

Juvenile Criminal Law

Webinar – May 2020

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*This Webinar was Funded by Grants from the
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and Texas
Department of Transportation.*

*The content in this webinar was adapted from a
course at the 2020 TJCTC Justices of the Peace
20-Hour Seminar.*

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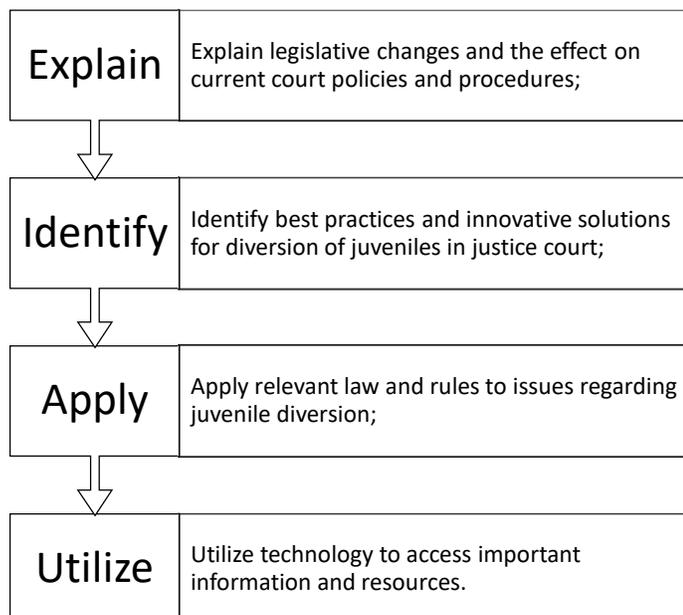
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an overview of the law that applies to juvenile cases in justice court. We will explore the current trends and recent legislation and the impact on the current court policies and procedures.

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES



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Introduction

1. Resources
2. On the Horizon:
Juvenile Reform
3. Scenarios

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RESOURCES

Ch. 45, Code of Criminal Procedure (**CCP**)

Ch. 729, Transportation Code (**TC**)

Ch. 51, Family Code (**FC**)

Ch. 37, Education Code (**EC**)

Ch. 161, Subchapter N, Health & Safety Code (**HSC**)

Ch. 106, Alcoholic Beverage Code (**ABC**)

TJCTC Juvenile Deskbook & Criminal Deskbook found at:
<https://www.tjctc.org/tjctc-resources/Deskbooks.html>

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On the Horizon

Juvenile Reform

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CHIEF JUSTICE NATHAN HECHT

February 6, 2019

Excerpt from The State of the Judiciary in Texas, An address to the 86th Legislature

“A child who breaks the law must certainly face the consequences, but the reason for the juvenile justice system is to keep children from being treated as criminals. The Judicial Council has worked with representatives of the justice and municipal courts, juvenile prosecutors, and defense attorneys to propose statutory changes that will continue to divert children from the criminal justice system while keeping them accountable for their actions. I urge you to consider them.”

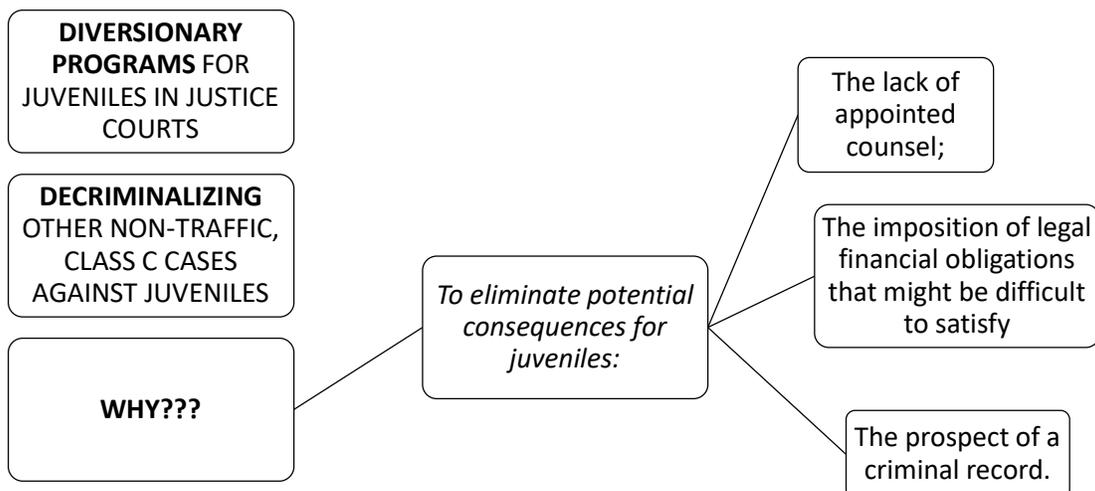
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The Texas Judicial Council's Recommendation *sponsored by Rep. White*

- The Justice of the Peace would have an opportunity to divert the juvenile from the criminal justice system so that no charge would exist.
- In the alternative, the minor theft charge could be treated as a civil matter.

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ISSUES THAT WILL LIKELY RE-EMERGE FROM THE TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL



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CRIMINAL JURISDICTION OF JUSTICE COURTS



Fine only



Traffic



Alcohol Offenses



Tobacco



Non-Truancy Education Code Offenses

Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3.A.1

SCENARIOS

Billy stole an Apple charger worth \$75 from the computer lab at ABC Elementary School.

Scenario 1

Billy is brought before the JP and is charged with theft.

What are the judge's options after Billy pleads NO CONTEST?

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The Court must impose a sentence and any orders that the court deems appropriate or that are required.

1. Billy is found guilty, convicted, and court enters a written judgment.
2. The court suspends Billy's sentence and orders a deferred disposition.
3. The court defers Billy's case for 180 days, so Billy can participate in Teen Court.

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The maximum fine is \$500. *Penal Code § 12.23*

The court must inquire about Billy's resources to pay any fine. *CCP § 45.041(a-1)*

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Orders Directed to the Child

- Rehabilitation
- Counseling
- Self-esteem and leadership
- Work and job skills training
- Job interviewing and work preparation
- Self-improvement
- Parenting
- Manners
- Violence avoidance
- Tutoring
- Sensitivity training
- Parental responsibility
- Community service
- Restitution
- Advocacy
- Mentoring

CCP § 45.057

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Orders Directed to the Parent

Require the parent to do any act or refrain from any act that the court determines will increase the likelihood that the child will comply with the orders of the court and that is reasonable and necessary for the welfare of the child.

- Parenting Class or Parental Responsibility Program
- Attend child's school classes or functions.

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Early Youth Intervention Services

The judge can enter an order referring the child or parents to Early Youth Intervention Services under Family Code § 264.302.

These services are provided by DFPS

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Reasonable Conditions of Deferral

Let's Take a Look at the Juvenile Deskbook!

Hint...Start in Chapter 3 in the table of contents.

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Teen Court

Judges have said:

Kids who participate in teen court feel like they had some control over the situation.

The majority of the kids who go to my teen court end up volunteering after they finish.

The students who go through Teen Court listen and care about their peer's opinions, and it usually has a positive impact.

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***See Chapter 3 of the Juvenile Deskbook
for More Information!***

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SCENARIO 2

Johnny is sixteen and steals a pair of jeans from Dillards. Johnny wants to enter a plea by his due date.

He drives to the JP office and enters his written plea with the clerk.

Is this permissible?

22

NO!

Johnny has to plea in open court.

CCP § 45.0215(a)

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SECTION CCP ART. 45.0215

THE JUDGE OR JUSTICE MUST TAKE THE DEFENDANT'S PLEA **IN OPEN COURT** AND SHALL ISSUE A SUMMONS TO COMPEL THE DEFENDANT'S PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR MANAGING CONSERVATOR TO BE PRESENT DURING:

- (A) the taking of the defendant's plea; and
- (B) all other proceedings relating to the case.

See Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3.

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SCENARIO 2.1

JOHNNY'S MOM IS DECEASED, AND HIS DAD IS OUT THE COUNTRY.

NO ONE RESPONDS TO THE SUMMONS TO APPEAR WITH JOHNNY.

WHAT ARE THE JUDGE'S OPTIONS?

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CCP ART. 45.0215

(b) If the court is unable to secure the appearance of the defendant's parent, guardian, or managing conservator by issuance of a summons, the court may, without the defendant's parent, guardian, or managing conservator present, take the defendant's plea and proceed against the defendant.

See "Procedural Protections in Juvenile Cases" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3.B.

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The court may also appoint an attorney for Johnny if it is necessary.

Something to think about: What would you consider about the case when deciding whether or not to appoint an attorney?

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SCENARIO 3

Judge Judy's Agents come to your court to review criminal case files for television.

Pearl, who is 15 years old, was charged with a curfew violation. She was not convicted of the offense.

Should your clerk allow them to review the case file?

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NO!

These records are confidential and may not be disclosed to the public!

See Chapter 8 of the Juvenile Deskbook.

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Confidentiality of Records

All records and files, including those held by law enforcement, and information stored by electronic means or otherwise, from which a record or file could be generated, **relating to a child** who is charged with, is convicted of, is found not guilty of, had a charge dismissed for, or is granted deferred disposition for a fine-only misdemeanor offense other than a traffic offense are **confidential and may not be disclosed to the public.**

See "Confidentiality" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 8.A.

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SCENARIO 3.1

Pearl, who is 16 years old, was convicted of a curfew violation, and now the McDonald's manager wants to review her case file to determine whether or not to hire her.

Can the manager review her file?

31

NO!

These records are confidential and may not be disclosed to the public!

See Chapter 8 of the Juvenile Deskbook.

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SCENARIO 3.2

The judge in another jurisdiction wants to review Pearl's previous convictions.

Is it permissible for you as the JP in her previous case to allow the inspection of Pearl's case files?

33

YES!

These records are subject to inspection by a judge.

See CCP § 45.0217.

34

A Defendant in your court, Randy, is 15. He was charged with a class c for graffiti at school. The school resource officer completed an incident report with information from witnesses and various school staff about the graffiti.

Randy's mother comes to the court and requests a copy of the incident report. Can you give it to her?

SCENARIO 3.3

35

YES!

The CCP authorizes the defendant's parent, guardian, or managing conservator to inspect the records.

See CCP § 45.0217.



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CCP ART. 45.0217

Juvenile Case Records can only be inspected by:

1. Judges or court staff;
2. A criminal justice agency for a criminal justice purpose
3. The Department of Public Safety;
4. An attorney for a party to the proceeding;
5. The child defendant; or
6. The defendant's parent, guardian, or managing conservator.

See "Confidentiality" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 8.A.

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SCENARIO 4

Penny is 14 and lives at a shelter with her mom. She appeared in court and pled no contest for stealing fruit at the supermarket.

She has no means to pay.

What are the judge's options?

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The judge may waive the payment of the fine and costs, because the defendant is a child.

Even if Penny was an adult, she would be presumed indigent, because she is homeless. Community service would very likely be a hardship for her.



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WAIVER OF PAYMENT FOR FINES AND COSTS

For Offenses Committed *before* January 1, 2020

The JP court may:

May waive payment of all or part of fine on costs if:

➔

Community service would be a hardship on the defendant.

Defendant is:

1. **Indigent** *or*
2. Does not have **sufficient resources** or income to pay *or*
3. **At the time of the offense was a *child***

A defendant is **presumed** to be indigent if:

Defendant is:

1. In the conservatorship of DFPS *or* was at the time of the offense
2. Is designated as a homeless child or unaccompanied youth *or* was at the time of the offense

See "Waiver of Payment of Fine and Court Costs" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3.F.5.

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WAIVER OF PAYMENT FOR FINES AND COSTS

For Offenses Committed *on or after* January 1, 2020

The JP court may:

May waive payment of all or part of fine on costs if:

Defendant is:

1. **Indigent** or
2. Does not have **sufficient resources** or income to pay or
3. **At the time of the offense was a *child***

Fines

→

Court Costs

→

Would Community Service be a hardship??

Waive All or Part of Court Costs (no determination of hardship for Community Service)

A defendant is **presumed** to be indigent if:

Defendant is:

1. In the conservatorship of DFPS or was at the time of the offense
2. Is designated as a homeless child or unaccompanied youth or was at the time of the offense

See "Waiver of Payment of Fine and Court Costs" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3.F.5.

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What is a Hardship?

The Court may consider the following:

1. Significant physical or mental impairment or disability;
2. Pregnancy & Childbirth;
3. Substantial family commitments or responsibilities, including child or dependent care;
4. Work responsibilities & hours;
5. Transportation limitations;
6. Homelessness or housing insecurity; and
7. Any other factors the court determines relevant.

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SCENARIO 5

Mary, a junior at XYZ high school, stole cash from her teacher's purse.

The JP determines that Mary has an issue with theft.

Mary does not have the means to satisfy her fines and costs after entering her plea of guilty in open court accompanied by her parent.

What is another option?

43

What are some options?

- Is there a theft or decision-making class available?
- Is there a tutoring, counseling, or mentoring program?

Mary could complete one of these as community service.



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Community Service for Juveniles

In order requiring community service, the justice or judge must specify:

- (1) the number of hours of community service the defendant is required to perform; and
- (2) the date by which the defendant must submit to the court documentation verifying the defendant's completion of the community service.

A defendant may discharge an obligation to perform community service by paying the fine and costs assessed at any time.

See "Waiver of Payment of Fine and Court Costs" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3

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What qualifies as community service?

The defendant may perform community service by attending:

1. A work and job skills training program;
2. A preparatory class for the GED or a similar program;
3. An alcohol or drug abuse program;
4. A rehabilitation program;
5. A counseling program;
6. A mentoring program;
7. A tutoring program; or
8. Any similar activity.

See "Waiver of Payment of Fine and Court Costs" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3

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SCENARIO 6

The school resource officer caught Molly fighting in the girl's restroom.

Must the officer take Molly straight to the Juvenile Justice Center?

What are the options?

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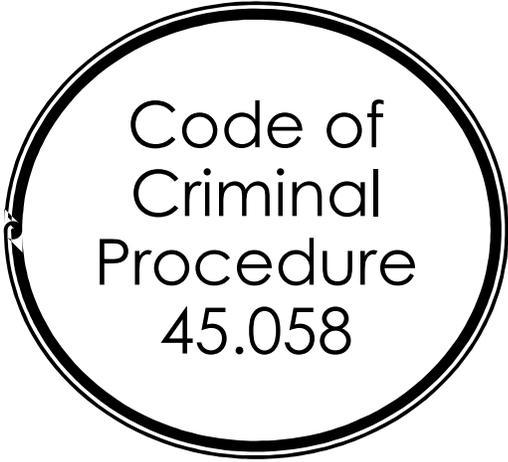
NO!

The SRO should **not** take Molly directly to the Juvenile Justice Center.

She may be released to her parent, guardian, or another responsible adult.



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Code of
Criminal
Procedure
45.058

A CHILD MAY BE RELEASED TO:

- the child's parent
- guardian
- custodian
- or other responsible adult

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SCENARIO 6.1

Same scenario, but Molly's mom is not able to come right away.

Is it proper for the officer to place Molly in a small room, with a steel door and automatic locks?

50

NO!

There are special rules for children placed in nonsecure custody.



51

CHILDREN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

Non-secure custody

- An unlocked, multipurpose area
- A lobby, office, or interrogation room is suitable if the area is: not designated, set aside, or used as a secure detention area and is not part of a secured detention area.
- May be a juvenile processing office, if the area is not locked

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SCENARIO 6.2

Can Molly be handcuffed to the chair while she is waiting for mom or dad?

53

SCENARIO 7

Constable Gulley keeps Molly in custody from 9 am to 5 pm until her mom is able to pick her up.

Was this proper?

54

NO!

She can't be held in nonsecure custody for that long.



55

Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a child may not, *under any circumstances*, be detained in a place of nonsecure custody for **more than six hours.**

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SCENARIO 8

Tommy destroys school property by breaking the computer screens in the library. Tommy is 13 years old.

The officer at the school did not get a statement from the victim.

Does this affect the prosecutor's ability to proceed against Tommy?

57

YES.

The officer must submit to the court:

- The offense report,
- A statement by a witness to the alleged conduct, and
- A statement by the victim (if any)



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SCHOOL OFFENSES

The officer shall submit to the court:

the offense report,
 a statement by a witness to the alleged conduct, and
 a statement by a victim of the alleged conduct, if any.

An attorney representing the state may not proceed in a trial of an offense unless the law enforcement officer complied with these requirements.

See "What Procedures Apply to School Offenses" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 6.B.

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SCENARIO 9

Robin committed a theft when she was 16. She received notice of the request to appear but never went to court.

She is now 22 years old.

Is she still responsible for paying the citation although she is no longer a child?

60

YES

The case is still pending.

See the Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3, Section C.

61

SCENARIO 10

When Timmy was 15, he received a citation. He pled guilty and promised to pay the fine at a later date and meet the conditions of deferred disposition imposed by the court.

What are the court's options?

Does it matter if Timmy is an adult now?

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What are the Court's Options?

- If Timmy fails to present satisfactory evidence of compliance within the deferral period, the court must hold a show cause hearing for him to explain to the court why the deferral should not be revoked.



63

What if Timmy Shows Good Cause for the noncompliance?

The court may extend the deferral period



64

What if Timmy CANNOT Show Good Cause for the noncompliance?

The court may impose the fine assessed or a lesser fine, and that will constitute a final conviction.

(This would also happen if the judge had extended the deadline and the defendant failed to show good cause why the deferral conditions weren't met.)



65

Does it Matter that Timmy is an Adult?

NO!

However, the show cause hearing should be held shortly after the end of the deferral period if the court has not received proof that the conditions were complied with.



66

What if He is Convicted and then Fails to pay the Fine?

Timmy may be subject to contempt.

If he is already an adult by this point, the court wouldn't have the option of referring him to the juvenile court.



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Contempt: Failure to Pay Fines

The court **CANNOT ORDER CONFINEMENT** of a child for:

- Failure to pay all or part of a fine or costs imposed for the conviction of a fine-only offense;
- The failure to appear for an offense committed by the child; or
- Contempt of another court order of a justice court.

Continued...

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Contempt: Failure to Pay Fines

If a **child** fails to obey a justice court order under circumstances that would constitute contempt of court, the justice, after providing notice and an opportunity to be heard, may:

(c)(1) refer the child to the appropriate juvenile court for delinquent conduct for contempt; or

(c)(2) retain jurisdiction of the case, hold the child in contempt, and order either or both of the following:

(A) that the contemnor pay a fine not to exceed \$500; or

(B) that DPS suspend the defendant's driver's license or permit or deny the issuance of one until the defendant complies with the court order.

Continued...

69

Contempt: Failure to Pay Fines

A justice of the peace may hold a person in contempt under (c)(2) if:

1. The person was convicted for an offense before the person's 17th birthday;
2. The person failed to obey the order while the person was 17 years of age or older; and
3. The failure the failure to obey occurred under circumstances that constitute contempt of court.

If contempt proceedings couldn't be held before the defendant's 17th birthday, but the contempt did → court can still hold contempt proceedings.

Continued...

70

Contempt: Failure to Pay Fines

The court **MUST** send notice to DPS if the child's driver's license has been suspended or denied, and the child **COMPLIES** with the court's order.

The court **CANNOT** refer a child who violates a court order while 17 years of age or older to juvenile court for contempt.

Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 3

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Tobacco Cases

Health & Safety Code Ch. 161

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Legislative Changes: SB 21

- Purchase & Possession
- Expunction (Purchase & Possession cases)
- Sale
- Exceptions
- New/Modified Related Class C Misdemeanors
- National Trend

73

WILLIE IS 18 YEARS OLD AND
PURCHASES AN E-CIGARETTE.
HE THINKS VAPING IS COOL.

SCENARIO 11

IS THIS LEGAL?

74

IT DEPENDS!

Look at the offense date.

Also, don't forget about the "grandfathered" people who were 18 or older before 9/1/2019.



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Purchase/Possession

- Person under the age of 21 (instead of 18) may not possess, purchase, consume or accept a cigarette, e-cigarette, or tobacco product.
 - Fine amount is reduced from \$250 to \$100.
 - Court may no longer suspend Driver's License if person does not complete tobacco awareness course.
 - Defense that possession occurred in the presence of an adult parent, guardian, or spouse has been removed.

Health & Safety Code § 161.252

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SCENARIO 12

Billy, who is 18 years old, is charged and convicted for using Tobacco in violation of the new law (post- September 2019).

After paying the fines and court costs, Billy wants to get an expunction, so that he may apply for a job. Can the court grant him an expunction?

Billy did not take the required Tobacco Awareness Course as a condition of his deferred disposition. Can the court suspend his Driver's License?

77

Can Billy Get an Expunction?

Billy must wait until he is 21 to get an expunction, but it doesn't matter whether or not he completed the tobacco awareness program/community service. He gets the expunction either way.



78

Can the Court Suspend his License?

NO!

The court can no longer suspend Billy's license for failing to take the required Tobacco Awareness Course.

HSC 161.254 was repealed by SB 21 in the last legislative session.



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Purchase/Possession – Expunction

- Defendant must now wait until their 21st birthday before he can apply for expunction and court must expunge even if they did not satisfactorily complete the tobacco awareness program/community service.
- On conviction, court must now give notice of expunction rights.
- Can still expunge unlimited number of offenses.

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Sale of Tobacco Products

- Bill also prohibits the sale of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21 instead of 18 (this is a Class C).
 - May not sell to someone under 30 unless they produce valid proof of ID (currently is 27).
 - New provision states that prohibition does not apply to a product approved by the FDA for use in treatment of nicotine or smoking addiction and labeled with a drug facts panel in accordance with FDA regulations.
 - Warning signs must be updated to say must be 21, not 18 and must also state the exceptions to the new law.

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SCENARIO 13

Billy is 18. He is serving in the Marines. He wants to buy a pack of Swisher Sweet Cigars.

CAN HE?

82

Can Billy Buy Swisher Sweets?

Yes. Billy meets an exception because he is in the military.

He must present a valid military id at the time of his purchase.

See HSC 161.082(f) & 161.252(c-1)(2)



83

Exceptions to New Law

New age requirements do not apply:

- To anyone who is at least 18, is in the military, and presents a valid military ID at time of purchase.

OR

- If the person buying/attempting to buy was born on or before 8/31/2001 (so is already 18 or older before 9/1/2019).

So, basically: if someone can legally buy before the law goes into effect, they can still do it after. If not, then they have to wait until they are 21 unless they are at least 18 and in the military.

84

New/Modified Related Class C Misdemeanors

- Distribution or redemption of coupons for discounted cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or tobacco products to anyone under 21.
 - Exceptions for people who are 18 and in military and for people who turn 18 by 8/31/2019 do **not** apply here.
- Redemption of coupons for these products through mail or courier delivery (regardless of age of recipient).
- Distribution of free samples or distribution/redemption of coupons for free products (regardless of age of recipient).

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Texas Isn't the Only One

According to the American Lung Association, the following have all raised the age for tobacco to 21 in the US:

- **Fifteen other states:**
 - Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington
- **Washington D.C.**
- **At least 470 localities**

<https://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/tobacco/cessation-and-prevention/tobacco-21-laws.html>

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Scenario 14

- Bronson was cited for purchasing tobacco when he was 16, on 6/15/2016. He came to your court and pleaded guilty. He was convicted, paid his fine, and was required to take the tobacco awareness/education course. He never completed the course.
- Bronson is now 19 and on 12/1/2019 has come back to your court to ask for an expunction.
- Can he get an expunction?

87

NO!

The law from the date of the offense is what applies, so Bronson must complete the Tobacco Awareness Course prior to getting his expunction.

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Scenario 15

- Bronson was cited for purchasing tobacco when he was 19, on 9/15/2019. He came to your court and pleaded guilty. He was convicted, paid his fine, and was required to take the tobacco awareness/education course. He never completed the course.
- Can he get an expunction when he is 21?

89

YES!

Assuming the law hasn't changed again 😊

90

Alcohol Cases

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE
Chapter 106

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SCENARIO 16

TRUE OR FALSE,
A MINOR IS 18 YEARS OF
AGE UNDER THE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
CODE?

92

FALSE!!

A minor is a person under the age of 21.

Alcohol and Beverage Code § 106.01.



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SECTION
106.01

DEFINITION. In this code, "minor"
means a person under 21 years
of age.

NOTICE
NO ALCOHOL
WILL BE SERVED TO
PATRONS UNDER
21 YEARS OF AGE

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SCENARIO 17

ABC Liquor sells a bottle of beer to Chad, a 19-year-old, without requesting an ID.

Could ABC Liquor be charged with a Class C Misdemeanor?

What if Chad displayed a fake ID that appeared to be valid? Is ABC Liquor criminally negligent for the sale?

95

The person who sold Chad beer could be charged with a **Class A Misdemeanor** if he did so with criminal negligence.

If Chad displayed an ID that was apparently valid, that would be a defense to the Class A Misdemeanor.

THIS IS NOT A JUSTICE COURT CASE.



96

SALE TO MINORS – ABC Sec. 106.03.

A person commits an offense if with **criminal negligence** he sells an alcoholic beverage to a minor.

Exception: It is not an offense if the minor falsely represents himself to be 21 years old or older by displaying an **apparently valid** proof of identification.

ID must:

- contain a physical description and photograph consistent with the minor's appearance,
- purport to establish that the minor is 21 years of age or older, and
- be issued by a governmental agency.

Can be a DL or ID issued by DPS, a passport, or a military ID.

**This doesn't apply to vendors who scan and have electronic access to DL information.

An offense under this section is a **Class A misdemeanor**.

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SCENARIO 18

At Mike's 16th birthday party, he consumed beer in the presence of his parents. Mike's parents are "cool" and wanted him to try it at home.

Can Mike be charged with an offense?

If Mike's parents were not present while he consumed beer, he was charged, and Mike has already been convicted for MIC 3 times.

Can the court grant him deferred disposition?

98

Can Mike be Charged?

Mike may be charged.

The fact that he was in the **visible presence of his parents** is an affirmative defense.

ABC § 106.04.



99

Can Mike Get Deferred?

The court could give him deferred – he is only 16, so the “2 prior convictions” rule doesn’t apply to him.

If he was 17 (no longer a child), Mike wouldn’t be eligible for a deferral and might even be charged with a higher offense involving jail time.

ABC §§ 106.071(i), 106.041(f)



100

CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR

ABC Sec. 106.04.

A minor commits an offense if he consumes an alcoholic beverage.

Affirmative defense = the alcoholic beverage was consumed in the visible presence of the minor's adult parent, guardian, or spouse.

Punishable under ABC 106.071

A minor who has been previously convicted twice or more of offenses under this section is not eligible for deferred disposition

Emergency Medical Assistance Exception

See "Alcohol Cases" Juvenile Deskbook Chapter 4.

101

Big Solutions with Small Resources
Juvenile Law Course – JP 20-HR

Judge Nash's Advice – try to find a program or resource that takes the "I can't afford it," excuse away!

102

Can you help create resources?

- Judge Hackenberg’s resource packets
- Financial Literacy Course
- Mentoring Program (peer-to-peer or adult-to-juvenile)
- Parenting Class
- Start a Diversion Program
 - Make it voluntary
 - Get parents involved into it
 - Work on getting childcare help during classes/community service
- Teen Court
 - In Parker county they work with the Municipal Court

103

Can you help create resources?

- “Saved by the Bell” – Ft. Bend County uses this course/program in their juvenile truancy cases, but a similar program could be developed for criminal cases
 - <https://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/government/departments/administration-of-justice/juvenile-probation/truancy-reduction-program>
- Work with your District or County Attorney’s Office to create a program for your specific needs.

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Can you help create resources?

- Work with your local Sheriff's Office or Constable's Office to put on a monthly program about the justice system for juveniles.
- Check with your local Juvenile Probation Department.
- Provide parents with skills/courses/training
 - Encourages parental responsibility
 - "Talk Time" with the judge – Judge Valencia Nash

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Can you help create resources?

- Meet with the administration at your local school districts at the beginning of each school year.
 - Make sure you are on the same page about what the issues in your community are
 - Develop buy-in
 - Discuss the need for programming or courses – maybe there is a teacher or counselor at the school who can teach what is needed

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Who are Community Partners?

- Food banks
- Juvenile Probation
- Counselling and Education Services
- Law Enforcement
 - School Resource Officers (*Bandera County has a good relationship with theirs*)
- Children's Home (*from Bandera County*)

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Who are Community Partners?

- Child Advocacy Centers
- Boys and Girls Club
- The Nest (*Williamson County – contact Judge Stacy Hackenberg for more info*)
- Church volunteer programs
- Booster Club

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Who are Community Partners?

- VFW
- Senior Centers
- Local Community Colleges (*contact judges from Amarillo*)

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Who are Community Partners?

- Local Mental Health Authority & other counseling services (*they might offer some pro bono hours*)
- Don't know which one is yours? Find out here:
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-substance-use-resources/find-your-local-mental-health-or-behavioral-health-authority>
 - Resources specifically for children's mental health can be found here: <https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/childrens-mental-health>

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Who are Community Partners?

- Work with other courts in your jurisdiction who also serve juveniles.
 - Drug Courts, Mental Health Courts, and other specialty courts might have lists of resources that you could use.
 - If you are in a small county, look to adjacent larger counties for services or partner with other nearby smaller counties to find service providers that will service the area.
- Local Child Advocacy Centers might have resources. Find yours here: <https://www.cactx.org/>

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What Kind of Community Service Options does Your County Have?

- Food banks
- Large festivals/rodeos/other community events
- Online classes
- Work with Law Enforcement agencies
- Mowing lawns for seniors
- Any other task that helps give juveniles life skills
- Meals on Wheels
- Concession stand at local events

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Other Programs & Partnerships

- Program to help recidivism
 - Law enforcement support to run it
 - Juvenile Case Managers help
- Governor's Grant to help pay for programming
 - <https://gov.texas.gov/organization/financial-services/grants> - Juvenile Justice grants are under Criminal Justice heading

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Other Programs & Partnerships

- Truancy Reduction Program
 - Check in with students once per month
- Try to build partnerships with other local agencies (law enforcement, counseling, juvenile probation, district and county attorney offices, etc.)
- Teen Drug Court
- Drug Free World Program – They have free resources that can be accessed online at: <https://www.drugfreeworld.org/>

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Other Programs & Partnerships

- Set up regular meetings with the schools and other stakeholders to check in on how kids are doing and what problems/trends each stakeholder is seeing in the schools/courts
- Judge Nash has a summer program that introduces juveniles to the court room, she shows them the bench and lets them try on the robe.
- Judge Barbara McMillon from Cass County is working with a State Trooper to put on a program for juveniles that has been successful
- Volunteer to speak to students about your job in local schools

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Community Service Order Ideas

- Essays
 - Dangers of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, etc.
 - "Write your own obituary"
 - Better ways to act or react
 - Communication techniques
- Encourage parental responsibility through orders
 - Cell phone curfew
 - Ask parent for a report
- Utilize community organizations and centers
- Collaborate with local parks/etc. – plant gardens, flowers, trees
- Juveniles collect cans, recycle at local facility

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Other Ideas & Tips

- One judge said that when **the student is given a choice** in what type of volunteer work they do, they seem to be more successful.
- Swear in the juvenile, so they can keep tabs on the parent too. This has been successful in courts, because the juvenile feels like they have some control and responsibility.
- Send juveniles to AA meetings to observe
- Parenting classes
- Always let the juveniles know that you care, sometimes it doesn't seem like a big deal to us, but can be for a child that doesn't hear that at home

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Special THANKS to: Judge Valencia Nash & attendees of her Juvenile Law Class in San Antonio, Galveston, and Austin for all of the great ideas!

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