


<b>JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>9-08 STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE</b>
<b>SUBJECT: Juvenile Operations</b>	<b>REVIEW DATE: Annually - September</b>
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: March 24, 2011</b>	<b>ACTION DATE:</b>
<b>AMENDS/SUPERSEDES: 9-08 September 30, 2008</b>	<b>AMEND DATE: December 22, 2010</b>
<b>ACCREDITATION INDEX: 1.1.3, 44.1.1, 44.1.2, 44.1.3, 44.2.5</b>	<b>APPROVED:</b>  <b>Chief of Police</b>

## I. POLICY

The Joplin Police Department is committed to developing, implementing, and perpetuating programs designed to prevent and control juvenile delinquency. It is the responsibility of every component of the department to participate in and support our juvenile operations function (44.1.1). The Department encourages suggestions and comments from other elements of the juvenile justice system and outside agencies concerning juvenile programs or operations. (44.1.2)

The Department has various programs and work units in place that effect juveniles. The goals of these are to impact juveniles in a timely manner, with a specialized approach, which will clarify the level of accountability which society expects. By holding the juvenile accountable for their actions, both the community and the juvenile will benefit.

## II. PURPOSE

To establish the departments juvenile operations function.

## III. PROCEDURE

- A. A Juvenile Investigator will be a Detective assigned to the Criminal Investigations Bureau under the supervision of a detective sergeant, and will be assigned: (44.1.1)
  1. Investigations of:
    - a. Abuse/neglect cases.
    - b. Any criminal offense in which a juvenile is identified or suspect as the offender.
    - c. Other criminal investigations as assigned by the Bureau of Investigation Commander or Supervisors.
  2. Intelligence development/dissemination:
    - a. Gangs
    - b. Juvenile trends/activity
  3. Liaison with:
    - a. Juvenile courts and other juvenile justice organizations/associations.

- b. The Juvenile Investigators assigned to the Bureau of Investigation will actively interact with school officials and School Resource Officers to ensure that a proper communication flow between the Police Department and the school is maintained. This communication flow can help to detect current and future problems.
    - c. Division of Family Services (DFS).
  - 4. Record keeping of all confidential juvenile reports and records in accordance with federal and state laws, and local court policies.
  - 5. Training of department personnel in the latest juvenile law, policy, trends, and intelligence; and advising on juvenile procedure as necessary.
  - 6. May be assigned by the Chief of Police to participate in related associations, organizations, and task forces, which benefit this department.
  - 7. To assist officers/detectives of this department in their actions on juvenile matters.
- B. School Resource Unit - School Resource officers are assigned to middle and senior high schools to work closely with juveniles, school administration, parents, the Juvenile Office, and the Division of Family Services. They provide assistance to the districts in serving as problem-solving resources for student, faculty, and staff.
  - 1. School Resource Officers will investigate reports of runaways as well as other status offenses.
- C. Rise Above - Officers assigned to this unit teach the Rise Above Program in both public and private schools. (1.1.3)
- D. Law Enforcement Explorers - The Department sincerely believes that young adults will provide the future foundations on which safer communities can be built. The Law Enforcement Explorer Program permits young adults the opportunity to examine law enforcement as a career through training and working with police officers. The Law Enforcement Explorer Program also provides leadership experiences and lends itself to the development of good citizenship. In return, the program provides the Department with a trained staff of enthusiastic young adults to assist in many essential Department operations.
- E. Bicycle Safety Seminars - Bicycle Safety Seminars are conducted by officers of the Department's Bicycle Unit. Seminars teach juvenile's proper riding techniques, road safety, the correct way to wear helmets and safety check of their bicycles.
- F. Recreational Youth Programs – Officers may periodically receive assignments of a proactive, tactical or supportive nature in connection to youth programs. Police participation is encouraged at youth recreational events sponsored by the community. Officers should take this opportunity to promote good police communications. (44.2.5)
- G. Participation with the Children's Advocacy Center
  - 1. The Juvenile Investigator (Detective) shall attend announced meetings of the Children's Advocacy Center for the purpose of review and formulation of policy and procedure governing the Juvenile Justice System.
    - a. The Children's Advocacy Center is comprised of officers from Jasper County law enforcement agencies, Juvenile Courts, Division of Family Services, Probation and Parole, and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

H. Annual Review of Enforcement Programs Relating to Juveniles (44.1.3)

1. The Investigations Bureau Commander conducts an annual review and written evaluation of all enforcement and prevention programs relating to juveniles. The review considers both the quantitative and qualitative elements of each program, leading it to decisions regarding whether a specific program should function as is, be modified, or be discontinued. (44.1.3)

I. Relationships With Other Elements of The Juvenile Justice System (44.1.2)

1. The Police Department encourages review and comment by other elements of the Juvenile Justice System in the development of Departmental policies and procedures relating to a juvenile. (44.1.2)

**IV. COMPLIANCE**

Violations of this policy, or portions thereof, may result in disciplinary action as described in the City of Joplin's Personnel Rules, or the Joplin Police Department's Rules and Regulations and General Orders. Members of the Joplin Police Department, while assigned to or assisting other agencies shall comply with this policy.

**V. APPLICATION**

This document constitutes department policy, is for internal use only, and does not enlarge an employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. It shall not be construed as the creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in any evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims insofar as the employee's legal duty as imposed by law. Violations of this policy, if proven, can only inform the basis of a complaint by this department, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.