

EDUCATION: The Baldwin County Board of Education operates the school. All active students must attend school. If you are no longer in school, you may attend school for your GED or self-improvement. Grades earned here will be forwarded to your home school. A school suspension will result in loss of room materials until the end of school.



MEALS: You will be served three (3) meals a day plus a snack at night. Our meals are similar to what you eat at school and are well balanced to provide you with the nutrients you need. If you need to be on a special diet for medical or religious reasons, we will arrange this. To prevent the spread of disease, you are not permitted to give or exchange food. Periodically extra food will be provided such as pizza, but will not be given to those who are on room restriction.

MAIL: You may write and receive mail from parents, legal guardian, step-parents, and grandparents. However, your Probation Officer may restrict some persons. All mail shall be inspected for contraband. Each week, we will mail two (2) letters max for you free of charge. If you receive money in the mail, we will have you sign for it and place it in a safe with your personals. Letters to and from your Attorney or court officials will not be opened or censored.

VISITS ONLY your parents or legal guardians may visit on Wednesday and Sunday. Visits are limited to fifteen (15) minutes and must be scheduled. Your attorney or JPO may visit at any time. After 21 days you are eligible for contact visitation. Maintaining privilege can result in (15) extra minutes

ROOMS: You can only enter the room you have been assigned and are limited to 3 Personal Letters, 3 approved Photographs, 1 library book and a bible.

WALLS: No picture or anything will be pasted on the walls. Your room should be neat and clean at all times. Flush your toilet after you use it. Any destruction to your room will be charged against you.

THE COURT PROCESS:

DETETNION HEARING: You will have a detention hearing within seventy-two (72) hours. This hearing is before a judge. The purpose of this hearing is to determine if you will be held in detention until your case is presented in juvenile court or released. Parents are notified and may be present at the hearing.

ADJUDICATION HEARING: This is the court hearing where the court will determine your legal status: chins, dependent or delinquent. Normally this hearing is held at the same time as the disposition hearing.

DISPOSITION HEARING: The disposition hearing is your time in court for the crime you have been charged. Your parent should be there with you. Your attorney or your appointed attorney will also be there with you. All witnesses for and against you are to be at this court hearing. This is a closed, confidential hearing – no visitors or audience can be present. At this court hearing all witnesses and evidence will be presented to the judge. You, your witnesses and lawyer will have a chance to tell your side. The judge will make a decision based on evidence and testimony. If you think you didn’t receive a fair court hearing or some evidence was not discussed, you have 14 days to make an appeal for a new court hearing. Discuss this with your attorney.

**BALDWIN COUNTY REGIONAL JUVENILE
DETENTION CENTER**



INFORMATIONAL HANDBOOK

Name

*Baldwin County Regional Juvenile Detention Center
43405 Nicholsville Road
Bay Minette, AL 36507
(251) 580-2540*

For juvenile, If needed:

Lawyer: _____ Phone #: _____
J.P.O. _____ Phone #: _____

INTRODUCTION

You are now a resident of the Baldwin County Regional Juvenile Detention Center. We understand that you may not happy to be here, and our major concern is your care and welfare while you are with us. We cannot change your situation. Whether you are guilty or innocent is a matter to be determined by the court. Please remember everyone leaves here sooner or later. The staff is here to help you, keep you safe and encourage positive outcomes and choices. A positive attitude can lead to good behavior, cooperation and improvements of your present situation. A negative attitude leads to poor behavior and might make the situation worse.

This is a guide for you to live by while at the juvenile detention center. You must make an effort to follow all the rules. When you are in doubt about whether something is right or wrong, stop, think, or ask a staff member. Continue to read this handbook, which may answer some of your questions and will give you an outline of what you can and cannot do while you are here.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **How long will I be here?** We don’t know. Each case is different, a typical stay is less than a month, and however some youth stay longer.

2. **Why did the Judge commit me to D.Y.S. or a program?**
The Judge considers many things when he/she makes the decision. For example:

a. your past court involvement

b. your attitude, here, in court and home

c. your school record

d. the best option to help improve your situation

3. **Why can I not bail out or just do my time?** The juvenile system does not operate like the adult system. There is no bail or bond option. DYS and programs are based off of progress, not number of days.

YOUR RIGHTS, while at Baldwin County Juvenile Detention Center.

- ✓ You have the right not to be subjected to discrimination, based on race, religion, national origin, sex or physical handicap.
- ✓ You have the right to submit a written grievance concerning any complaint or problem. Including a hearing for major rule violations.
- ✓ You have a right to have access to the court, legal counsel
- ✓ You have a right to have access to the same services as the other gender
- ✓ You have a right to access medical care and hygiene practices
- ✓ You have a right to be protected from harm, abuse, disease or harassment.

STAFF RIGHTS, while employed at the Juvenile Detention Center.

- ✓ Staff has the right to use conservative judgment and make minor adjustments to the schedule or rule offenses in order to maintain safety.
- ✓ Staff has the right to physically intervene if the physical safety of anyone is at risk.
- ✓ Staff has the right to notify JPO, Director or Medical if a juvenile is harassing or threatening the physical or emotional safety of staff, themselves, the facility, and other juveniles.
- ✓ Staff **MUST** report any abuse that they have become aware of to DHR and the director.

SECURITY AND SEARCHES

We will conduct scheduled and unscheduled searches and security checks of the building, your room, and your person while you are here. We are sorry for the inconvenience but the searches and security checks are required for security, fire safety and health reasons

LEVEL SYSTEM AND RULES: Our level system lets you gain privileges with good behavior. There are a certain number of days between each level. Bad behavior can cause level loss.

MAJOR OFFENSES

I. Destruction of Property (over \$100.00) or security devices.

II. AWOL/Escape attempt

III. Assault/Fighting staff/causing a major disruption.

IV. Sexual Contact (intercourse)/Rape/ Repeated sexual harassment

V. Contraband/Drugs

MINOR OFFENSES

I. Intentional destruction of property

II. Throwing objects at another person with intent to harm.

III. Repeated failure to obey staff

IV. Being kicked out of school

V. Threatening a staff member or verbal Sexual Harassment of a staff member

VI. Involvement in gang activity

IX. Minor destruction of property

X. Planning an escape or promoting violence

XI. Theft of Property

XII. Fighting

XIII. Any youth that remains non-compliant for more than 1 hour.

POSITIVE OPPORTUNITIES: The privilege level may have additional phone time, visitation time, snack, write an extra letter, & later bed time. **Note: See rules posted in each pod dayroom.**

MINOR offense is 15 minutes to 48 hour room restriction based on premeditation, risk of injury, damage or non-compliance

MEDICAL CARE: When you arrived, you were given a medical screening and staff has notified our nurse about any medical problem you may have. The nurse is available for sick call 3 times per week. If you feel that you need to see the nurse, please notify a staff member and fill out the sick call form. Our staff is trained to identify emergencies and will respond as such. Medication will be administered per the prescription.

HYGIENE: You are expected to shower daily and will be given a clean change of clothes. After each meal you will be given a chance to brush your teeth. All linens and blankets are washed on Saturday. We do not permit personal hygiene supplies.

PHONE CALLS: You have the right to make one (1) phone call per week. You may only call your parents or the person who has legal custody of you. All calls are limited to 5 minutes. You may request to talk to your attorney at any time. We will attempt to call 3 times per day, until you make contact.

A MAJOR violation is serious and may require a 72 hour room restriction