

Georgia Juvenile Justice Flow

If youth is to be charge, per statue, as an adult; the case will be processed through the Superior Court. DJJ and the juvenile court may not be involved in this case outside of housing the youth in a Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC)

Upon sentencing the youth will be supervised by the Dept. of Corrections (DOC) but may be housed in at a Youth Development Campus until old enough to move into an adult facility.

Dismissal- this can occur at any point prior to disposition.

Offense occurs- youth is referred to the juvenile court

No intake- Complaint filed with clerk

Intake by DJJ or court staff

Release
Complaint filed with clerk

Detained
Complaint filed with clerk at detention hearing

Court/DJJ reviews the complaint and decides on informal or formal processing

Detention Hearing

Informal process- informal adjustment, abeyance, mediation, diversion or dismissal.

Formal process- referred to district attorney for petition

Release
Continued detention

A petition will be completed by the District attorney.

Adjudication and Disposition hearing. We are not a bifurcated system, most often youth has all hearing on the same day/time. They can be broken apart but for judicial economy most courts do them together.

Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment (PDRA) complete on each youth. DJJ has a policy requirement that a PDRA be completed on every adjudicated youth. The Juvenile courts are required to complete the PDRA on any youth receiving state grant funding and can choose to do it on other youth.

Probation- supervision and services provided by the juvenile court or DJJ

Commitment- supervision provided by DJJ. Each youth will have a screening to determine best placement

Short term program. This can be a stand only order or in conjunction with probation or commitment

Community placement

Community- awaiting placement

RYDC- awaiting placement

Juvenile Needs Assessment (JNA) complete on each youth. DJJ has a policy requirement that a JNA be completed on every adjudicated youth. The Juvenile courts have access to the JNA but are not required to complete the JNA.

Community placement

Residential Placement

Youth Development Campus (YDC)- secure confinement