



PRINCE WILLIAM

Police Department

A P P R O A C H T O J U V E N I L E M I S C O N D U C T

POSITION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Prince William County Police Department's position is to use the least invasive available alternative when dealing with juvenile offenders. Officers will refrain from taking juveniles into custody unless necessary, for safety concerns, or in accordance with Police Department policy.



Unofficial counseling, a warning, or the matter being handled by school administration **is preferred** in most cases where a juvenile has committed an act, which if committed by an adult would be considered a **minor offense**.

AVAILABLE ALTERNATIVES:

- Release the juvenile with a warning, to a parent, guardian, school administrator, or other responsible adult,
- Referral of the matter to the Juvenile Court Service Unit to determine the best course of action: unofficial handling, counseling services, referral to the criminal justice system, or
- Issuance of a summons for the violation(s) permissible by law.

FELONIES & CERTAIN OFFENSES

Any act that, if committed by an adult would be a felony, and the following offenses will be presented to the Juvenile Court Service Unit for action: offenses involving firearms, sexual-based offenses, crimes of violence or domestic violence, and any offense with gang implications.





OFFENSES IN SCHOOLS

The Police Department will refer all minor criminal matters committed by a juvenile in the school setting* to the school administration to handle disciplinarily and/or administratively. Depending on the circumstances of the offense, some matters listed previously may not necessarily be referred to the Juvenile Court Service Unit.



**The school setting is defined as school property, school bus and bus stop, and any school sponsored activity not on school property.*

VICTIM RIGHTS

All victims, regardless of age, have the right to consult with the Juvenile Court Service Unit if an incident is not referred by the Police Department.

JUVENILE COURT SERVICES UNIT

Manassas Office

9540 Center St., Ste. 200
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 792-6200

Woodbridge Office

15950 Sindlinger Way
Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 792-7350

 pwcva.gov/department/juvenile-court-service-unit

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Charlie T. Deane Station

5036 Davis Ford Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192
(703) 792-6650

 pwcva.gov/police