

Juvenile Matters

311.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. It shall be of the utmost importance that all Member's attitude, demeanor, and speech toward juveniles be civil and respectful, but at the same time firm.
2. It is the responsibility of all Members of the Department to report any matter coming to their attention in which a juvenile is delinquent or the victim of an offense or neglect.
3. In cases involving juveniles, after the proper investigation or the securing of the necessary evidence for prosecution, the investigating deputies shall refer the juveniles to the appropriate authority for the processing and disposition of their cases.
4. Sections 346 and 676 of the Welfare and Institutions Code provide that the public (law enforcement personnel, media, other relatives of the minor, etc.) shall not be admitted to Juvenile Court hearings, unless requested by a parent or guardian and consented to or requested by the minor concerning whom the petition has been filed. The judge or referee may admit those persons (e.g., law enforcement personnel) deemed to have a direct and legitimate interest in the particular case of the work of the court.
5. The Juvenile Court has the exclusive authority to determine to whom juvenile record information may be disclosed and the extent to which the information can be released to third parties. Juvenile records may be obtained by juvenile justice agencies and law enforcement agencies under appropriate circumstances.
6. Juvenile record information includes, but is not limited to, any document or records in any Juvenile Court proceeding; any document relating to any juvenile contacts and arrests even if Juvenile Court proceedings were not instituted; and all other information of an evaluative or diagnostic nature available to any other person or agency in accordance with the administration of juvenile court law.