

## When the Court May Accept a Juvenile's Admission

(G.S. 7B-2407)

Before accepting a juvenile's admission, the court must **address the juvenile personally** and

1. **inform** the juvenile
  - a. that s/he has a right to remain silent;
  - b. that any statement s/he makes may be used against her/him;
  - c. that s/he has a right to deny the allegations;
  - d. that by his/her admissions s/he waives her/his right to be confronted by the witnesses against her/him; and
  - e. of the most restrictive disposition on the charge.
2. **determine**
  - a. that the juvenile understands the nature of the charge;
  - b. that the juvenile is satisfied with her/his representation;
  - c. by inquiring of the prosecutor, the juvenile's attorney, and the juvenile personally,
    - (1) whether there were any prior discussions involving admissions;
    - (2) whether the parties have entered into any arrangement with respect to the admissions and the terms thereof; and
    - (3) whether any improper pressure was exerted;
  - d. that the admission is a product of informed choice; and
  - e. that there is a factual basis for the admission, based on
    - (1) a statement of the facts by the prosecutor,
    - (2) a written statement of the juvenile,
    - (3) sworn testimony, which may include reliable hearsay, or
    - (4) a statement of facts by the juvenile's attorney.