

The Language of Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court

The purposes and procedures of the juvenile justice system are different in many respects from those of the adult criminal system. Those differences are reflected in the terminology of the two systems.

Adult Criminal System Terminology

Juvenile Justice Terminology

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| 1. Defendant | Juvenile <i>or</i> Respondent |
| 2. Crime | Delinquent Act |
| 3. Arrest | Take into Custody <i>or</i> Temporary Custody |
| 4. Order for Arrest | Secure Custody Order |
| 5. Warrant or Indictment | Petition |
| 6. Trial | Adjudicatory Hearing |
| 7. Convict (verb) | Adjudicate Delinquent |
| 8. Conviction | Adjudication |
| 9. Guilty Plea | Admission |
| 10. Not Guilty Plea | Denial |
| 11. Plea Transcript | Transcript of Admission |
| 12. Prior Conviction | Prior Adjudication |
| 13. Prior Record Level | Delinquency History Level |
| 14. Sentencing Hearing | Dispositional Hearing |
| 15. Pre-Sentencing Report | Predisposition Report |
| 16. Sentence | Disposition |
| 17. Sentencing Grid | Dispositional Chart |
| 18. Probation Officer | Juvenile Court Counselor |
| 19. Extradition | Proceeding under the Interstate Compact on Juveniles |
| 20. Motion for Appropriate Relief | Motion for Review |