

On-call “Cheat Sheet” Questions

Listed below are some helpful questions to ask the child, parent and law enforcement officer prior to making a decision whether to detain or not and to have questions answered prior to contacting the On-Call Supervisor:

- Does the officer have the juvenile in custody?
- What offense is juvenile being charged with? (Is it a detainable offense?)
- What time/day offense occurred?
- Was anyone injured? What is the status of the victim (if applicable)?
- Was weapon used? If so, what kind of weapon?
- Was juvenile with anyone when alleged offense occurred?
- Does parent suspect any drug usage?
- Have juvenile used drugs/alcohol in the past 24 hours? If so, what drug?
- How is juvenile’s behavior/attitude? Has juvenile been cooperative? Is juvenile willing to comply with supervision plan?
- Is parent/guardian present?
- Who else lives in the home? What’s their status/situation? Is there domestic violence in the home?
- How does juvenile behave at home?
- Does parent/guardian feel he/she can manage/control the juvenile?
- Does child have a curfew? If so, what is it? Does child comply with curfew?
- How does parent discipline child when he/she breaks a rule, get suspended from school, stay out past curfew, etc.?
- Does juvenile roam the streets, stay out late at night, associate with negative peers?
- Has juvenile run away from home? When was last time? Where did he/she go? How long was he/she away from home? What did parent do when child left home?
- Does parent have difficulty supervising juvenile?
- Have parent witnessed any aggressive behavior by juvenile? If so, what? When last observed?
- Any alleged gang involvement?
- Does parent/law enforcement suspects or know of gang involvement?
- Does parent have an appropriate supervision plan if juvenile is released?
- Does parent have supports in the community (i.e. family, neighbor, friend, etc.)? If so who is that person?
- What school does juvenile attend? Is he/she eligible to return to school?
- Does juvenile have behavioral/attendance problems at school? Does juvenile attend school on a regular basis? (# of suspensions and reasons why suspended, truancy issues, etc)
- How is child performing academically in school? Does child have an IEP/special needs?
- If exceptional and being suspended from school, what is child’s Individual Educational Plan (IEP)?
- Does juvenile have any physical injuries?
- Does juvenile have mental health needs?
- Is child involved with a MH provider? If so, what is child’s crisis plan?
- Is juvenile a sex offender? If victim lives in the home/neighborhood, is there a safety plan?
- Is juvenile suicidal?
- Does juvenile need to be evaluated by a psychologist/psychiatrist?
- If juvenile is in a group home/foster care, etc., can he/she remain in the home?
- Are there relatives, friends of the family, etc. that can assist with supervision if the juvenile is released?
- Is juvenile/parent willing to cooperate with supervision plan if released?
- Is juvenile willing to cooperate with ATD, if being considered?
- What is child’s risk score? (Risk assessment should be done by On-Call Counselor).

Note:

- All questions may not apply to all situations and other questions may need to be asked.
- Responses to questions may lead to follow up questions.

