



THE JUVENILE DRUG COURT COURIER

A Newsletter for Parents & Families



Volume 1, Issue 1

May-June 2010

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My child has a Court ordered curfew. Can he be considered in violation of his curfew if I give him permission to be out after that time?

A: Your child is to follow his/her curfew unless the Court authorizes an exception. As a parent, you cannot override the curfew set by the Court. Therefore, your child is not allowed to be, for example, at a friend or relative's house beyond his curfew. The Court sometimes orders exceptions to curfews if your child is with a parent or legal guardian, is attending a school or religious activity, is working, or is attending a Court ordered program. Please check with your child's probation officer for the specifics on your son or daughter's curfew as Court orders can vary.

Probation officers conduct curfew checks by phone, at homes, and in the community. Since children often get into trouble during the nighttime hours, the Court and Probation need all the support you, as a parent, can provide in ensuring that your child follows his or her curfew.

WIDENING YOUR CHILD'S WORLD

With summer fast approaching, you may be concerned about what your child will do all day if school is on break. Such time off can be particularly difficult for teens who may seem too old for daycare or a "sitter," but are not mature enough to constructively occupy their time without adult supervision. You, as a parent, may be torn between leaving your child home alone while you work, and having someone supervise him. You may even expect your older child to baby-sit younger brothers and sisters during these times to save on



daycare expenses. Such an arrangement, though, can place an extra burden on your family since siblings don't always cooperate with each other and respect the one "in charge." Also, when not in structured activities or school,

kids are more likely to get into trouble. If you are facing these concerns, there are options for widening your child's world this summer – with a little bit of planning on your part. First, talk to your child about what he is interested in doing during summer break. Give him some choices and ideas, but don't let him convince you he should do nothing. If your child is not quite old enough to find a summer job, explore volunteer or educational opportunities, including summer school. Summer can also be a time for your teen to earn some money by starting a neighborhood business. What about washing cars or doing yard work for neighbors? His participation in any of these activities will build his job experience. Although many children's programs are expensive, some of them are available at little or no cost and several have financial assistance and scholarships. These spots fill up quickly, though, so don't delay in registering your children and applying for financial help, if needed. Below are just a few low cost or free programs throughout the county.

[Volunteer San Diego](#)

Ages 5-18 Volunteer service projects (858) 300-3280

[Salvation Army Joan Kroc Center](#)

All Ages Education/recreation (619) 269-1460

[YMCA Day Camps](#)

All Ages Recreation/crafts (619) 283-2251

[San Diego Humane Society](#)

Ages 14+ Animal training & care (619) 299-7012

[Boys and Girls Clubs](#)

All ages Recreation/art programs (619) 525-1739

Helping Your Child Find a Summer Job

With summer fast approaching, your teenager may have a good chance of finding a part or full-time job. Many places from restaurants to shops will be hiring extra workers for the summer. Here are some ways you can help your child find his first job:

- 1) If your child seems uninterested in looking for work, he or she may simply be afraid of being rejected, or of the job being too difficult. Let your child know that **everyone** has had these fears. Listen to your child's fears and talk about similar feelings you've had when looking for work.
- 2) Help boost your child's self-confidence and excitement about a job. Discuss the rewards of having money to spend or save. Point out how your child's interests and strengths will help him be successful at a job. If your child enjoys music, clothes, or the movies, he may want to apply at a music store, clothing shop, or a movie theatre. Even if he doesn't find his ideal job this time, he will gain experience that can help him land his first-choice job in the future.
- 3) Help your child write down the personal information he needs to fill out a job application. Remind him to take this information with him during his job search, AND to dress appropriately. He will need to have his social security number, his address and phone number, as well as addresses and phone numbers of references and any prior jobs he's had. Your child can ask a counselor, teacher, or family member to be a reference.

Annual Juvenile Hall Open House

*Saturday, May 22, 2010
10:00 - 2:00 p.m.*

*Bring your family
and
Friends*

*Tours of the facility
Educational Displays
Informational Booths
Activities for All*

*For more information, call
(858) 514-2088*

*If your child is ordered by the Court to
attend the Open House, please make
sure a probation officer at the event
signs off on his/her attendance.*

ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS



Do you know which one of these drinks contains alcohol?*

Today, many non-alcoholic energy drinks look very much like energy drinks containing alcohol. If you see your child drinking what you assume is merely an energy drink, check the label for alcohol content.

**Rock Star 21 & Sparks both contain alcohol.*