
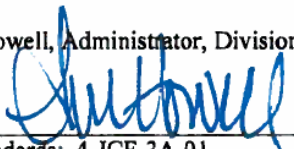


LEGAL RIGHTS OF YOUTH – ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES Juvenile Justice Services LEGAL RIGHTS OF YOUTH – ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

SUBJECT:	Legal Right of Youth – Attorney Communications
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DATE:	 3/13/15
SUPERSEDES:	YCS P-10
APPROVED BY:	Amber Howell, Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services
DATE:	 3/13/15
REFERENCES:	ACA Standards: 4-JCF-3A-01
ATTACHMENTS:	None

I. POLICY

All youth will have uncensored, confidential contact by telephone, in writing, or in person with their legal representatives and the courts.

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II. DEFINITION

As used in this document, the following definition shall apply:

Legal representative: Assigned or retained attorney at law or their authorized representatives.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Juveniles without an Assigned or Privately Retained Attorney:

The Group Supervisors or Mental Health Counselors may inform youth of legal resources available to them. At no time are staff to engage in conversation that might in any way be construed as offering legal advice regarding the youth's case and under no circumstances should staff question youth regarding alleged offenses.

B. Communication by Phone with Legal Representatives:

1. Limitations: Calls are limited to once a day. However, if a youth indicates important information needs the prompt attention of his/her legal representative, the call will be placed.
2. Business Hours: Upon request from a youth, the Mental Health Counselor shall contact the legal representative by phone. If the legal representative is not available, a message will be left to return the call.

C. Written Communication with legal Representative:

1. A youth's written or dictated message will be mailed, unopened, to the youth's legal representative by the Shift Supervisor or Mental Health Counselor.
2. Outgoing written or dictated messages will be uncensored. Dictated messages will not be censored and will not be opened once the message has been completed for delivery.
3. Mail from the court or other legal authority will be opened, only to inspect for contraband and only in the presence of the youth in accordance with the Juvenile Correspondence policy.

D. Visits/In-Person Communication with Legal Representative:

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Arrangements will be made to allow confidential visits between the youth and his/her legal representative. Except in an emergency, a youth's legal representative may visit during regular business hours. If a youth requests a visit with a legal representative the Mental Health Counselor will see that the request is relayed to the legal representative.

- E. This policy, the procedures, and the practices will be reviewed annually and revised as needed.