

2.434 JUVENILE OPERATIONS

- A. The agency is committed to the development and perpetuation of programs designed to prevent and control juvenile crime. The responsibility for supporting and participating in this agency's juvenile operations is shared by all units and personnel. However, the coordination and conduct of most juvenile related operations and programs is primarily the responsibility of personnel assigned to the Police Services Bureau.
- B. The development of significant juvenile related programs and/or directives, or modifications to same, will be sent to DJS representatives through the Office of the Chief for review and comment.
- C. Juvenile operational activities may include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Enforcement activities;
 - 2. Taking steps necessary to protect juveniles from their surroundings;
 - 3. Conducting follow-up investigations of cases involving juvenile offenders, victims, or witnesses;
 - 4. Preparing and presenting cases in which juveniles are involved; and
 - 5. Diverting juvenile offenders out of the juvenile justice system.
- D. Consistent with CJ 3-814, juveniles may be taken into custody:
 - 1. In accordance with court orders;
 - 2. In accordance with FL 5-709; or
 - 3. If officers have reasonable grounds to believe that juveniles are in immediate danger from their surroundings and that removal is necessary for the juveniles' protection.
- E. Officers taking juveniles into custody consistent with CJ 3-814 will:
 - 1. Ensure immediate notifications are made to juveniles' parents or guardians;
 - 2. Ensure DJS is notified consistent with RMS and CAD information; and
 - 3. Keep custody of juveniles only until DJS:
 - a. Takes custody under CJ 3-815; or
 - b. Authorizes outright release or return of juveniles to parents, custodians, or guardians.
- F. Officers taking juveniles into custody for delinquent acts, or as children in need of supervision will ensure DJS is notified consistent with RMS and CAD information.
- G. Officers will use the least coercive among reasonable alternatives when taking enforcement actions against juveniles.
 - 1. Juveniles may be released without further actions being taken against them consistent with **2.638.01 Juvenile Custody Dispositions** and **2.644 Status Charges & Non-Offenses**.
 - 2. Criteria and procedures for issuing citations to juveniles in lieu of taking them into custody are established in **2.416.15 Juvenile Citations**, **2.204 Uniform Enforcement Procedures** and **2.638.08 Request for Juvenile Traffic Charges**.
 - 3. Criteria and procedures for referring juveniles to the juvenile courts are contained in **2.638.06 Juvenile Charging Documents**.
- H. Unit **2.600 Arrest Procedures** contain specific directives relating to:
 - 1. Juvenile arrests and documentation;
 - 2. Detention of Juveniles;
 - 3. Juvenile interrogations;
 - 4. Juvenile screening requirements;
 - 5. Juveniles taken into custody without formal charges;
 - 6. Restitution in juvenile cases; and
 - 7. School notifications.