

***KNOW  
THE  
LAW***

*Distributed By:*

**OKALOOSA COUNTY ANTI-DRUG COALITION,  
INC.**

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# Foreword

We dedicate this guide to the young people of Okaloosa County, Florida. We hope that it will be of value to both you and your parents or guardians. If you know the laws that apply to you, you can make good decisions and you can live responsibly. If you make wrong decisions, you may cause grief and unhappiness for both you and your family. So when you make decisions about your education, your job, or your behavior, take time to consider the law and weigh all of the consequences before you act.

As a member of society, you need to know your rights, privileges, and **responsibilities**. Knowing the law enables you to understand your rights, meet your responsibilities, and respect yourself and others, making your life more meaningful and trouble free. Always remember,—"Ignorance of the law is no excuse!" You must accept responsibility for your actions. Don't blame your friends or your family for your behavior.

The law is complex. We have tried to "translate" the laws into a form that is easy for you to read and understand, but you will want to check with law enforcement officials or attorneys for more specifics and clarifications. The law changes constantly. While we have tried to indicate what is current in the Florida statutes we cannot guarantee that the information will be current when you read it. You will want to check with local law enforcement or school officials to stay current. The law is complex and voluminous. We have not covered it all, but we hope the information in this guide will start you on the road to knowing the law.

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# Did You Know?

The following list shows *examples* of crime and punishment in juvenile cases reflected in Florida law. You may obtain a **partial summary of Florida laws** at [www.CrimeAndPunishment.net](http://www.CrimeAndPunishment.net). . Juvenile jurisdictional issues are similar to adult jurisdictional issues and unless the youth is sentenced as an adult the most likely dispositions in a juvenile case would be that no fine would be imposed and the court could generally have jurisdiction over a youth's case for no longer than an adult could be sentenced to jail or the Department of Corrections. For example a juvenile charged with Abuse of Emergency 911 number could spend up to 1 year in a juvenile commitment facility but could potentially be on probation until their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Sentences are subject to change, and **actual** sentencing can vary by county.

## CRIME

## PUNISHMENT

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Some offenses classify a youth as a Serious Habitual Offender or make a youth Maximum Risk eligible. In these cases the court can retain jurisdiction beyond a youth's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Examples are:

Aggravated Assault, Aggravated Battery, Arson, Robbery, Lewd and Lascivious Act, and Sexual Battery.

Some offenses carry a more specific lesser sentence. Examples are:

Abuse of 911 number (false report)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Affray (2 people fighting)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Battery (1 person hitting another)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Battery on school official	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Burglary to a structure or car	Court jurisdiction for up to 5

	years
Burglary to a dwelling (home)	Court jurisdiction for 15 years or up to youth's 19 <sup>th</sup> birthday
Carrying a concealed weapon	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Carrying a concealed weapon at school	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Criminal mischief (\$200 or less)	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Criminal mischief (\$200-\$1,000)	Court jurisdiction for up to one year
Criminal mischief (over \$1,000)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Cruelty to animals (cruel treatment)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Cruelty to animals (death)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Dealing in stolen property	Court jurisdiction for up to 15 years or youth's 19 <sup>th</sup> birthday
Discharging a fire extinguisher	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Disturbing a school function	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Disorderly conduct	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Exposure of sexual organs	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
False report of a bomb	Court jurisdiction for up to 15 years or youth's 19 <sup>th</sup> birthday
Forgery	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years

Fraudulent use of credit card(under \$100)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Fraudulent use of credit card(over \$100)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Leaving scene of an accident with injuries	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Lewd and Lascivious behavior	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Lewd and Lascivious battery	Court jurisdiction for up to 15 years or youth's 22 <sup>nd</sup> birthday
Lewd and Lascivious molestation	Court jurisdiction for up to 15 years or youth's 22 <sup>n</sup> birthday
Lewd and Lascivious conduct	Court jurisdiction for up to 15 years or youth's 22 <sup>nd</sup> birthday
Lewd and Lascivious exhibition	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Possession of Alcohol	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Possession of Cocaine	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Possession of Marijuana (under 20 grams)	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Possession of Marijuana (over 20 grams)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Stalking	Court jurisdiction for up to 1 year
Stalking (aggravated)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years
Theft (under \$300)	Court jurisdiction for up to 6 months or 60 days commitment
Theft (over \$300)	Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years

Trespass on construction site

Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years

Worthless check (over \$50)

Court jurisdiction for up to 5 years

# CRIME

There are three basic types of crimes:

- 1) Infractions are the least serious law violations. They can result in a loss of liberty or a fine (for example, you receive a traffic ticket and you must pay a fine or attend traffic school).
- 2) Misdemeanors are less serious than felonies. They can result in juvenile commitment (residential placement out of your home) for up to 1 year.
- 3) Felonies are the most serious crimes. They can result in juvenile commitment for more than 1 year.

## PERSONAL CRIMES

Battery is an intentional and unwanted touching; most batteries involve hitting, pushing, or shoving (Chap. 784).

Battery is a misdemeanor. If you commit a battery against someone living in your home, a judge may place you in secure detention for domestic violence. (Note: Some branches of the military will not take you if you commit domestic violence.)

If you commit a second battery, you can be charged with a felony. If you use a weapon (even a pencil or pen) or seriously injure the victim, you may be charged with a felony.

If you commit battery on a law enforcement officer, a school employee (including teachers and deans), a pregnant person, or a person over the age of 65, the battery is a felony.

Assault is a physical or verbal threat to do violence to someone (Chap. 784). If you have the ability to carry out the threat and you create fear in the person you threatened, you have committed misdemeanor assault. If a weapon is involved, you have committed aggravated assault, which is a felony.

Stalking is maliciously and repeatedly following or harassing another person, causing substantive emotional distress. To intend to place a person in fear of bodily harm constitutes a felony.

Affray is being involved in a fight in a public place, such as a school. It is a misdemeanor, like battery, but unlike battery, an affray implies mutual combat.

## PROPERTY CRIMES

Criminal mischief occurs when you damage someone's property on purpose or by being extremely reckless (Chap. 806). If the damage is more than \$1000, it is a felony. For example, Egging a car may damage the paint, and a good paint job easily can exceed \$1000. Spray-painting graffiti, even on a roadway, is also criminal mischief.

Grand Theft Auto (GTA) includes stealing a car OR driving a stolen car.

Burglary, a felony, occurs when you enter someone's house, storage shed, business, or vehicle without his or her permission, intending to commit another crime inside, such as theft, criminal mischief, assault, or battery (Chap. 810). If you steal a weapon while you're in the house, the crime is treated just as though you had the weapon when you entered the house. That's armed burglary of a home, a first-degree felony.

Dealing in stolen property means buying, selling, or possessing any item that has been stolen, whether you know it was stolen or should have known it was stolen (Chap. 812). If you possess recently stolen property and cannot satisfactorily explain why, the law assumes that you knew or should have known it was stolen.

Theft occurs when you take someone's property without his or her permission, even if you're just borrowing it (Chap. 812). If the item is worth \$299 or less, the crime is petit (Petty) theft, or a misdemeanor; if the item is worth \$300 or more, the crime is grand theft, or a felony. Your third conviction for theft is automatically a felony grand theft.

## ALCOHOL

### Can I buy or drink an alcoholic beverage?

You must be 21 years of age to purchase, possess, or drink alcohol (Chap. 562).

If you are under 21 and you possess alcohol or try to buy any alcoholic beverage, you could lose your drivers license for up to 6 months for the first offense.

For a second violation, you could lose your license for up to 2 years, in addition to other legal punishment, including remaining on probation until your 19<sup>th</sup> birthday (Chap. 985).

No one can have an open container of alcoholic beverage in a car.

### What if I drink and drive

If you drink and drive (or are in actual physical control of a vehicle), here are some of the consequences:

You may be issued a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) citation, which can cost up to thousands of dollars each time, and your drivers license may be suspended for 6 months to 1 year.

If your blood or breath alcohol level is 0.02% or higher, your drivers license will be suspended for 6 months.

If your blood or breath alcohol level is 0.05% or higher, your drivers license will remain suspended until you complete a substance abuse course offered by a DUI program licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). These programs cost approximately \$200.

If you refuse to submit to an alcohol test, your driver license will be suspended.

## DRUGS AND NARCOTICS

You cannot possess, use, sell, transport, offer, or be under the influence of any drug that is not prescribed to you by a doctor. If you drive a friend who has illegal drugs or alcohol on him or her, and you know he or she does, you may also be guilty of possession. If you possess, buy, or sell drugs within 1000 feet of a church, school, public housing facility, or childcare facility, the penalties are more serious (Chap. 893).

It is also illegal for you to

Make or use a false or changed prescription (Chap. 831).

Sniff, inhale, ingest, or possess with intent to inhale harmful chemical substances, for example, glue or gasoline (Huffing Chap. 877).

## TOBACCO

If you are under 18 years of age, you may not possess, buy, or smoke tobacco products. If you violate laws about tobacco, you can be assessed a fine, be required to perform community work service hours, or have your drivers license suspended (Chap. 893).

## WEAPONS

Can I carry or use a gun?

If you are under the age of 18, you CANNOT possess a firearm other than an unloaded one at your home, unless you are engaged in hunting or lawful marksmanship competition (Chap. 790).

You must be 21 years old or older to purchase ammunition.

If you are convicted of an offense that involves the possession or use of a firearm, law enforcement agencies may release your name for publication, even though you are a child (Chap. 790).

If the court finds you guilty of a felony delinquent act, you may not own or possess a firearm until you are 24 years old (Chap. 790).

#### Can someone give me a gun?

If you are under the age of 18, it is illegal for anyone to furnish you a firearm without your parents or guardians permission. No one can sell or transfer a firearm to you, unless they have your parents or guardians permission (Chap. 790).

#### Where can I shoot or not shoot?

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In most areas, shooting is not permitted. In county areas, only certain portions are designated for shooting. Check with county law enforcement personnel to find out where you need owner permission and where you cannot shoot a firearm at all.

#### What other weapons should I know about?

Any instrument or object deliberately used or intended for use to inflict harm upon another person or used to intimidate any person is considered a weapon (School District Student Rights and Responsibilities).

You cannot make a blackjack, metal knuckles, or throwing stars, or carry explosives. You cannot have blackjacks, slingshots, billies, nunchakus, sandclubs, sandbags, or metal/brass knuckles. Authorities can take these away from you (Chap. 790).

If you possess a weapon on school property, including any knife, you may be charged with a felony and expelled from school. If

you discover a weapon that's been placed on your person or in your book bag by accident, contact a teacher, dean, or school

resource officer immediately and turn the weapon in (Chap. 790).

You cannot shoot a BB gun or any air rifle without adult supervision until you are 16. If you do, your parent can be charged with the crime (Chap. 790).

If you throw a deadly missile, such as a stone, at a car or a house or at someone inside a car or a house, you can be charged with a felony punishable by up to 15 years.

## FALSE REPORT

You commit a crime if you

File a false police report or turn in a false fire alarm.

Lie to the police or the court when you are questioned as a witness (Chap. 817, 837).

Make a false report of child abuse (Chap. 39).

Make a false 911 call (Chap. 365).

Plant a Hoax or bomb. Making a false report about planting a bomb or explosive is also unlawful (Chap. 790).

## MORE ABOUT CRIME

It is also illegal to

Buy, sell, receive, dispose of, hide, or possess articles from which serial numbers or manufacturers marks have been removed, damaged, or altered (Chap. 812).

Set fire to or burn property such as woods or fields (unlawful burning, Chap. 590), or set fire to a dwelling or structure (arson,

Chap. 806), or shoot off or take a fire extinguisher (Chap. 812).

If you are under the age of 18, it is illegal for you to have sex, even if you both consent. Sexual misconduct may include touching the private areas of another, whether clothed or unclothed.

Not knowing your partners age is not a defense. If you are found delinquent for certain sex acts, your name will be placed on the sexual predator registry (Chapters 794 and 800).

Refuse to disperse break up a group when asked by a police officer (Chap. 870).

Use another persons personal information without his or her permission to get something of value or to harass them (Chap. 817).

#### Can my DNA be collected?

If you commit certain felonies, 2 samples of your DNA will be collected and kept on file with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement

# JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Juvenile Justice System is a group of people and organizations that deal with the problems of children and young people under the age of 18: the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the State Attorneys Office, the Public Defenders Office, and the Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court (Juvenile Court).

Juvenile law provides authority for protecting minors, for protecting the public from minors who commit criminal offenses, and for rehabilitating those minors. You may come under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court if you commit a crime or delinquent act or if you are dependent. In either case, the court can offer you care, treatment, and guidance. If you are delinquent, the court is also authorized to punish you.

## JUVENILE COURT

Juvenile Court is a special branch of the Circuit Court, whose judges act as the Juvenile Court judge. The Juvenile Court judge hears cases in which minors are believed to have violated the law (delinquency) or when they need help because of family or personal problems (dependency, or children or families in need of services [CINS/FINS]).

## DEPENDENCY AND DELINQUENCY

### What is dependency?

The Juvenile Court judge may declare you a dependent child (Chap. 985)

if you

Lack proper and effective parental control.

Have no suitable place to live and inadequate necessities for living.

Are physically dangerous to the public because of a mental or physical problem.

Live in a home that is judged unfit because of physical or sexual abuse/exploitation by parents or guardians.

Have been freed for adoption but not formally adopted.

What is delinquency?

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The Juvenile Court judge may declare you a delinquent child if you commit an illegal act.

## JUVENILE DETENTION

Juvenile detention is a place where you may be held temporarily if you are a minor who is alleged to have committed a criminal act or delinquent act and are awaiting action by the Juvenile Court or if you violate an order of the court. You also may be held for a certain length of time after the court makes a judgment (or Adjudicates) your case, if the court commits you to a residential program.

What happens at juvenile detention?

When you arrive at juvenile detention, the intake screener must immediately investigate why you are there (Chap. 985).

Whether you remain in detention while you wait to appear before a judge depends on your score on a risk assessment instrument. The

scoring of the instrument aligns with the severity of your offense and the degree of risk you pose to public safety. Your score will determine whether you are

Detained.

Released to your parents, guardians, or responsible adult, with or without home detention.

Released to a respite home or family services organization.

Whether you are released or detained, a probation officer from the DJJ will want to meet with you and your parents or guardians to discuss the possible alternatives for your case.

After meeting with you, the Juvenile Probation Officer may recommend to the State Attorney that

No further action be taken.

Your case be referred for nonjudicial handling (outside of court by diversionary supervision or through Teen Court).

A delinquency petition be filed in your case.

# Your case be transferred to adult court

The State Attorney may follow the recommendation of the DJJ or may take action independent of DJJ's recommendation. The State Attorney may

File a petition for delinquency.

Transfer your case to Adult Court.

Handle your case nonjudicially through diversionary services (Teen Court, mediation, etc.).

Decline to file any charges in your case

### What is a nonjudicial case?

If the State Attorney elects to handle your case nonjudicially, he or she can refer you back to the DJJ, where you may be minimally supervised while you complete sanctions. Examples of nonjudicial handling would be the Parentally Applied Discipline

program, the Deferred Prosecution Agreement program, the Intensive Delinquency Diversion Services program, or payment of a fine. You may also be referred to Teen Court.

### What is a judicial case?

If you plead not guilty the court will schedule for your case for an adjudicatory hearing (trial) and appoint an attorney (public defender) to represent you. If you plead guilty or are found to have committed an offense at trial, the Juvenile Court may decide on any of 3 dispositions for your case: commitment, probation, or alternative services. If you are committed to a high or maximum risk commitment program, the Juvenile Court can (in certain situations) retain jurisdiction over your case until you reach age 21 for the purpose of completing the program.

**Commitment.** The program you are committed to depends upon your prior record and the courts determination of your risk to re-offend. Commitment programs are categorized as minimum risk non-residential, low risk residential, moderate risk residential, high-risk residential, or maximum-risk residential. If you are committed to the Department the court determines the level of commitment but the Department determines the specific program you will be placed into based on your service needs.

**Probation.** If you are placed on probation, you must follow certain rules and conditions set by Juvenile Court. The court may set the terms of your probation to include where you may or may not go, who you may or may not associate with, what activities you may or may not participate in, and where you must reside, attendance at a jail tour or victim impact panel. Your probation will most likely be supervised by a DJJ officer, who may be authorized to randomly test you for alcohol or drugs. You will have to report to the officer and provide proof that you have paid court fees, paid public defender fees, paid restitution, or

completed any assigned community service. You also must abide by a curfew set by the court. You may or may not be allowed to drive an automobile. You will be ordered to attend school every day unless excused by a physician or parent/guardian. Your maximum curfew will be 8:00 pm each night of week unless your parents set an earlier curfew

Alternative services. You may be required to complete community service hours, pay restitution, submit to random urine tests, and write letters of apology.

# DRIVING

## GETTING A LEARNERS LICENSE

At age 15, you may obtain a learners driving license. You must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years of age and who occupies the closest seat to your right (Chap. 322). You may operate a vehicle only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.

At age 16, you cannot drive between 11 p.m and 6 a.m. unless you are accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old or you are driving to or from work (Chap. 322).

At age 17, you cannot drive between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. unless you are accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old or you are driving to or from work.

Once you earn a regular drivers license, there may be other restrictions, specified on the back of your license.

## WEARING SEAT BELTS

When you drive, you must ensure that you and all your passengers wear seatbelts (Chap. 316), whether they are seated in the front or the back.

## LOSING YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE

You may lose your drivers license if you  
Are stopped for a traffic violation and fail to have automobile insurance.

Possess alcohol or illegal drugs (Chap. 322).  
Use a driver's license to misrepresent or misstate your age to get someone to sell you alcohol (Chap. 562).  
Change your age on your license or ID card.  
Possess tobacco products.  
Refuse to submit to a test to determine your blood or breath alcohol level upon request of law enforcement personnel with probable cause to believe you have been drinking and driving (Chap. 322).  
Drive off without paying for your gas (Chap. 812).  
Commit any crime involving the use or possession of a firearm (Chap. 790).  
Steal (Chap. 812).  
Drive with a blood or breath alcohol level of 0.02% or more (Chap. 322).  
Get 4 points or more on your driving record within a 12-month period.  
Are truant in your school attendance (Chap. 322).  
Commit a serious offense involving a motor vehicle (Chap. 322).  
Fail to properly stop and yield for a school bus (Chap. 322).  
Flee a pursuing law enforcement officer while you are driving.  
Vandalize with graffiti (Chap. 806).  
Drop out of school before you reach 18.

## VIOLATING A TRAFFIC LAW

If you are found to have violated a traffic law, you can be reprimanded or receive one or more of the following penalties (Chap. 316, 322):  
Be ordered to attend traffic school.  
Pay a fine.  
Have your driving privileges suspended or restricted.  
Perform community service work under the supervision of a county probation officer.

Be placed on county probation. If the charge is serious, you may have to appear in Juvenile Court.

## OPERATING A MOTORIZED SCOOTER

If you are under 16 years of age and operate a motorized scooter,

You must wear a safety helmet.

You must limit your use to private roadways and sidewalks.

You may NOT operate the scooter on or along other sidewalks or roadways or on public sidewalks or roadways unless you are crossing a street in a crosswalk (Chap. 316).

## OPERATING A MOTORCYCLE

If you are under 21, you must have a regular drivers license with an endorsement to operate a motorcycle.

To obtain an endorsement, you must complete a motorcycle safety course and pay a fee.

# FAMILY

## ABUSE AND NEGLECT

What is abuse? neglect?

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You are considered abused if any person

Inflicts or allows physical pain, mental suffering, or cruel or inhuman corporal punishment or injury that results in bodily harm. Your parents may spank you as long as they do not inflict excessive physical or metal harm.

Physically injures you by non-accidental means.

Permits your life, body, or health to be placed in danger.

Commits sexual acts upon you or in your presence.

Involves you in preparing, distributing, or selling obscene material.

You are considered to be neglected if:

You have been abandoned or deserted by your parents or guardians.

You have not been provided support, education, medical, or remedial care (Chap. 827).

What happens if my parents or guardians abuse or neglect me?

If you are abused or neglected and there is no one to care for you, you will be taken into custody and taken to a safe place. Under special circumstances, you may be taken by a social worker (Chap 39, 395). The Dependency Court will then decide what to do. If the court declares you dependent, then you will be placed in the care and custody of a responsible person, organization or group, family home, or private institution.

If you are being considered for foster home placement, the court may want to hear from you. The Dependency Court can provide care for you until you are 18 years of age (Chap. 39). In some cases the Foster Care program may be able to assist you with your educational expenses after you become 18 years of age.

### Who must report child abuse or neglect?

Anyone can and should report child abuse or neglect or suspected child abuse or neglect involving a minor to the police or the Child Abuse Registry (1-800-962-2873) as soon as possible. For your own protection, it is important to report any incident of neglect or abuse even though you may have been threatened by someone if you do so. No one should ever be subjected to neglect or abuse. You may make an anonymous report.

People in the jobs listed below are required to report observations, knowledge, or reasonable suspicions of child abuse:

Childcare custodians: school employees, teachers, foster parents, and camp counselors.

Medical practitioners: physicians, psychiatrists, dentists, nurses, psychologists, and others.

Non-medical practitioners: counselors, religious practitioners who treat children, and others.

Protective agency employees: police, probation officers, social workers, and others.

Others who want to report abuse or neglect should contact 1-800-962-2873.

## **BODY PIERCING AND TATTOOING**

If you are a minor, you cannot have your body pierced or tattooed

without the written, notarized consent of your parent or guardian. If you are under 16, your parent or guardian must accompany you (Chap. 381). Ear piercing is excluded from this law.

## EARNINGS, GIFTS, AND PROPERTY

If you are employed your parents or guardians are entitled to your earnings because they take care of you, and your earnings can be used for your overall care and household expenses.

Your parents or guardians may

- Give up their rights to your earnings if they wish.

- Take back a gift that was given to you if they feel that the gift could be potentially harmful to you or if they are restricting the use of a gift as a form of discipline. You may still own the gift, but your parents or guardians can have possession of it.

- May limit access to your property but cannot take your property just because they are your parents or guardians.

## EMANCIPATION

You are emancipated or Free from your parents or guardians control when you

- Reach the age of 18.

- Enter the military.

- Marry.

- Have the Circuit Court declare you emancipated.

In order to have the Circuit Court declare you emancipated, you must apply for an emancipation hearing through an attorney or the Legal Aid Society. You must also be of a specific age, be willing to live apart from your parents or guardians with their consent, and have a legal source of income to support you in a stable

living environment, and prove that you are responsible.  
Emancipation in the State of Florida is referred to as the  
Removal of Disability of Non-Age.

## MAIL

According to the U.S. Postal Service (Domestic Mail Regulations  
Section 153.22), parents or guardians have control over the  
delivery and acceptance of their children's mail.

## MARRIAGE

You may marry if

You are 18 years of age or older.

You have the written consent of one or both of your parents or  
guardians.

## PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Who is responsible for me?

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Your parents or guardians are responsible for you until you reach the age  
of 18, marry, or enter the military. They have the right to custody  
and control over you.

What are my parents or guardians liabilities?

Your parents are liable for any tort or crime you commit until you reach  
18 or are emancipated.

What if I'm the parent of a newborn?

If you abandon the baby at a hospital, fire station, or emergency medical service (EMS) facility within 3 days of its birth, you may do so anonymously unless child abuse is suspected. The courts assumes that you consent to terminate your parental rights (Chapter 2000).

## RESIDENCE AND RUNNING AWAY

### Can my parents tell me where to live?

Your parents or guardians have the legal right to designate where you live until you become 18 years of age. If you are on probation when you become 18 years of age the court may order you to live with your parents as long as you are on probation. The court may also order you to obey your parents lawful and reasonable demands while you are on probation even if you are 18 years of age.

### What happens if I run away?

If you run away, your parents or guardians should report you to the local law enforcement agency. You will then be listed as a missing person, and a law enforcement officer may take you into custody (Chap. 984).

### What if I help someone run away?

It is unlawful to aid an unmarried minor runaway (Chap. 39). If anyone who is not authorized by the Department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Children and Families knowingly helps an unmarried child who has run away from home without the consent of his or her parents or guardians or without notifying law enforcement of the child's name and the fact that the child is being provided shelter, he or she may be charged with a criminal offense (Chap. 984, 985).

Taking or concealing a child from the custody of his or her parent or

helping someone else take or conceal a child may be a felony (Chap. 787).

# RECREATION

## BOATING

Can I operate a boat?

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If you are 21 or younger and you want to operate a boat with 10 or more horsepower, you must

1. Successfully complete a boaters education course offered by the Commission on Boater Safety.
2. Carry the boater safety ID card that shows you successfully completed the boaters education course.
3. Carry a photo ID.

Can I operate a personal watercraft?

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If you want to operate a personal watercraft, you must be 14 years old or older. No person under the age of 14 can operate a personal watercraft in Florida (Chap. 327), and such craft cannot be operated after dark.

What laws apply to all watercraft?

No matter what your age, if you want to operate a boat or a personal watercraft, you must

Know how to operate the boat or personal watercraft safely and

NOT operate it negligently.

NOT operate the boat or personal watercraft if you are intoxicated.

If you have an accident while you are boating, you could be sued. The penalties for boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs are almost the same as those for driving a car under the influence and they are severe (Chap. 327).

### What's the law on life jackets?

All children under 6 years old must wear a personal flotation device (PFD) when they are aboard a motorboat, sailboat, or other vessel that is less than 26 feet in length and is underway (not anchored, moored, or aground). Check with the Florida Marine Patrol for guidelines on life jackets and other water safety requirements.

## CAMPING

### What are public areas?

You may camp in public areas marked for camping, including

National parks.

State parks.

County parks.

Areas set aside for camping in city parks.

### What rules must I follow?

Check the rules before setting up camp, and follow the posted rules for that park. Such rules may include

Hours of operation.

Bicycle and vehicle rules.  
Rules about fires, littering, and loitering.  
Rules about pets.  
Rules about the use of drugs and alcohol.

#### Can I camp on private property?

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Do not camp on private property without permission. That's called trespassing, and it's against the law.

## FIREWORKS

Dangerous fireworks including firecrackers and bottle rockets are illegal.  
Safe and sane fireworks are subject to the laws of your area. Check with your local law enforcement agency (Chap. 791).

## FISHING

#### Must I have a license to fish in salt water?

---

You must have a saltwater fishing license if you take, attempt to take, or possess marine fish for noncommercial purposes UNLESS, for example

1. You are under 16 years of age.
2. You fish from land or a structure fixed to land (not from a boat), from a pier that has a valid pier saltwater fishing license, or from a boat that has a valid recreational vessel-fishing license.

These are not the only exceptions. To find out more, contact the Florida Marine Patrol.

### What about fishing in fresh water?

You do NOT need a freshwater fishing license if

1. You are under the age of 16.
2. You are fishing on your own homestead.
3. You are fishing without a reel in your own county.

These are not the only exceptions. To find out more about freshwater licensing, contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ([www.floridaconservation.org](http://www.floridaconservation.org)).

## HUNTING

### How do I get a license?

If you want to get a hunting license in Florida, you must

1. Be 16 years old or older.
2. Have a certificate from a hunter safety training course conducted in any state or Canadian Province approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Chap. 372) and proof that you hold such a license.

OR

Have a hunting license that indicates a hunter safety course on its face (Chap. 372) or a hunting license from a previous year.

OR

Have a certificate of competence from a class on hunter safety, conservation, and sportsmanship taught by a teacher selected by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Chap. 372).

### Must I carry a license?

You must carry your hunting license with you and be prepared to show it when asked (Chap. 372). Licenses usually are valid for 12 months from the date of issue (Chap. 372).

## PETS

### What should I know about leashes and beaches?

When you take your dog out in public, you must put him or her on a leash or chain less than 6 feet long. You should not take a dog onto school property or to the beach (Chap. 828).

### Am I responsible for care and feeding?

You are responsible for keeping pets safe from harm and for making sure they get proper care, including

Providing your pets with food and water (Chap. 828).

NOT abandoning an animal or intentionally getting a bird or animal into a fight with another bird or animal (Chap. 828).

NOT capturing a bird, fish, reptile, or other wild animal in the wild and taking it for a pet.

NOT abandoning, being cruel to, or neglecting an animal (Chap. 828).

### Do I need a permit?

You must have a special permit to keep certain animals as pets.

## PARTIES

If you give a party or if you go to a party, these activities may be considered disturbing the peace (Chap. 877):

Fighting.

Loud music or excessive noise.

Use of drugs and alcohol comes under another set of laws (Chapters 562, 893).

Your parents or guardians may be held responsible for what goes on in their home even if they do not know you're having a party while they're away.

If an adult who has control of a residence allows minors to possess or consume alcohol or drugs in a party at that residence or fails to take reasonable steps to prevent such possession or consumption, the adult may be charged with a criminal offense (Chap. 827, 856).

# SCHOOL

## ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY

### Who must attend school?

You must attend school until you are 18 or have obtained your high school diploma or GED. If you fail to attend school, your drivers license may be suspended (or you may not be issued a license if you do not already have one) and a lawsuit (legal charges) may be filed against you and/or your parents. Court petitions may be filed against you and/or your parents under Truancy Court statutes or child in need of services (CINS) statutes.

### You must attend school

Full-time from the age of 6 to the age of 18 (Chap. 32). It is your parents or guardians responsibility to see that you attend.

Full-time or part-time from the age of 16 to 18, unless you have been exempted (excused) or have graduated from high school or have taken and passed a special test called the GED (Chap. 322).

If you change your residency, your parents or guardians must enroll you in school in your new location.

### Who does not have to attend a public school?

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If you are 16 or 17 years old, you may formally withdraw from school, but you and your parents or guardians must sign a withdrawal form (Chap. 232).

If you are receiving full-time instruction at a private school, from a tutor, or in a home school setting, you may be exempt from attending public school (Chap. 232).

### What is an excused absence?

Legally, all students must be in school unless they have

A medical or dental appointment.

An absence for religious holiday or ceremony observance.

An absence requested in advance by parents or guardians and approved by the school.

Any other justifiable reason.

What is truancy?

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If you have 5 or more unexcused absences within 30 calendar days, or 10 or more unexcused absences within 90 days, you are considered truant (Chap. 232). After a specified number of unexcused absences, a letter from the School District may be delivered by a law enforcement officer, requesting a parent student conference.

What are the consequences of truancy?

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Truancy Petition. A truancy petition can be filed against your parents, and you and your parents will have to appear in Circuit Court (Chap. 232). Your parents may be fined, placed on probation, or jailed. The judge has the authority to order you to do a number of things:

Submit to random urinalysis testing.

Not leave home without your parent's permission.

Be restricted from associating with certain friends.

Perform community service.

Secure daily progress reports from your teachers.

Participate in counseling.

Attend school with your parents.

Complete written essays.

Child in need of services (CINS) Petition. If you do not successfully complete the sanctions of the judges' court order under a truancy

petition, a CINS Petition may be filed against you by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). If the court finds in favor of DJJ, the judge can place you in a shelter program for Five days on the first offense.

Thirty days on the second offense.

Up to 90 days for subsequent offenses.

**Criminal Complaint.** If your parents or guardians do not compel you to attend school, they may be subject to prosecution.

A criminal complaint can be filed against a parent or guardian who fails to comply with the order of the school or the court (Chap. 984).

Penalties for violations include a fine of up to \$500 and 60 days in jail.

Parents or guardians who have refused to abide by the states education laws or have failed to cooperate also have been prosecuted for neglect or for contributing to the delinquency of a minor (Chap. 827).

**Suspended Drivers License.** If you do not attend school, your driver license will be suspended until you reach the age of 18 (Chap. 232, 322).

## DISABLED STUDENTS

A student with a disability is any student identified as disabled in accordance with Section 504 and/or the Individuals with How is Disabled defined?

Disabilities Education Act (105-17).

What programs are required?

---

Both the federal government and the State of Florida require school

programs for those with oral communication disabilities, physical disabilities, learning disabilities, and severe disabilities (Chap. 228).

## PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

### What rights do parents have with regard to school?

Parents or guardians have the right to

Talk with teachers and school administrators about you and to see your school record.

Disagree with teachers or administrators, but not to insult, abuse, or interfere with them (Chap. 231, 877).

Be notified and give their written permission before you can be given a questionnaire, survey, or examination regarding your parents or your personal beliefs, sex practices, family life, or religion.

Decide whether or not you will attend sex education classes and see the films used in such classes (Chap. 233).

Be consulted about your placement in special programs for educationally or physically disabled students (Chap. 230).

### What responsibilities do parents have with regard to school?

Parents or guardians have the responsibility to

See that you have a physical exam and current immunizations on your initial entry to school (Chap. 232).

Ensure that you attend school daily and report or explain absences or tardiness (School District Code of Student Conduct).

Maintain regular contact with the school about your progress.

Provide you with resources you need to complete class work, and discuss report cards and work assignments with you.

Expect and insist that you conform to reasonable standards of

conduct.

What liabilities do parents have with regard to school?

You and your parents or guardians are liable for all damages caused by you to persons or property of the school district, and for all property such as books that have been lent to you and not returned (Chap. 233).

## STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

What must I do in school?

While on school grounds or under school supervision, you are required to

Obey the school rules and directions of your teachers and others in authority.

Attend school regularly and on time.

Maintain good behavior.

Follow school rules.

Respect teachers and others in authority.

Be kind and courteous to other students.

What must I NOT do in school?

While on school grounds or under school supervision, you CANNOT engage in unlawful activity such as

Sexual behavior.

Using profanity.

Drinking alcohol.

Gambling.

Possessing or using illegal drugs or tobacco.

Causing damage or injury to persons or property. (You can be suspended or expelled for this, and you can be held financially responsible.)

Possessing a weapon.

Hitting, swearing at, or abusing school employees (Chap. 231, 232, 984).

## TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS RESPONSIBILITIES

### What are teachers responsible for?

Public school teachers must

Enforce the course of study.

Enforce the use of certain textbooks.

Enforce the rules and regulations required by law.

Hold students responsible for their conduct going to and from school and at any school activity (Chap. 231, 232).

### What is corporal punishment?

---

The School Board has the authority to prohibit corporal punishment, but if the Board adopts a policy of corporal punishment, school officials are authorized to carry it out (Chap. 230, 232). Corporal punishment is the moderate use of physical force or physical contact by a teacher or principal as may be necessary to maintain discipline or to enforce rules. Paddles used must be of a specified size and made of wood. Corporal punishment is limited to two strokes or fewer for students in Kindergarten through Grade 3, three strokes or fewer for Grades 4 through 6, four strokes or fewer for Grades 7 through 12. A written explanation of the reason for the punishment will be provided to the parents or

guardians (School District Code of Student Conduct).

What if a parent or guardian objects to corporal punishment?

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If parents or guardians object to corporal punishment, they must notify the school in writing, each year, of that objection.

## SEARCHES

Can school officials conduct searches?

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Student searches by school officials on public school property or school buses and at school events must be based on reasonable suspicion of either criminal activity or a violation of school rules (School District Code of Student Conduct).

Can school officials question me?

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School officials may ask you questions without informing you of your constitutional rights (Supreme Court decision New Jersey v. T.L.O. and subsequent cases).

Law enforcement officers may also question students at school. Before they do so, they will go through the school administration and the school resource officer, and they will try to contact your parents.

## SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

What is suspension from school?

---

Suspension means being temporarily removed from school, either by In-School Suspension or by Out-of School Suspension (Chap. 230).

You may be suspended for

Sexual harassment.

Incidents of hate, violence, or threats of intimidation.

Committing a crime.

Causing injury to another person or damage to school property.

Purchasing, selling, possessing, or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol.

Unlawfully possessing, selling, using, or furnishing a firearm, knife, explosives, or other dangerous objects without written permission from a certified school employee.

Habitually using profanity or vulgarity.

Disrupting school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of any school personnel.

Possessing electronic pagers or phones.

Participating in other conduct that interferes with a positive teaching environment.

Bullying or harassing any other student.

Being habitually tardy.

If you are suspended from school because you violated a Florida statute, the school may notify law enforcement personnel of the act that led to your suspension.

If you commit a crime against another student, you may be prohibited

from attending the same school or riding the same bus with that student.

What is expulsion from school?

---

Expulsion is the removal of the right and obligation of a student to attend public school for a period of time and under conditions set by the School Board, not to exceed the remainder of the school year and one additional year of attendance (School District Code of Student Conduct).

Many of the same rules that apply to suspension also apply to expulsion. Expulsion is deemed necessary when a student commits a serious breach of conduct.

If you are recommended for expulsion,

The Superintendent will notify your parents or guardians of the expulsion hearing, by certified mail.

You are not allowed on any School Board property without permission from the schools administration. Otherwise, you will be considered to be trespassing, a violation of the law.

You usually will be given the option of enrolling in an Alternative or Charter School (Chap. 228).

You may or may not have the continuing right to alternative education.

# CONTRACTS & TORTS

## CONTRACTS

### What is a contract?

A contract is a set of promises, enforceable in civil court, in which two or more people agree to do or not to do something.

Most contracts involve property or money and deal with buying or selling something such as a car, a house, or land.

Contracts may be written or spoken.

When you use a credit card to buy something, you enter into a contract.

### Who can make contracts?

If you are 18 or older you can make a contract.

### If you are under 18

You can make a contract to sell your bicycle or skateboard, for example.

You can borrow money or purchase a car; however, business people rarely make contracts with minors because minors can cancel a contract if they return the item they purchased or return money if they sold an item. (But a minor cannot cancel a contract that was authorized by the court or one that deals with creative or artistic services, including music rights and literary or dramatic works.)

### If you are under 18 and married

You can make some contracts but not others. For example, you cannot make contracts about real property such as land, a lot, or a house, or for personal property or any other property that is not yours.

# TORTS

## What is a tort?

---

If you harm other people, their property, or even their reputation, you may have committed a civil tort regardless of whether the harm was an accident, resulted from carelessness, or was done intentionally. A **civil** court may require you to pay damages or may fine you. Some torts are criminal offenses; others are not. Here are some examples.

Defamation: attacking a person's reputation or good name, in writing or in speech.

Assault: creating fear in a victim's mind that something harmful will happen to him or her, by word or by action.

Battery: intentionally touching someone without his or her permission.

Trespass: intentionally going onto a property, fishing or shooting on a property, or throwing things onto a property that you do not own or have permission to be on.

False imprisonment: keeping someone in a room or vehicle or other place where he or she cannot get out.

## If I'm under the age of 18, how do torts affect me?

Florida law doesn't differentiate between minors and adults when it comes to civil responsibility for torts. If you are old enough to know right from wrong, you may be sued in civil court for the damage caused by your tort.

## Who pays for my torts?

If you are under 18, your parents are liable or responsible for every intentional injury you cause to persons or property. The liability can be costly if you use a firearm. If you hurt someone unintentionally through negligence, your parents are liable if

they knew about it or should have known that you were likely to cause damage and were negligent in not stopping it. Even though your parents may be liable, you can still be held primarily responsible for your action (Chap. 710).

What if my action was an accident?

Even if your action is accidental, you are still responsible if your negligence caused the accident. If you should have been more careful, then you are responsible for the damages that result from your carelessness.

If someone commits a tort against me, what should I do?

If you are under 18, your parents can take legal action on your behalf, such as filing a lawsuit. When you reach the age of 18, you may take legal action yourself (Chap. 46).

# OFFENSE DEFINITIONS

**Affray** (usually filed as Disorderly Conduct) is defined as two people fighting with each other.

**Battery** is the actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against the will of the person.

**Felony Battery** is the actual an intentional touching or striking of another person against the will of the person and causing great bodily harm , permanent disfigurement, or permanent disability.

**Burglary** is defined as entering a dwelling, structure, or conveyance with the intent to commit an offense therein.

A **Concealed Weapon** is defined as a weapon carried on or about a person in such a manner as to be concealed from ordinary sight another individual. A weapon is defined as a “dirk, metallic knuckles, slungshot, billie, tear gas gun, chemical weapon or device, or other deadly weapon”

**Carrying a weapon on school grounds** is defined as carrying the weapon “in the presence of one of more persons in a rude, careless, angry, or threatening manner and not in lawful defense, at a school sponsored event or on school grounds or facilities of any school, school bus, or school bus stop...”

**Criminal Mischief** is defined maliciously damaging property belonging to another person. This could include graffiti.

**Cruelty to animals** (misdemeanor) is defined as among other things as tormenting, killing, depriving of necessary shelter, or carrying an animal in a vehicle in an inhumane or cruel manner.

**Cruelty to animals** (felony) is defined as among other things as committing an act that results in the cruel death of an animal or

committing an act of excessive or repeated infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering to an animal.

**Dealing In Stolen Property** is defined as, trafficking or attempting to traffic in property known or believed to have been stolen .

**Disturbing A School Function** is defined as interrupting or disturbing a school function.

**Disorderly Conduct** is defined as committing “acts (that are of) a nature to corrupt the public morals, or outrage the sense of public decency, or affect the peace and quiet of persons who may witness them...”

**Exhibition of sexual organs** is defined as, exposing one’s sexual organs in a public place or from the private residence of another but in such a manner that might be seen by someone at a private residence.

**False Report Of A Bomb** is defined as making “a false report, with intent to deceive, mislead, or otherwise misinform any person, concerning the placing or planting of any bomb, dynamite, other deadly explosive, or weapon of mass destruction”.

**Forgery** is defined as, making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting a public record or certificate.....

**Fraudulent Use Of Credit Card** is defined as using a credit care with the intent to defraud the issuer of the card or an organization (usually retail store) of any item of value (goods, money, services, etc.

**Issuing a Worthless Check** is defined as, writing a check, draft, bill of exchange, debit card order or other orders drawn on a bank “without first providing funds in credit with the depositories on which the same are made or drawn to pay and satisfy the same”

**Lewd and Lascivious behavior** is defined as committing “any unnatural and lascivious act with another person”.

**Lewd and Lascivious battery** is defined as having sex with a person between the ages of 12 and 16 or encourages a person less than 16 years of age to engage in certain sexual activity.

**Lewd and Lascivious conduct** is described as touching a person under the age of 16 in a lewd or lascivious manner or soliciting a person under the age of 16 to commit a lewd or lascivious act.

**Lewd and Lascivious exhibition** is defined as masturbation, exposing one's genitals in a lewd or lascivious manner, and other simulated sexual activity in the presence of a victim. There are different penalties depending on the age of the victim.

**Lewd and Lascivious molestation** is defined as intentionally touching the breasts, genitals, genital area, or buttocks, or clothing covering these body parts

**Possession Of Alcohol** (by a person under age 21) is defined as, having in a person's possession (except in the scope of employment) any alcoholic beverage.

It is unlawful to possess any controlled substance without a prescription. This is a complicated statute and new drugs are frequently created. Some controlled substances may not be possessed even with a prescription. Florida statutes 893.13 list various schedules of substances. Cocaine and Marijuana are just two examples of controlled substances.

“Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or harasses another person commits the offense of Stalking”.

“Any person who willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly follows or harasses another person, and makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury, commits the offense of Aggravated Stalking”.

**Theft** is defined as knowingly obtaining, using, or endeavoring to obtain

or use the property of another person (rightful owner) with the intent to temporarily or permanently deprive the person of the property or benefit of the property.

**Trespass On A Construction Site** is defined as, trespassing on a construction site that is legally posted and identified and in a substantial manner. (Usually a written notice posted at the site).

## ADDITIONAL INTERESTING INFORMATION

### CONSEQUENCES

- 1) College applications may ask if you've been arrested. Admission may be denied.
- 2) The military may deny your enlistment if you've committed a felony offense or domestic violence
- 3) Your automobile insurance rates may be affected by drug or alcohol offenses.
- 4) Your application for a driver's license may be denied or delayed if you have been convicted of drug or alcohol offenses.

### DELAY OR DENIAL:

Your application for a driver's license can be delayed or denied if you are found guilty of a drug offense, alcohol offense, or gun offense. Even if you are a juvenile and are convicted of a felony you may not possess or own a firearm until you are 24 years of age.

### NOTE:

You cannot lend, borrow, or falsify a driver's license (Chap. 322, 562).

### DRINKING ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS BECAUSE IT CAN:

Damage your liver, mouth, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, brain, and heart.

Cause Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in an unborn child, which can create mental retardation.

Impair the brain, cause memory loss, and lower the ability of the brain to control behavior.

Impair your ability to perform motor skills such as driving a car.

Alcohol is considered a drug.

IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

has cause to believe that you are under age 18, that you are skipping school, that you have run away from home, or that you are about to or have broken a law and are armed and dangerous, he or she can detain you briefly to investigate. An officer can search you for weapons and can use reasonable means to prevent your escape or resistance (Chap. 776, 901, 984).

MARIJUANA CONTAINS:

THC — a mind-altering ingredient.

Benzopyrene — causes cancer (70% more in marijuana than in cigarettes).

Carbon monoxide — highly poisonous.

Hydrocyanic acid — poison gas.

Acetaldehyde — a solvent.

Tar — causes lung cancer (50% more in marijuana than in a strong cigarette).

PRIVATE SCHOOLS:

Private schools must meet certain state standards and have competent teachers.

RESTRICTIONS:

If you have a Florida driver's license, read the back of it for any driving restrictions that pertain to age and hours of operation of a motor vehicle.

WEB SITES:

Commercial web sites and on-line services must have parental consent to collect, use, or disclose personal information about children under the age of 13 (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998, U.S. Title XIII, Section 1303).

10-20-LIFE

If you are 16 or 17 and use or possess a gun during the commission of a serious felony, the law requires that you be prosecuted as an adult. The penalty can be

10 years in adult prison,

20 years if the gun is fired, or

life in adult prison if someone is injured or killed.

(10-20-life law, Chap. 2000)

**OKALOOSA COUNTY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**  
**FOR YOUTH**  
**WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP?**

**EMERGENCY**

**911**

**General Counseling: Mental health, drugs, alcohol problems**

Alcoholics/Addicts Helpline	862 – 1174
Cope Center Help Line	892 –4357; 267 - 2220
Crisis Line	244 – 9191; 682 – 0101
Crossroads Counseling Center	796 – 7200
First Call for Help	243 – 9111
HIV Hotline	352 – 2437
Lutheran Services	664 - 0145
Mental Health Association	244 - 1040
OASIS (Aids Support & Info Hotline)	314 – 0951; 314 - 0952

**Government**

County Health Department	833 – 9240; 689 - 7855
Crestview Police Department	682 – 2055
Dept. of Children & Families	833 – 3700; 689 – 7700
Dept. of Juvenile Justice	833 – 3906; 689 – 7980
Fort Walton Beach Police Department	833 – 9546
Niceville Police Department	729 – 4030
Okaloosa Co. Sheriffs Department	689 – 5666; 651 - 7400
Shalimar Police Department	651 – 1115
Valparaiso Police Department	729 – 5400

**Family Services**

Boys and Girls Club/Teens after school	862 - 1332
Bridgeway Center	833 – 7400; 689 – 7810
Children’s Home Society	863 – 5877
Children’s Advocacy Center	833 – 9237
Circle of Youth	833 – 3710
Family Support Center – Eglin AFB	882 – 9060

Family Support Center – Hurlburt AFB	884 – 5442
Horizons	863 – 1530
Jobs Plus/Jobs Corps	833 – 7587; 689 - 7823
TAGIT (Training a Generation in Truth)	862 – 4012
Youth Village	986 – 0549
YMCA	863 – 4536; 837–8440; 689-2999

**Runaway Shelter**

HOPE House Runaway Shelter 24 hrs.	682 – 2374
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**Angry or Ungovernable**

ECMI (Emerald Coast Marine Institute)	244 - 2711
Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch	1-800-765-3797
Gang Rescue	729 – 1024
Teen Challenge Circle H Ranch	547 – 9011

**Domestic Violence**

Abuse Hotline	1-800-962-2873
Domestic Violence Hotline	442 - 2873
Shelter House Hotline	863 – 4777; 1-800-442-2873

**Pregnancy**

Family Life Center	243 - 5800
LIFE (Life is for Everyone)	862 – 9020
Hope Center	729 – 7755

**Homeless Issues**

Salvation Army	243 – 4531; 682 – 8224
Waterfront Rescue Mission	796 - 0700

**UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL AREA CODES ARE 850**

**January 2006**