

## Dickson County Juvenile FAQ's

### **1. What type of cases does Juvenile Court hear?**

-Delinquent, unruly, truancy, runaway, and traffic offenses  
-Petitions to establish paternity, visitation, custody, and child support between unmarried parents

-Dependency and Neglect: Circumstances under which a child may be in eminent risk of substantial harm and needs the protection of the Court.

### **2. How do I file a petition?**

Juvenile Court is open Monday Thru Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm to assist the general public and/or law enforcement when filing petitions related to delinquent/unruly behavior, and civil matters that include petitions to establish paternity, visitation, custody, and child support between unmarried parents. Petitions alleging dependency and neglect may also be filed.

### **3. When is my court date?**

Contact Juvenile Services at 615-789-0250

### **4. How do I request a court appointed attorney?**

You have the right to a court appointed attorney if:

1. You are a juvenile charged with a delinquent offense.
2. You are the respondent in a petition for dependent and neglect.

If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, you may qualify for a court appointed attorney.

Contact Juvenile Services for the appropriate forms to request an attorney.

### **5. What and/or who do I bring to court?**

If you are a juvenile charged with an unruly or delinquent petition, you must appear with a parent or guardian and anything related to the case. If you are the parent/respondent in a petition you may bring anything related to the case. If needed, you have the right to have witnesses subpoenaed to testify on behalf of your case.

### **6. What do I wear to court?**

Business casual attire is recommended. No shorts, tank tops, camisoles, or clothing with inappropriate logos.

### **7. Who do I contact if I have a question about a court order or how to complete any requirements?**

Contact Juvenile Services at 615-789-0250 and request to speak to the Youth Service's Officer. Copies of court orders may be obtained from the Juvenile Court Office, 615-789-0250

### **8. Is a juvenile placed under arrest if they are handcuffed and transported to juvenile detention by law enforcement?**

No, juveniles are considered to be in custody, not under arrest, if they are handcuffed and transported to detention. (TCA 37-1-113)

**9. Are juveniles convicted of criminal offenses?**

No, a juvenile is found to be a delinquent or unruly child in need of treatment or rehabilitation (TCA 37-1-102)

**10. Where is Juvenile Court Located?**

We are in the new Dickson County Justice Center located at 500 Spring Street, Charlotte, TN 37036.

**11. What is the mailing Address?**

PO Box 217 Charlotte, TN 37036