

TOP TEN FACTS about

The Juvenile Court Process

If your child is charged with a juvenile offense, the coming court process is probably a mystery to you. Understanding this process will help you prepare and can reduce some of you and your child's nerves. Here are the top ten things that you need to know about the juvenile court process.

- 1.You as the parent must be notified as soon as your child is arrested.
- 2.You should not submit to a police interrogation of your child. If you say no, the police cannot interrogate your child.
- 3.In most cases, your child will be released into your custody while their case is pending. In rare cases, they will be detained in a juvenile detention facility.
- 4.There might be conditions for release imposed on your child, such as a curfew or submitting to a drug test. Make sure that your child abides by these conditions.
- 5.Your child's case will likely be heard in juvenile court.
- 6.In juvenile court, a judge determines the outcome of the case and oftentimes seeks to rehabilitate the child.
- 7.If your child is charged with a serious offense or if they are a repeat offender, their case might go to the adult court docket.
- 8.You should avoid the adult docket if possible. Have a juvenile defense lawyer fight to return the case to juvenile court.
- 9.Common penalties in a juvenile case include community service, rehabilitative programs, fines, and more.
- 10.A juvenile defense attorney can guide you through the juvenile court process and answer any questions that you have.

If you and your child need assistance throughout the juvenile court process, please contact my office. Having an attorney on your side can make all of the difference in your child's case. You can contact me at 203-925-9200 for more information.

