

**TOUGH TIMES  
TOUGH CHOICES  
TOUGH JUVENILE LAWS**



**The stakes are high  
and the rules have changed**

**Juvenile Crime could mean  
Adult Punishment**

**Revised 11/98**



***One in every fifteen young people will encounter the Juvenile Court at least once.***

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

If you are 15, 16 or 17 years of age and commit a violent crime, or you are arrested a third time for any felony, the law requires that you be tried as an adult.

If you are 14 years of age or older and you commit a second felony, the Court must sentence you to Intensive Probation (house arrest, electronic monitoring), detention or Juvenile Corrections. Or you could be tried as an adult.

If you are 14-years-old or older and commit a violent crime or are arrested for your third felony, you can be prosecuted as an adult.

If you are with a friend who commits a crime, you can also be charged. If it's a serious crime you could even find yourself in adult court, even if you were just along for the ride.

# **SERIOUS CRIMES SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES**

If you're under 18 years of age, you should be aware of the consequences for juveniles who break the law.

The law requires that if you are 15 years of age or older and commit serious and repetitive crimes, you will be automatically charged, tried and sentenced as an adult. The consequences of being sentenced as an adult are severe.

## **MANDATORY SENTENCING**

Juvenile Court judges have flexibility and choices when dealing with young offenders, but things are different in adult court. If you end up in adult court for a crime that has a



mandatory sentence of 10 years, the judge has no choice but to sentence you to 10 years.

## **CRIMINAL RECORD FOR LIFE**

# **CONVICT**

Juvenile records are no longer “wiped clean” at age 18. Your record as a juvenile is open to the public and can affect your college plans, careers and employment opportunities.

## **ONCE AN ADULT . . .**

If you are a juvenile that has been tried and convicted in adult court, you will never get another chance to “go back” to Juvenile Court. From then on when you break the law, you will always go to adult court and face the consequences, including prison.

### **TOUGH DUI PENALTIES**



- First time, 24 hours in juvenile detention
- Second time, 30 days incarceration in either juvenile detention or the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections
- Third time, four months in a secure facility
- Fourth time, eight months in a secure facility

### **EXPANDED RESTITUTION**



Your parents can be ordered to pay restitution, up to \$10,000, and may have a court order against their property for your illegal actions.

## **VIOLENT CRIMES THAT LEAD DIRECTLY TO ADULT COURT**

- Murder
- Sexual Assault
- Armed Robbery
- Drive-By Shooting
- Discharging a Firearm at a Structure
- Aggravated Assault: Causing Serious Injury or Using a Deadly Weapon

## **MOST COMMON REFERRALS TO JUVENILE COURT**

- Curfew
- Shoplifting
- Possession of Marijuana
- Assault
- Truancy
- Possession of Alcohol
- Burglary
- Theft

**Superior Court of Arizona**

**Juvenile Court**

**1810 S. Lewis**

**Mesa, Arizona**

**85210-6234**