



General Order 44.1 - Juvenile Operations

PURPOSE: Define prevention and control of juvenile delinquency and juvenile operations and function; describe the juvenile operations component; define juvenile specialist; define juvenile court policy review; define responsibility of juvenile operations; and describe evaluation of juvenile programs.

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ISSUED BY : Sheriff Jeffrey T. Easter

REVIEWED BY: Standard Review Committee

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DEFINITIONS:

A. Juvenile: Any person under the age of eighteen (18).

44.1.1. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

- A. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, beyond enforcing the laws with repeat juvenile offenders, makes a strong commitment to develop programs designed to prevent juvenile delinquency.
- B. All personnel share the responsibility for participating in and supporting the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office programs designed to prevent juvenile delinquency.
- C. (R) All sworn personnel of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office should have a working knowledge of the Kansas Code for the Care of Children, [K.S.A. 38-1501](#) through [K.S.A. 38-1593](#).
- D. (R) Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office personnel should be familiar with any support programs utilized by the Sedgwick County Juvenile Court.
- E. Familiarization with and support of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office programs and juvenile court programs to combat juvenile delinquency is the responsibility of all personnel.
- F. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office participates in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program, which, in addition to having an anti-drug theme, helps to prevent juvenile delinquency.
 - 1. It is common knowledge that juveniles who use drugs often have to resort to crime to furnish the monies necessary to purchase drugs.
 - 2. Reduction of the demand for drugs by Sedgwick County youth is likely to result in reduction of juvenile crime.
- G. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office crime prevention/community liaison deputies may develop new programs as well as review existing programs to combat juvenile delinquency.
- H. The crime prevention/community liaison deputies, when requested and available, will make presentations to schools and parent organizations aimed at preventing juvenile delinquency.

44.1.2. JUVENILE OPERATIONS FUNCTIONS

- A. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office has two (2) components that are responsible for handling juvenile functions, the Patrol Division and the Investigations Division.
- B. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office has a juvenile operations function that includes the following activities:
 - 1. Designing and implementing programs intended to prevent and control delinquent and criminal behavior by youths.
 - 2. Follow-up processing of the youth arrests.
 - 3. Coordinating or preparing court cases in which a juvenile offender is involved.
 - 4. Diverting juvenile offenders out of the formal juvenile justice system when the situation and policy or procedure allows this action.

- C. Any follow-up processing of juveniles will be done in accordance with the Kansas Code for the Care of Children concerning fingerprinting and photographing ([K.S.A. 38-1518](#)) of juveniles.

- 1. Deputies and detectives will prepare for and coordinate juvenile cases in juvenile court as they would adult cases in criminal court.

44.1.3 JUVENILE OPERATIONS COMPONENT

- A. Due to the unique procedural aspects of the juvenile justice system and the special needs and problems of youth, specialization is particularly important in juvenile matters.
- B. Personnel who have received specialized juvenile training in Kansas law are knowledgeable in the following areas:
 - 1. Lawful arrest and detention of juveniles;
 - 2. Questioning and taking statements as applicable in juvenile arrest; and
 - 3. Applying all rights afforded juveniles under the law.
- C. Juvenile crimes will be investigated in the same manner as adult crimes with patrol personnel responsible for the preliminary and follow-up investigations, as specified in sections [41.2.1](#), [41.2.2](#), and [42.1.12](#).

44.1.4. JUVENILE SPECIALIST

- A. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office realizes that due to special training and understanding of procedural details, juvenile specialists are often better equipped than deputies to handle youth-related problems.
- B. Trained juvenile specialists aid the agency in the development and implementation of delinquency prevention programs.
 - 1. The D.A.R.E. Program is one example of a delinquency prevention program used by this agency.
 - 2. The crime prevention/community liaison deputy of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department also presents programs to various functions for juveniles involving Deputy Dan, the mascot of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office.

44.1.5. JUVENILE COURT POLICY REVIEW

- A. The Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, in an effort to keep informed on matters of juvenile justice practices in Sedgwick County, will confer with the juvenile district attorney, juvenile court, S.R.S., and other agencies as needed to ensure that the policies and procedures are up to date.
- B. Any changes will be forwarded to the sheriff (through channels) for review and consideration.

44.1.6. RESPONSIBILITY OF JUVENILE OPERATIONS

- A. It is the responsibility of every sworn employee of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office to be familiar with the Kansas Code for the Care of Children in order to effectively handle juvenile problems, both criminal and non-criminal in nature.
- B. Personnel with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department are trained in the area of juvenile procedures.
 - 1. Deputies receive basic training according to Kansas law enforcement training standards at a certified training academy.

44.1.7 EVALUATION OF JUVENILE PROGRAMS

- A. Periodically, the crime prevention/community liaison sergeant and D.A.R.E. instructor shall review juvenile programs to determine if they should continue, be modified, or be discontinued.
- B. It is the responsibility of the crime prevention/community liaison sergeant to notify the appropriate personnel as to date, time, and location of the review of juvenile programs.