

OJJDP Definitions

Types of Juveniles

Non-Offender: Juvenile who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court for reasons other than legally prohibited conduct, such as dependent juvenile, an abused or neglected juvenile, a material witness, etc.

Status Offender: Juvenile who has been charged with or adjudicated for conduct which would NOT be a crime if committed by an adult, such as a runaway, ungovernable or uncontrollable juvenile, truant, curfew violation, MIP of alcohol or tobacco, misuse of school permit or provisional drivers' license.

Delinquent: Juvenile who has committed an act that if committed by an adult WOULD be a crime.

Facilities

Jail: Any facility designed or used for the secure confinement of adult offenders.

Lockups: Any facility designed or used for the secure confinement of adult offenders for a short-term, pre-trial holding of less than 96 hours.

Juvenile Detention Centers: Any facility designed or used specifically for the secure confinement of juvenile offenders.

Court Holding: Any secure facility, other than an adult jail or lockup, that is used to temporarily detain persons immediately before or after detention hearings or other court proceedings.

Terms

Valid Court Order (VCO): Court order given by a juvenile court judge to a juvenile who has been brought before the court and made subject to a court order. The use of the word "valid" permits the incarceration of juveniles for violation of a valid court order only if they received their full due process rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.