

Juvenile Court Flow Chart

INTAKE

JUVENILE REFERRAL

Report is received from law enforcement, schools, parents or social services agencies.

INTAKE

Based on the seriousness of the offense, age of child, previous offense history and reliability of evidence the referral is handled in one of the following ways:

NO ACTION TAKEN

DIVERSION

Case is diverted to another agency or program for services or letter sent to parents.

INFORMAL ADJUSTMENT

Hearing Officer meets with child and parent(s) to accept admission of offense and agree to a resolution such as probation with conditions such as: community service, restitution or other appropriate sanction OR if child denies offense, case is forwarded to states attorney for possible petition (charges) via the formal process.

ADJUDICATION

FORMAL PROCESS

Referral sent to states attorney who decides if there is enough legal sufficiency to proceed to a formal hearing before a Judge or Referee.

INITIAL APPEARANCE, PRE-TRIAL, AND TRIAL

Initial appearance: advisement of rights (ex: right to an attorney) and an opportunity to admit or deny allegations.

Pre-trial: opportunity to, once more, admit or deny allegations; handle motions filed, resolve case, or set for trial

Trial: state has to prove allegations beyond a reasonable doubt

NO ACTION

States Attorney declines to prosecute.

CASE DISMISSED

DISPOSITION

DISPOSITIONAL HEARING (SENTENCING)

Probation and/or custody under the Division of Juvenile Services or Social Services with the following possible conditions: community service, restitution, counseling, treatment, mediation, or another appropriate sanction.

