

# Parent/Guardian Information Regarding Detention Hearings

**A detention hearing is a short hearing before the Associate Judge to rule on two basic things:**

1. Whether the report gives sufficient reason to believe that your child has committed an offense (probable cause)
2. Whether the child will remain in detention for 7 to 10 days or not and set a date to reconsider the child's release / detention within 10 days

**\*\*Note:** Detention Hearings are NOT to discuss or decide about the offense itself. The hearing is to determine where the child will be kept while pending court.

## **Present at the hearing:**

**Public Defender or Private Attorney:** will represent the child for the Detention Hearing  
**District Attorney:** Represents the Prosecutor's Office and will make a recommendation  
**Probation Officer:** Represents the Juvenile Department and will make a recommendation  
**Parents / Guardians:** Will be asked questions by the Public Defender / Defense Attorney, District Attorney, and Judge in regard to the child's behavior, school, etc. and may ask for the parent's recommendation.

## **Reasons to detain a child:**

- 1.) He is likely to abscond (runaway)
- 2.) Suitable supervision, care, protection is not being provided in the home
- 3.) No one to return the child to court
- 4.) A danger to himself or others
- 5.) Has been found true in court before and likely to re-offend
- 6.) A gun was a part of the offense (by Juvenile Court policy)

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Each day, there are three types of Detention Hearings. Each type of hearing is heard to together and youth are called in alphabetical order by their last name.

- ❖ An **Initial Hearing** is the first hearing held since the youth was brought to Detention and they are heard first.
- ❖ **Walk-up Hearings** are for youth usually from the outside and these hearings are held second.
- ❖ **Ten Day Hearings** are for those youth have been detained at an Initial Hearing or Walk-up Hearing and for whom the Judge will reconsider their detention or release. The child will have a 10 Day Hearing every ten working days or less while in detention.

Parent



Child

Public  
Defender



Prosecutor

Probation  
Officer

**At the end of the hearing** the Judge will decide whether your child:

- 1.) Can go home pending further court action
- 2.) Can go home pending further court action and with court ordered rules and/or programs while the child is at home
- 3.) Will stay in detention (be detained) for 7 to 10 working days at which time the child's release or detention will be considered again

## IF YOUR CHILD IS RELEASED:

- 1.) and the child is *not ordered to participate in any programs*, then, the parent(s) may go to secure the release of the child.
- 2.) AND the child has been *ordered to participate in PROGRAMS* as a part of his conditions of release:
  - 1.) Return to the Waiting Area of the Detention Center and be seated
  - 2.) An Officer will come for you and take you into the visiting area
  - 3.) The Officer will briefly explain the program and have the parent and the child sign the Program Conditions
  - 4.) Once dismissed by the Officer, the parent(s) should go to secure the release of the child.

## TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF A CHILD:

- 1.) Go out the front door of the building and go to the back of the building to the PARENTS / POLICE entrance.
- 2.) In the waiting area, press the call button and tell the Officer who your child is
- 3.) Have your picture identification ready to show to the Officer
- 4.) The officer will have the parent sign a release before the child can be released.
- 5.) The child will get dressed in his own clothes, he/she will be given ALL property that was taken from the child when he arrived at the center (and the child will sign stating that everything was returned), and he is then ready for release.

## PROGRAMS

### PAIS ("Pace") Pre-adjudication Intensive Supervision:

PAIS is a program similar to probation which usually runs until the child has disposition (his final court hearing). The court order requires:

- 7:00 PM curfew
- Attend school everyday, every class
- Report to a PO once a week or as directed
- Call the PO within 24 hours
- May include other programs, appointments or assessments

### ELECTRONIC MONITOR (EM)

The electronic monitor is a device which will be strapped to the youth's ankle. The EM will report electronically the whereabouts of your child at all times. The monitor will report any violations of curfew or

violations of the child going where he is ordered not to go. The monitor may be removed after 30 days of successful monitoring or may remain until the child goes to him/her final court date (disposition).

#### **HOME DETENTION:**

Home Detention is “lock down” or detention at home. The Home Detention Probation Officer will come to the child’s house three times a week (Monday through Sunday). The child will be allowed to attend school, to report to his Probation Officer (as directed) and other ordered programs. Otherwise, the youth will be required to be at home, in the house, at all other times. He/She does not have a curfew because your child is NOT allowed out of the house except for the aforementioned exceptions. The program lasts for 30 days.

#### **DAY REPORTING CENTER:**

Is a thirty (30) day alternative school for released youths. The youth will receive school credit and will attend class every day. The Center also provides other enrichment classes such as anger management. At the end of the 30 days, the youth will transition back to his regular school district. The Day Reporting Center is located across the street for the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center

#### **ECKERD’S ALTERNATIVE TO DETENTION:**

Is a counseling program where a counselor will make home visits to the family home three times a week. The Eckerd’s counselor will work with the youth and the youth’s family on issues in the home.

#### **SOUTHWEST KEY:**

Is a supervision program where a Southwest Key representative will make two contacts a day with the youth. One contact may be at school and the other at home or both at home.

## **Emergency Shelter Programs**

The release of the youth will not be today but will be worked out as soon as possible by the emergency shelter counselors / officers:

#### **Hill Transition Center:**

Is a less restrictive program located in the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center building. The youth does not go home but stays at the Hill Center for supervision and counseling. The Probation Officer will facilitate the youth’s release, as possible.

#### **Letot Center:**

Is a counseling program located in North Dallas (10505 Lombardy Street, Dallas, Texas). Letot is a temporary shelter for status offenders and will work to get the youth back home through counseling and designing a support plan.

**VISITATION HOURS:**

**Juvenile Detention Center**

		Start Time	End time	Start Time	End Time
Monday	A-J	.....	.....	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Wednesday	K-R	.....	.....	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Friday	S-Z	.....	.....	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Saturday	A-Z	2:15 PM	4:45 PM	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Sunday	A-Z	2:15 PM	4:45 PM	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Holidays	A-Z	2:15 PM	4:45 PM	6:00 PM	8:15 PM

**Marzelle Hill Transition Center**

Tuesday	A-Z	5:00 PM	8:00 PM
Thursday	A-Z	5:00 PM	8:00 PM
Saturday	A-Z	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Sunday	A-Z	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Holiday	A-Z	11:00 AM	1:00 PM

**Letot Center, 10505 Lombardy, Dallas, Texas, 214-357-0391**

Tuesday	A-Z	.....	.....	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Thursday	A-Z	.....	.....	6:00 PM	8:15 PM
Saturday	A-Z	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	.....	.....
Sunday	A-Z	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	.....	.....
Holidays	A-Z	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	.....	.....

**All visitors MUST possess a valid driver's license for verification at the time of the visit.**

**Visits are limited to 15 minutes.**

PLEASE NOTE \*\* Court dates in regard to the offense itself (the offense with which your child has been charged) will be at a later date in the District Court (upstairs court) on the third floor of this building, the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center. The Detention Hearing Judge will direct you as to when you will need to return to District Court.

Next Detention Hearing date: \_\_\_\_\_

Next Court date: \_\_\_\_\_

Programs ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Probation Officer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_