to the charges; allows time to prepare for trial with attorney, collect evidence, work on plea bargain, or otherwise resolve case.

Plea Bargain: Youth's lawyer and the prosecutor work together to resolve matter without a trial.

Probable Cause: A strong reason to believe the youth committed the offense.

Probation Counselor/PC/PO: Assigned to assist youth and monitor that they follow the court orders through completion of probation period.

Restitution: Money paid to a victim to repay damage or loss.

Statute: A law passed by state legislature.

Trial: A formal meeting in a court in which evidence about a crime is presented to a judge so decisions (guilty or acquitted) can be made according to the law.

Warrant: Court order allowing law enforcement to take youth into custody for court appearance.

Clark County Juvenile Detention Center

Custody:

Youth are held in detention when they are a risk to community safety and/or are unlikely to appear for court.

While in detention:

- Youth will be provided breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- Youth are provided detention clothing and basic toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, shampoo, soap, and deodorant).
- Youth have access to reading materials provided by the local library.
- Parents/guardians may provide homework and religious reading materials (soft-bound only).
- Youth can send and receive mail.
- There are no opportunities to spend money while in detention.

Available Services Include:

- Interim educational services-provided by ESD 112
- Drug/alcohol assessment
- Drug/alcohol information meetings
- Recreation (ping pong, TV, yoga)
- Pro-social programs
- Basic medical screening
- Mental health screening
- Interim counseling services

For additional information:

360-397-2201 ext. 2450

Visitation Hours:

- Male Youth: Mondays at 7pm, Saturdays at 1:30 pm
- Female Youth: Tuesdays at 7pm, Saturdays at 3:30 pm

Medications:

Parent or guardian can bring prescription medication to the nurse. Enter the detention lobby entrance on 12th Street between 8am & 7pm. Medications must be in pharmacy bubble pack or original, current pharmacy bottle. Deliveries made before 8am or after 7pm must be taken to Clark County Jail, 707 W 13th Street.

Phone Access:

Youth can make phone calls while in detention by calling collect or using a phone card. You may purchase a phone card in the detention lobby or online. Lobby hours are 8am to 8pm M-F and 10am to 4pm Sat/Sun. Cards can be purchased online at <http://www.telmate.com/>.

Community Resources

Find more at <http://211info.org/>

Drug and Alcohol Assessment and Treatment

Community Services Northwest:.....360-397-8484
www.communityservicesnw.org

Cowlitz Tribal Treatment:.....360-397-8228
www.cowlitz.org

Daybreak:.....360-750-9588
<http://daybreakinfo.org>

Mental Health

Catholics Community Services:.....360-750-6918
www.ccsww.org

Children's Center:..... 360-699-2244
www.thechildrenscenter.org

Children's Home Society:..... 360-397-8440
www.chs-wa.org

Columbia River Mental Health:.....360-993-3040
<http://crmhs.org>

Cowlitz Tribal Treatment:.....360-397-8228
www.cowlitz.org

Family Solutions:.....360-695-0115