

Updated Juvenile Detention Protocol for Detention Court and District Court Matters

Attorneys: In an effort to minimize exposure for staff, youth and families to COVID-19 the following protocols are now in place to address detention hearings and docket matters.

ALL DETENTION COURT DOCKETS WILL BE SCHEDULED ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS ONLY.

You will be notified when your case has been docketed.

***Please note: The order for all the hearings will be determined by the floor of youth.**

Detention and District Court Hearings:

The 3 training rooms on the 1st floor remain open to families, attorneys and remote connections.

1. Subsequent Detention Waivers:
 - a. Updated waiver forms will be made available to attorneys to address with client and families.
 - b. Waivers are to be presented at the time of the detention docket. In the event you are not appearing in person, please email a signed copy of the waiver to Lisa Castillo at Lisa.Castillo@justex.net prior to participating in the hearing.
 - c. Attorneys, if you file a waiver, be prepared to make a record about communication with your client and the efforts made to communicate with the client's family.
2. All Court Hearings - appearance via phone/ virtually:
 - a. Attorneys and parents will be provided a Zoom number to participate in the hearings remotely.
 - b. Attorneys: if your parent or guardian is unable to gain access via zoom, please contact the court for additional instructions.

DISTRICT COURT DOCKET: ONLY essential matters will be handled at this time. Please communicate with the *court of origin* to handle scheduling and docketing.

Procedures for contacting a youth in the Juvenile Detention Center:

DUE TO CURRENT CONDITIONS SCHEDULED PHONE CALLS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS DURING COURT DOCKET.

Meetings are to be scheduled **at least 1 day prior** to a hearing.

- In-person meetings: Not available at this time due to health department recommendations.

- Phone Meetings, Zoom/ Streaming Meetings: please contact JDC Visitation at (713) 222-4119 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to schedule a phone call with your client.

Attorneys, as always, please communicate with the families to determine whether or not they intend to be present for the detention hearing. In the event your client is waiving his subsequent detention hearing, please notify the court and probation.

Probation Reports: Currently emailed to attorneys. Questions about reports please contact the probation department for additional assistance.

Please Note: Due to the manner in which these phone meetings are conducted, and current health department recommendations and procedures, confidentiality between attorney and client is not guaranteed. Probation staff have been asked to notify you of the procedures on the floor where your client currently resides.

*Due to high demand during detention hearings/morning dockets and limits on movement of staff -please be patient while staff is making arrangements.