

# - BE PREPARED -



## Info You Should Have Ready:

- The youth's full name
- The youth's date of birth
- If possible — the arresting agency



## Info to get from Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) or police:

- Potential charges
- First court date, time, and location



## Info to give to Department of Juvenile Services (DJS):

- Proof your child has family and community support
- Proof your child is attending school and/or programs, sports, church, job, etc.

# PARTICIPATORY DEFENSE STRATEGIES:

- Keep working with your attorney and family support through the court process.
- Document everything you remember – the officer's name, badge number, who was there, when and where the encounter happened, and what happened.

For any questions or need more information, contact the Maryland Office of the Public Defender at (443) 263-6360



MARYLAND OFFICE  
OF THE  
PUBLIC DEFENDER



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# A Young Person Just Got **ARRESTED** WHAT DO YOU DO WITHIN THE FIRST **24 HRS?**



THE FIRST

24

JUVENILE JUSTICE

BALTIMORE CITY

# - TAKE ACTION -

*If you think a youth has been arrested, there are **four key decision-makers who can decide their release.***

## 1. The Officer (And Their Supervisors) Who Detained The Youth



If you are at the scene of the arrest, have a parent or guardian talk to the officer and/or their supervisor to ask that the youth be released to them. Tell the officer that you want a lawyer to be present when the youth is being questioned. Ask the officer if the offense was a misdemeanor committed not in the presence of the officer and, if so, remind them that they cannot arrest the child for a misdemeanor committed not in sight of the officer. No matter the charge, ask the officer to release the child and if they decide to press charges, ask them to file a complaint directly with Department of Juvenile Services instead of booking the child. Tell the officer you are willing to present a photo identification, birth certificate, and/or school records to demonstrate the parent/guardian relationship. Be sure to take notes of the names, badge numbers, and car numbers of all officers involved in the arrest.

## 2. The Duty Officer at Baltimore Police Juvenile Booking Area. Call them at (443)263-8160 (Booking Station) or go to the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center, 300 N. Gay Street, Baltimore, MD



**21202** If the youth is charged as an adult, then they are charged at Central Booking.

When a youth is arrested, police will generally take the child directly to baby bookings. Police at booking have the ability to release a child without charge, enroll the child in a diversion program, or forward charges to the DJS. Have the parent/ guardian speak to the Duty Officer or Officer of the Day. Give them the youth's name and date of birth.

The parent/guardian must present a photo identification, birth certificate, and/or school records to demonstrate the parent/guardian relationship. Have the parent/ guardian ask them what the charges are, and ask them if the youth can be released to them. Share any proof that your child has been going to school, attending church, attending programs and/or sports, or has a job and ask for the case to be dismissed or diverted.

## 3. The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) Intake Officer. Call Department of Juvenile Intake Office at (410) 585-3500

If the police file formal charges, the DJS will conduct an interview with the parent or guardian. In order to take a youth home, the parent/guardian must have photo identification and a copy of the child's birth certificate (or other records that prove your relationship to the child like a lease, school records, or court orders). The parent/guardian should share any proof that the youth has been going to school, attending church, programs and/or sports, or has a job with the DJS intake staff. The parent/guardian should ask for the case to be dismissed or diverted. If it is not, ask DJS if the youth can be released to them. If the intake officer decides to detain the youth, then ask them when is the youth's first court date/time and the location.

## 4. The Magistrate or Judge at the Emergency Arraignment

If the child is not released by the police or DJS, the youth will have an emergency arraignment and detention hearing on the next court day at 1:30 PM on the 3rd floor of the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center. Make sure the parent/ guardian/ family and community support show up to this first court date. The parent/ guardian should arrive by 11:30 AM to fill out an application for a Public Defender and speak to the lawyer assigned to the youth's case. Ask to read the intake report and be prepared to counter any inconsistencies. Bring family, letters of support, and proof of school attendance, program participation, and/or employment.

## YOUTH- PROTECT YOURSELF IN THE STREETS

**You have the right to remain silent**

- You can say, "I don't want to talk."

**You have the right to speak with an attorney**

- You can say, "I want a lawyer."

**You have the right to refuse to be searched**

- If they ask you for permission to search, you can say, "I don't consent to a search." Conditions may vary if you are on probation or parole.

**You have the right to leave if you are not detained**

- You can ask the officer, "Am I free to leave?"

## YOUTH- PROTECT YOURSELF IN THE COURTS

**You have the right to a zealous defense**

- This means the lawyer, whether you paid for them or not, must do everything they can to get the best results for you.

**You have the right to meaningfully assist in your defense**

- This means you and your community can inform and help direct the defense against the charges.