

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

For business meeting on: September 21, 2018

Title

Juvenile Law: Information for Parents

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected Revise and renumber form JV-060

Recommended by

Family and Juvenile Law Advisory CommitteeHon. Jerilyn L. Borack, CochairHon. Mark A. Juhas, Cochair Agenda Item Type Action Required

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Executive Summary

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends revising and renumbering one Judicial Council information form to provide accurate, up-to-date information to parents whose children are the subject of juvenile court wardship proceedings. The recommendation includes information about recent changes to the law that address consultation with counsel before custodial interrogation, parental responsibility for costs of services and support provided to the child, and sealing of juvenile justice court records.

Recommendation

The Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective January 1, 2019, revise *Juvenile Court*—*Information for Parents* (form JV-060) to:

- 1. Change the title of the form to Juvenile Justice Court: Information for Parents;
- 2. Renumber the form as JV-060-INFO and format it as a plain-language information form;
- 3. Provide information about the limits established by Senate Bill 190 (Mitchell; Stats. 2017, ch. 678) to parental liability for fees and costs of services provided to their children;

- 4. Provide information about the attorney consultation requirement for children 15 years of age and younger established by Senate Bill 395 (Lara; Stats. 2017, ch. 681);
- 5. Provide current information about the law governing sealing of juvenile court records as amended by Assembly Bill 529 (Stone; Stats. 2017, ch. 685) and Senate Bill 312 (Skinner; Stats. 2017, ch. 679); and
- 6. Make clarifying and technical changes.

The revised form is attached at pages 5-13.

Relevant Previous Council Action

The Judicial Council most recently revised form JV-060, effective September 1, 2017, to reflect amendment of the statutory requirements for sealing juvenile court records.

Analysis/Rationale

The committee recommends revisions to form JV-060 to conform to statutory amendments and to promote access to the courts for parents and guardians of children who are the subjects of juvenile wardship petitions based on accusations of illegal conduct. Three significant changes to the legal treatment of children and families involved in the juvenile justice system took effect January 1, 2018.¹

First, SB 190 eliminates almost all parental liability to pay fees or repay the cost of services provided to the parents' children in juvenile justice, or delinquency, proceedings. Parents and children remain liable for victim restitution, as well as for any fines or penalties assessed by the court.

Second, SB 395 requires children 15 years old or younger held in custody to consult with an attorney before any custodial interrogation and before waiving their constitutional rights. Children may not answer questions or waive rights unless and until the consultation has happened.

Third, the Legislature enacted two bills that modify the law governing sealing of juvenile case records.

• AB 529 amends Welfare and Institutions Code section 786 to require the court to seal records for any case that it dismisses on the motion of the prosecution, on its own motion, or because the petition is not sustained after an adjudication hearing. The bill also adds section 786.5, which requires the probation department to seal the records of any juvenile who

¹ Effective June 27, 2018, section 34 of Assembly Bill 1812 (Stats. 2018, ch. 36), the 2018 Public Safety Omnibus budget trailer bill, amended section 1731.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code to allow specified youth who are committed or transferred to the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to spend their entire sentences in DJJ if those sentences would be completed on or before their 25th birthdays. The revisions reflect that change.

successfully completes a prepetition diversion program. Sealing the record results in the arrest being deemed not to have occurred. If the probation department determines that the diversion program was not successfully completed, section 786.5 requires the department to provide notice of that determination to the individual, who must then have an opportunity to petition the court for review.

• SB 312 clarifies that records for a Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) offense can be sealed under section 786 if the offense was reduced to a misdemeanor. The bill also amends section 781 to authorize courts to seal other 707(b) records—not including those for sex offenses registerable under Penal Code section 290.008—as long as those records are accessible under specified circumstances (that is, not destroyed) and to preclude courts from sealing the records of a petitioner who was committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice until after the petitioner has reached 21 years of age.

In addition to the revisions required by statute, the committee responded to requests from courts and other stakeholders to replace current form JV-060 with a simpler format that would be easier to read online or in print. The committee also took this opportunity to make the form more accessible to parents and guardians without legal training by presenting the information in plain language and a user-friendly format that is consistent with other Judicial Council information forms, for example, *Guide to Psychotropic Medication Forms* (form JV-217-INFO).

Policy implications

This recommendation revises the form to present information more clearly and simply, consistent with the Judicial Council's policy to promote equal access to the courts. The revisions also reflect recent statutory amendments that address sealing juvenile court records, parental responsibility for reimbursement of county costs of providing services and support to a child who is the subject of juvenile justice proceedings, and a child's mandatory consultation of a lawyer before a custodial interrogation.

Comments

This proposal circulated for comment as part of the winter 2018 invitation-to-comment cycle, from December 15, 2017, to February 9, 2018, to the standard mailing list for family and juvenile law proposals. Included on the list were appellate presiding justices, appellate court administrators, trial court presiding judges, trial court executive officers, judges, court administrators and clerks, attorneys, social workers, probation officers, and other juvenile law professionals. Six organizations, one individual, and the Joint Rules Subcommittee of the Trial Court Presiding Judges and Court Executives Advisory Committees provided comment; all agreed with the proposal as is or if modified as suggested.

The Superior Court of San Diego County noted that many terms used in the form needed definition. In response, the committee added a glossary of terms. Two commentators suggested clarifying the description of SB 395's requirement that the child consult with an attorney before a custodial interrogation; the committee revised the description.

The state Department of Social Services suggested two significant changes. First, the department requested the addition of a social worker and a foster parent to the list of persons to whom a child must be allowed to complete a telephone call within an hour of arrest and detention. The committee added a foster parent and a social worker to the form, but not exactly as suggested. Section 627(b), which specifies the persons who can satisfy the requirement of a completed call, does not include a social worker or foster parent. Nevertheless, in recognition of the important role of those persons in the lives of children living in court-ordered foster care, many counties have adopted policies allowing detained foster children to make a call to one or both of them. The committee has revised its recommendation to reflect these policies.

Second, the department requested a more complete statement about a parent's right to counsel separate from the child's. The committee expanded the form's discussion of that issue. Finally, numerous commentators suggested grammatical, stylistic, and technical changes to make the form clearer and more accessible. The committee incorporated almost all of these suggestions, many through format changes. A chart with the full text of the comments received and the committee's responses is attached at pages 14–29.

Alternatives considered

In addition to the recommended action, the committee considered addressing these legislative changes through education and technical assistance; however, the judicial branch is not in a position to provide education to parents of children in juvenile justice proceedings.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

The committee does not anticipate that the revisions will require the courts or their justice partners to make significant operational changes. Courts and agencies that print and distribute form JV-060 will incur costs to replace any existing stock of outdated versions of the form with form JV-060-INFO, but revisions to provide accurate legal information are needed regardless of format. The Judicial Council will incur costs to translate form JV-060-INFO into Spanish. The committee does not anticipate that the revisions will generate significant cost savings, though the dissemination of accurate legal information always holds the potential to reduce the length of hearings and the number of continuances required.

Attachments and Links

- 1. Form JV-060-INFO, at pages 5–13
- 2. Chart of comments, at pages 14–29
- 3. Link A: Senate Bill 190 (Stats. 2017, ch. 678), <u>http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB190</u>
- 4. Link B: Senate Bill 395 (Stats. 2017, ch. 681), <u>http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB395</u>
- Link C: Assembly Bill 529 (Stats. 2017, ch. 685), <u>http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB529</u>
- 6. Link D: Senate Bill 312 (Stats. 2017, ch. 679), <u>http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB312</u>

Juvenile justice court (sometimes called *delinquency* court) is a court that decides if a child broke the law. The juvenile justice court helps to protect, guide, and rehabilitate children. And it helps keep the community safe.

This information sheet answers common questions that many parents have. It has three sections:

- 1. What Happens When Your Child Is Arrested
- 2. Juvenile Court Hearings and Orders
- 3. How to Keep Your Child's Juvenile Court Record Private

This form describes the juvenile justice court process. Some children who break the law and become involved with law enforcement or probation never need to go to court.

1) What Happens When Your Child Is Arrested

This section is about:

- What to expect when your child is arrested,
- What your child's legal rights are,
- What the *notice to appear* and the *petition* are,
- What it means to transfer your child to adult court, and
- What a *probation officer* does.

My child was arrested. What happens next?

Your child might be brought home or allowed to go home with you.

You will be given or mailed a notice to appear that tells you the date, time, and place you and your child need to go to the probation department or juvenile court. Talk to a qualified juvenile defense lawyer about your child's case. Many juvenile defenders offer free consultations.

Warning! You and your child *must* go to the meeting listed on the notice to appear even if no one contacts you again. Sometimes the meeting will be at probation. Sometimes the notice will order you to go to the juvenile court.

Your child might NOT be sent home immediately after the arrest.

If that happens, the officer who arrested your child may:

- Let your child go later.
- Take your child to juvenile hall and keep them there. This is called *in-custody detention*. If this happens, the arresting officer *must* try to contact you immediately to tell you where your child is and that your child is in custody.

What are my child's legal rights after arrest?

Your child has the right to make at least **two phone calls** within **1 hour** of being arrested.

- One call must be a *completed* call to a parent, guardian, responsible relative, or employer.
- The other call must be a *completed* call to a lawyer.
- If your child is currently in court-ordered foster care, your child may also be allowed to call a foster parent or social worker.

Will they tell my child about the right to remain silent?

Yes. Before any officer asks your child about what happened, the officer must first tell your child about your child's *Miranda* rights.

They will say:



"You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be used against you in court. You have a right to have a lawyer with you during questioning. If you or your parents cannot afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you."

NOTE: If your child is 15 years old or younger and in custody, your child *must* talk to a lawyer—in person, by phone, or by videoconference (like Skype or FaceTime)— before answering any questions or giving up any rights. Your child cannot decide to answer questions or give up rights without first talking to a lawyer.

Does my child need a lawyer?

If a petition is filed, your child has a right to an *effective*



and *prepared* court-appointed lawyer, who must have specific education and training in juvenile justice cases. Many parents hire a lawyer for their child as soon as the child is arrested.

Your child's lawyer represents only your child, not you, even if you are paying for that lawyer.

Do I need a lawyer for myself?

The court can order you to do things for your child and can order you to pay *restitution* to the *victim*. Some parents hire lawyers for legal advice about these issues.

NOTE: If you think you need your own lawyer and cannot afford to hire one, you can ask the court to appoint a lawyer for you. The court will decide whether to appoint you a lawyer. If it does, you might be ordered to pay back the cost of the lawyer if the court decides you can.

If my child is required to meet with probation, how can we get ready?

It's a good idea to get legal advice. A defense lawyer who specializes in juvenile justice cases can help you understand your child's rights and know what to expect. Try to find school records and other information that shows what you and your child are doing to get back on track.

At the meeting, the probation officer will talk with you and your child to figure out the best way to handle your child's case.

NOTE: At this meeting, the probation officer must tell you and your child about the *Miranda* rights. Any information you or your child share with the probation officer might be shared with the court or the prosecuting attorney (DA).

• If the alleged offense is not serious or it's the first time your child has been accused of breaking the law, the probation officer might just tell your child what they did was wrong (reprimand them) and let your child go.

- The probation officer might offer to let your child do a special *diversion program* instead of going to court. Each county has different rules and different programs. If you and your child agree to the program and your child does everything the program requires, the juvenile court does not need to get involved.
- If the offense is more serious, the probation officer might refer your child's case to the prosecuting attorney (DA). If the prosecutor decides to file charges, they will file a petition in juvenile court. That's what the rest of this form is about.

What happens if my child is taken to juvenile hall after getting arrested?

The probation officer can decide to:

- Keep your child in custody, or
- Let your child go home with you.

If the officer lets your child go, they may still:

- Ask the DA to file a petition, and
- Set limits on what your child is allowed to do while at home.

If the officer does *not* let your child go, a petition *must* be filed within 48 hours of the arrest. A detention hearing must be held the next day the court is in session. The courts are closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. You and your child *must* be given a copy of the petition. *Exception:* If your child is under 8, your child does not have a right to get a copy of the petition.

How long can they keep my child in juvenile hall?

The judge will decide at the detention hearing. The judge may release your child or keep your child in juvenile hall until the next hearing or until the whole case is over.

Can I visit my child in juvenile hall?

Usually, but before you go, contact the juvenile hall or the probation officer to find out when you can see your child.

What if the probation officer says a petition will be filed?

The petition states the things your child is accused of or charged with. It means your child's case will be sent to juvenile court. You have the right to receive a copy of the petition. If you have not received a copy of the petition, ask the probation officer or the court clerk for one.

The petition says your child did something against the law and asks the juvenile court to decide that what it says is true, but it does not prove anything.

Read the Petition Carefully! It is important to know what your child is accused of.

Are all petitions the same?

No. Each petition is tailored to the child and the alleged offense. There are two kinds of petitions:

A **601 Petition** is filed when a child has:

- Run away,
- Skipped school a lot,
- Violated a curfew, or
- Regularly disobeyed a parent or guardian.

These petitions are filed by the probation department at the juvenile court. If the court decides the charges are true, your child can become a "ward" of the court. That means the court will supervise your child, and your child must obey the court's orders.

A **602 Petition** is for a charge that would be a *misdemeanor* (like shoplifting or simple assault) or *felony* (like stealing a car, selling drugs, rape, or murder) if an adult had done it.

These petitions are filed by the prosecuting attorney (DA). If the court decides the charges are true, the judge can:

- Order your child put on probation,
- Make your child a "ward" of the court, and
- Order your child placed out of your home or committed (locked up).

NOTE: If your family is involved with the child welfare system, talk with your lawyer about what your child's arrest means for that case. Depending on everything that has happened, the court might decide that it's best for your child to stay in the child welfare system, to be supervised in the juvenile justice system, or to be supervised and served in both systems.

Can my child's case be moved to adult court?

In certain situations, the prosecuting attorney (DA) can ask the juvenile court to transfer your child's case to adult criminal court. If that happens, talk to your child's lawyer right away. Adult criminal cases are handled very differently and there may be very serious consequences for your child.

A case can only be transferred to adult court if your child is:

- 14 years old or older, and
- Charged with a very serious or violent offense, such as:
 - Murder and attempted murder;
 - Setting a building on fire when there is someone inside (arson);
 - Robbery with a dangerous or deadly weapon;
 - Some rape, kidnapping, and carjacking cases;
 - o Some firearms and drug offenses; and
 - Some violent escapes from a juvenile detention facility.

What does the probation officer do?

Probation officers investigate children's situations and backgrounds and write reports for the court. They also supervise children to see if they are doing what the court has ordered them to do.

Why does the probation officer write a report?

The probation officer writes reports to give the court information about your child. The reports give the judge a description of your child's situation, including life at home and school, the current charge(s), and any previous arrests or petitions. It can also include:

- Statements from your child, you, your family, and other people who know your child well;
- A school report;
- A statement by the victim; and
- Recommendations about what the court should do if the judge finds that your child did what the petition says.

When does the judge see the reports?

The probation officer presents a report at the *detention hearing*, *disposition hearing*, and each *review hearing*. The judge uses the reports to help decide how to handle your child's case.

2 Your Child's Court Hearings and Orders

If a petition is filed in your child's case, you and your child will have to go to juvenile court. Each time you go to court is called a "hearing." You may have to go to several court hearings. This section is about:

- What happens at the different court hearings,
- What happens after the hearings,
- What if your child becomes a ward of the court, and
- What your duties and responsibilities as a parent are.



Get Ready for Court

How will I find out about court hearings?

If your child is in custody, both you and your child will get notice at least 5 days before the hearing. Someone will deliver it personally or by certified mail.

If your child is **not** *in custody*, both you and your child will get notice of each court hearing at least 10 days before the date of the hearing. Someone will deliver it personally, by first-class mail, or, if you agree, electronically.

Can I go to my child's court hearings?

Yes. In fact, the law says you *must* go. The judge decides what is best for your child. Depending on the charges, if you can show that your child will listen to you and follow your rules, and that you will hold your child accountable and be supportive at home, the judge may let your child go home with you.

How many times will we have to go to court?

You and your child will probably need go to court several times. There will be different kinds of hearings where the court makes different decisions. *See page 8 for a table of different hearing types.*

Do we have the right to an interpreter?

Your child has a right to an interpreter. You might have a right to one, too. Ask for one if you do not speak English well and don't understand everything being said in court.

Can I speak at the court hearings?

Yes. You may speak when:

- The judge asks you questions,
- You are called as a witness, or
- The judge gives you permission.

Who else speaks at the court hearings?

Your child's lawyer will speak for your child. The prosecuting attorney (DA) will speak for the government. The probation officer may speak for the Probation Department.

Can the victim go to the hearings?

Yes. A crime victim has a right to go to and speak at any court hearing. The victim and the victim's parents (if the victim is under 18) will get notice of the hearing. Do not talk to the victim unless your lawyer tells you to.

When is the first court hearing?

If your child is in custody, the first hearing, called the *detention hearing*, must take place on the court day immediately after the petition is filed. The probation officer or prosecuting attorney (DA) must tell you when and where the hearing will be. You will also get a copy of the petition. At this hearing, the court decides only whether your child can go home or needs to stay in custody until the next hearing.

If your child is not *in custody*, the first hearing, often called the *initial hearing*, must take place no more than 30 days after the petition is filed. In addition to the notice described earlier, you and your child will get a copy of the petition at least 10 days before the date of this hearing.

What is a jurisdiction hearing?

The jurisdiction hearing is when the judge decides if your child actually did what it says in the petition.

Here's what to expect:

- The judge will ask your child to *admit* or *deny* the charges listed in the petition.
- Your child's lawyer will consider the evidence and the possible outcomes, and then advise your child what to do.

- If your child *admits* the charges, they give up the right to a trial. The judge will decide that the petition is true.
- If your child *denies* the charges, there will be a trial (called a *contested hearing*). The court may hold the trial on another day to give your child's lawyer time to get ready.

What happens at the "trial"?

At the trial, the prosecuting attorney (DA) will show evidence to prove the charges. Then your child's lawyer will show evidence in your child's defense. The judge will consider all the evidence and decide if the charges are true "beyond a reasonable doubt."

If there is not enough proof to decide the charges are true, the judge will dismiss the case. If your child is in custody, she or he will be let go. If this happens, skip ahead to section 3 of this form.

If the judge decides the charges are true, there will be a *disposition hearing*. That's when the judge will say what your child will need to do and where your child will live. Sometimes this hearing is right after the jurisdiction hearing, but it can also be later on the same day or on another day.

If your child is in custody, the judge can order your child to stay in custody or be released until the disposition hearing.

If you live in a different county, the court can transfer the case to your county court for the disposition hearing. Ask your child's lawyer if that is a good idea for your child's case.

What happens at the disposition hearing?

The judge will decide what orders to make to protect and rehabilitate your child and to protect the community.

The judge might order your child to:

- Live at home and obey informal probation rules for up to six months.
- Live at home, be supervised by a probation officer, and obey rules set by the judge.
- Live at a relative's home, a foster family home, a private group home, or a residential treatment program; be supervised by a probation officer; and obey rules set by the judge.

- Spend time in a county camp, home, ranch, or hall (in custody) and on probation.
- Spend time in the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (in custody).

The judge may also order *you*, the parent, to get counseling or parent training or do other activities.

What if the judge puts my child on probation?

If your child is put on probation, the probation officer will supervise and work with your child to make sure that your child follows:

- The law,
- The court's orders, and
- All the rules of probation.

The probation officer will also encourage your child to do well in school and participate in job training, counseling, and community programs.

How often will the probation officer see my child?

Each case is different. The probation officer may meet with your child twice a week or only once a month.

What if the judge makes my child a *ward* of the court?

The juvenile law uses special language. Children who have committed offenses become wards of the court, but are not convicted. If your child becomes a ward of the court, that means the court is in charge of some of your child's care and conduct. The court does this to protect your child and the community.

What if the judge orders my child placed in foster care?

If the judge orders suitable out-of-home or foster placement, the probation officer may place your child in:

- An adult relative's home,
- An approved foster family home,
- A licensed private group home, or
- A residential treatment program.

What if the court sends my child to a secure county facility?

Most wards of the court who need secure confinement are sent to county facilities, like a ranch, camp, or juvenile hall, where they can be close to their families and local rehabilitative services. Ask the probation department about your child's program and how you can visit and stay in touch.

What if the court sends my child to DJJ?

Only wards who have committed the most serious violent actions or need intensive treatment are sent to DJJ. If the court sends your child to DJJ, visit

<u>www.cdcr.ca.gov/Juvenile_Justice/</u> to get more information about where your child might go and how you can visit and stay in touch.

If my child's case was moved to adult court, can my child be sent to adult prison?

Yes, but there are limits:

- Between the ages of 14 and 18, your child *must* stay at a juvenile facility (DJJ) *even if* sentenced to adult prison.
- If your child's sentence will end before your child turns 25, your child can stay at a juvenile facility (DJJ) for the entire sentence.
- If your child's sentence will last past the age of 25, your child can stay at DJJ until age 18, then be moved to an adult prison on the child's 18th birthday.

Important! If your child's case gets moved to adult court, talk to your child's lawyer right away.

Do I have to pay for what my child did?

The court may order you to pay fines or penalties.

If the court decides that the victim is entitled to restitution, you and your child are equally responsible for paying the victim back. *Restitution* is money that pays the victim to make up for the damage or harm your child caused. Restitution can pay the victim back for:

- Stolen or damaged property,
- Medical expenses, and
- Lost wages.

If restitution is not completely paid when your child's case is closed, it will become a *civil judgment*, which can affect your credit score.

Do I have to pay fees for services my child receives from the court or county?

No. You do not have to pay fees or pay back the cost of services, support, or an attorney *given to your child* by the county or court as part of this case.

But if you can afford it, you might have to pay back the cost of services, including an attorney, *given to you or other family members* by the county or the court.

What are my responsibilities as a parent?

Your parental duties do not end when the court gets involved. Your child may need you now more than ever.

If the judge decides the charges in the petition are true, you may be ordered to do things to:

- Help make up for harm your child caused, and
- Keep your child out of trouble in the future.

The court may order you to:

- Take classes,
- Go to counseling, or
- Do other activities that will help you and your child.

What if my child is in foster care or in custody?

Wherever your child goes, stay in touch as much as you can, however you can. Visit your child as often as you can. Support your child's programs and activities. Encourage your child to obey the court's orders and not to leave the placement without permission.

Find out what is happening in your child's life so that you can get ready for your child to return home. Learn how to make a protective and supportive environment for your child's return to school or work. Develop plans to hold your child accountable for their actions.

Where can I find parenting resources?

Contact your child's probation officer. Ask for referrals to community organizations, such as parents' groups or counseling services, that can help you. Your school district and local hospital or mental health department may also have useful programs.

If you have any questions that have not been answered, you may want to contact a lawyer for help.

3 How to Keep Your Child's Juvenile Court Records Private

Will anyone be able to look at my child's juvenile records?

Maybe. Although most juvenile court records are confidential, the law sometimes allows government officials to look at them.

However, in many cases the court will "seal" your child's juvenile records. Once the records are sealed, the law treats the arrest and court case as if they never happened. That means your child can truthfully say that your child does not have a criminal or juvenile record.

Exception: If your child wants to join the military or get a federal security clearance, your child may need to disclose information about the juvenile record.

How can we seal my child's juvenile records?

It depends on your child's situation.

Sealing at dismissal. If the juvenile court dismisses your child's case without making your child a ward of the court, the court must seal your child's records.

If the court does make your child a ward and later dismisses the case because your child has satisfactorily completed probation, the court will also seal your child's records and send your child copies of the sealing order and form JV-596-INFO, *Sealing of Records for Satisfactory Completion of Probation.*

If your child completes a probation diversion program, the probation department will seal those records and give notice to your child. *Sealing on request.* If your child does *not* satisfactorily complete probation or the probation diversion program, the court will *not* dismiss the case and your child's records will not be automatically sealed. Your child can either:

- Ask the court to review the probation department's decision and order the records sealed, or
- Ask the court later to seal the records. (See form JV-595-INFO, *How to Ask the Court to Seal Your Records*, for more information.)

If your child is made a ward for an offense listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b), other than sex offenses requiring the child to register as a sex offender, your child can ask the court to seal the records:

- At age 21, if your child was sent to DJJ; or
- At age 18, if your child was not sent to DJJ.

Even sealed records can be viewed by the prosecuting attorney in some cases.

Sealing not allowed. If the court found that that your child committed a sex offense listed in Welfare & Institutions Code section 707(b) when your child was 14 or older for which your child needs to register as a sex offender, then the court cannot seal your child's records.

Can my child's juvenile court record be used against him or her as an adult?

Under the three-strikes law, some serious or violent felonies committed by a child at age 16 or 17 can be counted as strikes and used against the child in the future.

Court Hearings in Juvenile Justice Court

You and your child may have go to court several times. Each time you go is called a "hearing." Depending on your case, there may be different kinds of hearings to make different decisions. Here are some of them. Each time you have to go to court, you and your child (if 8 or older) will get a notice. The notice will tell you the date, time, and place to go.

Kind of Hearing	What happens at this hearing
Detention	The judge will decide if your child can go home or must stay in custody until the next hearing.
Transfer to Criminal Court	The juvenile court judge will decide if the case of a child who is 14 or older should be transferred to adult criminal court. Children under 14 cannot have their cases transferred to adult court. This hearing only happens for very serious or violent charges and only if the prosecuting attorney (DA) asks for the transfer.
Jurisdiction, part 1 (pretrial or settlement conference)	The judge, lawyers, and probation officer try to resolve the case without having a trial. The judge decides if your child actually did what the petition says. The judge will ask your child to <i>admit</i> or <i>deny</i> the charges listed in the petition. Your child's lawyer will consider the evidence and possible outcomes, and then advise your child what to do. If your child admits the charges, your child will give up the right to a trial. The judge will decide that the petition is true. If your child denies the charges, there will be a trial, usually a week or two later.
Jurisdiction, part 2 (trial)	 At the trial, the prosecuting attorney will show evidence to prove the charges. Then your child's lawyer will present your child's defense. The judge will consider all the evidence and decide if the charges are true "beyond a reasonable doubt." <i>If there is not enough proof to decide the charges are true</i>, the judge will dismiss the case. If your child is in custody, she or he will be let go. <i>If the judge decides the charges are true</i>, there will be a disposition hearing.
Disposition	This happens <i>only</i> if the judge decides that the petition is true. The judge then decides what orders to make for your child. This hearing is often right after the jurisdiction hearing but can also be postponed to another day.
Hearings on Motions	The court decides legal questions that affect the case.
Review Hearings	This hearing provides a way for the court to check how your child is doing on probation or in placement. If your child is placed in foster care, the court must hold a review hearing at least once every six months.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Civil Judgment: A court order requiring a person to pay money to another person.

Detention hearing: The first court hearing after an arrest if the child is detained in custody.

Felony: An action that would be a serious crime if committed by an adult.

In-custody detention: Keeping a person in a secure place and not letting them go free or go home.

Juvenile delinquency: See juvenile justice, below.

Juvenile justice: The legal system designed to guide, rehabilitate, and protect children who break the law, and to keep the community safe. Also known as "juvenile delinquency."

Miranda: The U.S. Supreme Court case that requires law enforcement to tell persons detained in custody their rights before asking them questions.

Misdemeanor: An action that would be a less serious crime if committed by an adult.

Notice to appear: A paper telling you and your child to meet with a probation officer or go to juvenile court at a specific time and place.

Notice of hearing: A paper telling you the date, time, and place of a court hearing, and what will happen there.

Petition: A paper filed with the court that says your child did something against the law.

601 petition: A petition filed by the probation officer that accuses your child of something that's against the law for a child to do, for example, skipping school or breaking curfew.

602 petition: A petition filed by the prosecuting attorney that accuses your child of doing something that would be a crime if an adult did it.

Probation officer: A law enforcement officer who advises the court about the orders the child needs to protect and rehabilitate the child, and supervises the child as ordered by the court.

Restitution: Money owed to the victim of an act to make up for the damage or harm done.

Terms or terms and conditions of probation: Court orders that tell a person on probation what they must and must not do.

Ward: A child whom the court has decided to supervise because the child did something against the law.

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
1.	Child Youth and Permanency Branch California Department of Social Services by Turid Gregory-Furlong	AM	Page 5: "A child who is locked up or held by an officer detained has the right to make at least two phone calls within one hour after arrest. One of the phone calls <u>must be a completed call</u> to a parent, guardian, responsible relative, or <u>employer</u> . The other call must be a completed call to an attorney." If the child is a foster child, the child has the right to call their social worker per WIC 16001.9(6). This should be included, as well as adding foster parent (not simply guardian) to the language.	The committee has recommended adding "social worker" and "foster parent" to the form, but not exactly as suggested. The information on the existing form reflects section 627(b) of the Welfare and Institutions Code, ¹ which specifies the persons to whom a child must be allowed a completed call while in law enforcement custody. Section 16001.9(a), which enumerates the rights of a child placed in foster care, does not apply directly to a child in law enforcement custody. As a matter of state law, therefore, a child in custody probably does not have the right to contact a social worker or foster parent. However, because of the important role of those persons in the life of a child in foster care, many counties have adopted policies allowing foster children to make a call to one or both of them. The committee has revised its recommendation to reflect these policies.
			Page 6: "4. Do I need a lawyer for myself? No, not usually. But the court can order you to do things to help you be a better parent for your	The committee agrees that the statement on the form is incomplete and has added language to the form to indicate that (1) a parent is entitled to hire

¹ Unless otherwise specified, all further statutory references are to the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		child. If And if your child has a lawyer, the	counsel separate from the child's counsel, (2) if
		lawyer represents only your child, and not you."	the parent cannot afford to hire separate counsel,
			the parent may ask the court to appoint counsel,
		• This is a misleading statement for the parent,	(3) the court has discretion to appoint separate
		and does not inform the parent they may be	counsel for a parent, and (4) the parent may be
		entitled to counsel if order by the court. Per	required to repay the cost of counsel appointed to
		WIC 633, 634, Rules of Court 5.534, and the	represent that parent if it is determined the parent
		Report to the Chief Justice: Commission on	is able to pay.
		the Future of California's Court System 2017	
		• WIC 633. Upon his appearance before the	
		court at the detention hearing, such minor	
		and his parent or guardian, if present, shall	
		first be informed of the reasons why the	
		minor was taken into custody, the nature of	
		the juvenile court proceedings, and the	
		right of such minor and his parent or	
		guardian to be represented at every stage of	
		the proceedings by counsel.	
		• WIC 634. When it appears to the court that	
		the minor or his parent or guardian desires	
		counsel but is unable to afford and cannot	
		for that reason employ counsel, the court	
		may appoint counsel. In a case in which	
		the minor is alleged to be a person	
		described in Section 601 or 602, the court	
		shall appoint counsel for the minor if he	
		appears at the hearing without counsel, whether he is unable to afford counsel or	
		not, unless there is an intelligent waiver of	
		the right of counsel by the minor; and, in the absence of such waiver, if the parent or	
		the absence of such warver, if the parent of	

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
Commentator	Position	Commentguardian does not furnish counsel and the court determines that the parent or guardian has the ability to pay for counsel, the court shall appoint counsel at the expense of the parent or guardian. In any case in which it appears to the court that there is such a conflict of interest between a parent or guardian and child that one attorney could not properly represent both, the court shall appoint counsel, in addition to counsel already employed by a parent or guardian or appointed by the court to represent the minor or parent or guardian. In a county where there is no public defender the court may fix the compensation to be paid by the county for service of such appointed counsel.oRule 5.534 (specifically) (d) Appointment of counsel (§§ 317, 353, 633, 634, 700)(1) In cases petitioned under section 300: (A) The court must appoint counsel for the child unless the court finds that the child would not benefit from the appointment and makes the findings required by rule 5.660(b); and (B) The court must appoint counsel for any	Committee Response
		(B) The court must appoint counsel for any parent or guardian unable to afford counsel if the child is placed in out-of-home care or the recommendation of the petitioner is for out-of-home care, unless the court finds the parent or guardian has knowingly and	

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		intelligently waived the right to counsel.	
		(2) In cases petitioned under section 601	
		or 602:	
		(A) The court must appoint counsel for any	
		child who appears without counsel, unless	
		the child knowingly and intelligently	
		waives the right to counsel. If the court	
		determines that the parent or guardian can	
		afford counsel but has not retained counsel	
		for the child, the court must appoint	
		counsel for the child and order the parent	
		or guardian to reimburse the county;	
		(B)The court may appoint counsel for a parent or guardian who desires but	
		cannot afford counsel; and	
		(C)If the parent has retained counsel for	
		the child and a conflict arises, the court	
		must take steps to ensure that the child's	
		interests are protected.	
		• Report to the Chief Justice: Commission	
		on the Future of California's Court System	
		2017 (pg 109):	
		"California already provides reunification	
		services to parents in many delinquency	
		matters in which the child is being placed	
		in foster care. Yet these parents are not	
		formally before the court as parties, and	
		typically they have no legal representation.	
		Statutes and the rules of court provide that	
		parents are entitled to representation in	
		these proceedings, and the court is	

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Juvenile Delinquency: Information for Parents (revise form JV-060)

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
			authorized to appoint counsel, but in practice the court rarely does so." Footnote citation WIC 633, 634, and Rules of Court 5.534	
2.	Joint Rules Subcommittee (JRS) Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and Court Executives Advisory Committee	AM	The JRS notes that the proposed revisions will create a minor impact on existing automated systems (e.g., case management system, accounting system, technology infrastructure or security equipment, Jury Plus/ACS, etc.).	The committee appreciates the JRS's comment. No specific response is required. The committee notes that since circulation for comment, form JV-060 has been renumbered and reformatted as a plain-language information form. The reformatting process has addressed many of the substantive suggestions and concerns raised by this and other commentators.
			Suggested Modifications: •P. 4: Delete the " County" line at the top. Rationale: This is an information page for parents and doesn't need to come from a particular county. Also, having that blank forces staff to type or write in a county, which takes extra staff time.	The committee agrees and has incorporated the suggested change into its recommendation.
			•In the second paragraph on page 4, change the second clause to read "the court will make orders for you and your child with the goals that your child will become rehabilitated and the community will be protected." Rationale: It makes more sense in a wardship case.	The committee has made changes consistent with the suggestion by clarifying that the court order is designed to guide and protect the child and keep the community safe. Section 202(a) specifies that the primary purpose of the juvenile court law, including both juvenile justice and child welfare proceedings, is "to provide for the protection and safety of the public and each minor." The committee chose not to use "become rehabilitated" because it is not plain language and might confuse some parents reading the form.

(Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
			•In the section, "My child came home after being arrested", change the phrase in the second paragraph "need to go to a meeting" to "must go for a meeting." In the next paragraph, change "you and your still need to show up as directed" to "you and your child must appear as directed." Rationale: It should be very clear that these appearances are not optional.	The committee agrees that the form should clearly state that these meetings are not optional. The committee has changed "need to" to "must" in both places suggested. Because "appear" has a technical sense susceptible to misunderstanding, the committee has chosen to use "go to" instead.
			•On page 5, at the top, paragraphs a, b, and c should each be followed with the word "or" because they are all separate options for the police officer.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			•On page 6 in paragraph 3, the first sentence is misleading. It should read "If your child does not already have an attorney, you may wish to contact an attorney for advice." Rationale: The public defender usually will not talk to a child or parent until they are appointed by the court.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			•On the same page, paragraphs a. and b. should be followed by an "or" to make it clear these are separate options.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			•In paragraph 4. On page 6, the last sentence should read "If your child has a lawyer, the lawyer represents only your child, not you." The word "And" in the front of the sentence should be deleted.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			•On page 10, paragraph 14, paragraphs a. through d. should be followed by an "or."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
3.	Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services by Ruena Borja, MSW	AM	1. Page 4, item 1, last paragraph: Delete the word "directed" and add "written on the notice or citation."	The committee appreciates the department's comments. It has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			2. Page 5, item 2, 4th paragraph: I believe we should add, "If your child is not allowed to leave and any officer"	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			3. Page 5, item 2, Note: The double negative may be confusing. I would suggest the last sentence read, "Your child cannot give up this right and decide to be questioned by an officer without first speaking to an attorney."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			4. Page 7, items 6b and 7, and page 11, item 16: The document should be consistent to delete "district attorney" and replace with prosecuting attorney.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			5. Page 8, item 10, last paragraph: Suggest striking "right after the case is finished."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			6. Page 9, item 12e and f: The document should be consistent to reflect the prior change from "offense(s)" to "act(s)."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			7. Page 13, item 24: I would suggest expanding this to include more detail. For example, "You will not be required to pay back the cost of services, support, or legal assistance/cost of an attorney provided to your child by the court or the county." And then also bolding and/or italicizing the words "your child" and "you or	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
			other family members" to make the distinction	
			clear.	
4.	Orange County Bar Association	AM	1. The proposed changes to Judicial Council	The committee appreciates the bar association's
	by Nikki P. Milliband, President		Form JV-060 (Juvenile Court Information for	comment. No specific response is required.
			Parents) correctly summarize new	
			developments in juvenile law regarding new	
			limits on parental financial liability brought	
			about by SB 190, requiring attorney	
			consultation prior to waiving <i>Miranda</i> , pursuant to SB 395, and the sealing of juvenile records	
			after AB 529 and SB 312. In addition, the	
			proposed changes include the addition of a	
			legally correct and helpful statement regarding	
			the court's ability to transfer a case to the	
			county of the child's residence for disposition.	
			While the proposed statements appropriately	The committee agrees and has incorporated the
			address the stated purpose, we would urge the	suggested change into its recommendation.
			Judicial Council to consider adding additional	
			language informing parents that statements	
			given to the probation officer during their	
			investigation of the case are not confidential	
			and can be used in court proceedings against	
			their child. We recommend adding the	
			following language to section 1: "A probation officer will probably contact you and ask you	
			and your child to come in for a meeting. The	
			information shared with the probation officer by	
			either you or your child may be shared with the	
			court or the prosecutor.	
5.	Santa Clara County Department of	А	This draft proposal reflects laws that already	The committee agrees that it is important to note
	Family and Children's Services		went in to effect $(1/1/18)$ and are rooted in	that the law treats a child involved in both the

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
	by Francesca LeRue, Director		Juvenile Justice Court process, not Dependency. With that said, Dependent children who are dually involved (also referred to as cross-over youth) will be impacted on the Juvenile Justice side, though these measures generally favor youth and family rights and thus are anticipated to be viewed positively by the families impacted. Although it would lengthen the information form, it could benefit from 1-2 paragraphs about dually-involved youth.	child welfare and juvenile justice systems differently from a child involved in only one of those systems and has added such an acknowledgment to its recommendation.
6.	Superior Court of Los Angeles County (no name provided)	AM	 Page 5, item 2b: We suggest using a simpler term than "diversion." If this is not possible, change to "diversion programs." Page 6, item 4: Should explicitly specify that the parent would be financially responsible for their own attorney. Insert language such as: "If you request an attorney for yourself, you may be financially responsible for that attorney's legal fees." 	The committee appreciates the court's comments and has addressed this concern in the reformatting process. The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			3. Page 7, item 6a: Instead of "disobeyed a parent," change to "disobeyed a parent or guardian."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
7.	Superior Court of Riverside County	A	 Does the proposal appropriately address the stated purpose? <i>Yes.</i> Should the revisions to form JV-060 include any additional information for parents of a child in a juvenile wardship proceeding? <i>No.</i> 	The committee appreciates the court's comments. No specific response is required. No specific response is required.
			3. Would the proposal provide cost savings?	No specific response is required.

	Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
			 No. 4. What would the implementation requirements be for courts? No additional implementation requirements for the court. 	No specific response is required.
			5. Would 3 months from Judicial Council approval of this proposal until its effective date provide sufficient time for implementation? <i>Yes.</i>	No specific response is required.
			6. How well would this proposal work in courts of different sizes? <i>No difference</i> .	No specific response is required.
8.	Superior Court of San Diego County by Michael M. Roddy, Executive Officer	AM	• Does the proposal appropriately address the stated purpose? <i>Yes</i> .	The committee appreciates the court's comments. No specific response is required.
			• Should the revisions to form JV-060 include any additional information for parents of a child in a wardship proceeding? If so, please describe. <i>No. The amount of information is</i> <i>sufficient to meet the purpose of the form.</i>	No specific response is required.
			• Would the proposal provide cost savings? If so, please quantify. <i>Unknown</i> .	No specific response is required.
			• What would the courts need to do to implement the proposed changes? <i>Replace old</i> <i>forms with revised forms. Revise docket codes,</i> <i>local rules, and local forms as needed to</i> <i>reflect recent legislation (SB 190, SB 395, AB</i> <i>529, and SB 312).</i>	No specific response is required.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		• Would three months from approval of this proposal until its effective date provide sufficient time for implementation? <i>Yes.</i>	No specific response is required.
		• How well would this proposal work in courts of different sizes? It probably will work well. If resources permit, versions in languages other than English and Spanish should be made available.	No specific response is required.
		FORM JV-060 Overall: Certain terms (e.g., ward, petition, probation officer, Notice to Appear, citation, detention in custody, detention hearing, terms of probation) are italicized, but it is not clear why. Other uses of italics are clearly for emphasis or for the title of a case (" <i>Miranda</i> ") or a form. Presumably, these are terms that might require further definition or explanation for the reader, but none is consistently provided. (Contrast, e.g., the Cal. Code of Judicial Ethics [terms marked with an asterisk are defined in "Terminology" section].)	The committee agrees that the italicized terms need definition. The committee has added a <i>Glossary of Terms</i> at the end of the recommended form.
		Note: "Probation officer" is italicized the second time it appears on the form, not the first.	This concern has been addressed in the reformatting process.
		Be consistent with prosecuting attorney or district attorney (examples: Item 3 on page 6; items 6 and 7 on page 7, items 16 and 19 on page 11)	This concern has been addressed in the reformatting process.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		Paragraph 1: The juvenile court protects, guides, and rehabilitates children who break the law, and helps keep the community safe. This brochure tells you what to expect if your child gets arrested, is taken to a probation officer, or needs to go to juvenile court.	This concern has been addressed in the reformatting process.
		<i>Question 2:</i> If any officer is going to ask your child about what happened, the officer must first tell your child that <u>he or she the child</u> has the right to remain silent, that anything your child says will be used against <u>him or her the child</u> in court, that your child has a right to be represented by a lawyer, and that the court will appoint a lawyer if you or your child cannot afford one. These are called <i>Miranda</i> rights. The probation officer must also tell <i>you</i> about your child's <i>Miranda</i> rights.	The committee has chosen to use the term "child" to support the judicial branch's effort to implement Senate Bill 179 (Stats. 2017, ch. 853) by using respectful, gender-neutral language.
		NOTE: If your child is 15 years old or younger and in custody, your child <i>must</i> talk to an attorney in person, by phone, or by video conference (like Skype) before answering any questions or giving up any rights. Your child cannot decide not refuse to talk to an attorney.	The committee agrees that the circulated construction was awkward and has modified its recommendation to clarify that the child may not answer questions without first talking to an attorney.
		<i>Question 4:</i> Our court recommends the following language: "No, not usually. The court can order you to do things to help you be a better parent for your child and can order you to pay restitution to the	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.

C	commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
			victim. Some parents seek legal advice on these issues. Your child's lawyer represents only your child, not you."	
			<i>Question 5:</i> The response to question 5 seems to say that if someone can afford to hire a lawyer for their child, they must do so. Our court recommends instead: "Yes. Your child has a right to a lawyer who is both effective and prepared. You may hire a lawyer to represent your child, or the court will appoint a lawyer to represent your child. California Rules of Court, rule 5.664, requires any attorney the court appoints to represent your child to have education and training specifically about representing children in juvenile justice cases."	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
			<i>Question 10:</i> The probation officer writes a report to the juvenile court judge about your child. The report says what the probation department thinks would be best for your child if the judge finds that your child committed the act(s) described in the petition. The report may include your child's prior arrest record; a description of the current offense(s); statements from your child, his or her your family, and other people who know your child well; a school report; and a statement by the victim. The probation officer presents this report at the disposition hearing.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		If your child is placed on probation, the probation officer will supervise and work with your child to make sure <u>he or she that your child</u> follows the law, the court's orders, and follows the <i>terms of probation</i> . The probation officer will also encourage your child to do well in school and participate in job training, counseling, and community programs.	Please see the committee's response to the comment on question 2, above.
		<i>Question 12.d:</i> The Hearing on Transfer to Criminal Court Jurisdiction. If your child is 14 years <u>old</u> or older, the <u>district prosecuting</u> attorney may ask that your child's case be tried in adult court for some serious and violent offenses. At this hearing, the judge will decide whether your child's case will be transferred to adult court or heard in juvenile court. If your child is younger than 14, he or she cannot be transferred to adult court.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
		Question 13: NOTE: If your child is arrested in one county, but you and your child live in a different county, the court may transfer the case back to the court in the county where you live before the disposition hearing. Ask your child's lawyer whether it's a good idea to ask the court to do that.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
		<i>Question 14:</i> Our court suggests the following revision to the response to question 14:	The committee has addressed these concerns in the reformatting process.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		 a. Your child stays at home on <u>informal</u> probation supervision for up to 6 months. b. Your child stays <u>at</u> home under the formal supervision of a probation officer which is set up by the judge. 	
		Instead of f, create a separate paragraph that says: The judge will order your child to comply with conditions of probation to help your child reform his/her behavior. As a parent, you may be ordered to take part in counseling, parent training, or other activities.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
		Question 24: No. You are not required to pay fees or costs for services given to your child as part of this case. But if you can afford to, you may be required to pay back the cost of services given to you or other family members receive from by the county or the court.	The committee agrees and has incorporated the suggested changes into its recommendation.
		Changes to clarify the distinction between services that may or may not requirement repayment.	
		<i>Question 25:</i> If your child's records are sealed, it is as if the offense that brought your child to court never happened. That means your child can truthfully say <u>he or she that your child</u> does not have a criminal or juvenile record (unless your child wants to join the military or get federal security clearance).	Please see the committee's response to the comment on question 2, above.

Commentator	Position	Comment	Committee Response
		The court will not seal your child's records if your child is found to have committed a sex offense listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) when your child was 14 or older, and the charge was not dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor or a lesser offense not listed in <u>section</u> 707(b). For all other offenses listed in section 707(b), your child may request that the court seal the records at age 21 if your child is committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice or age 18 for all other dispositions, but those records may be viewed by the prosecuting attorney in the future under certain circumstances.	The committee has addressed this concern in the reformatting process.
		<i>Question 27:</i> In the response to question, our court recommends to move "You may want to contact a lawyer for assistance." out of the first paragraph and to a new paragraph at the very end.	The committee agrees and has incorporated the suggested change into its recommendation.