

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

NOTICE NO. 36

August 5, 1997

TO: All Concerned Personnel

RECEIVED

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

AUG 07 1997

PLANNING AND RESEARCH
DIVISIONSUBJECT: REVISIONS FOR CITING NON-DETAINED MINORS DIRECTLY
INTO COURT

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This Notice informs Department personnel of recent changes in procedures for issuing non-detained minors and their parent/guardian a Juvenile Court Notice to Appear (JCNA) citation under the District Attorney's (DA) Office citation program. Current JCNA citation program procedures are to cite for offenses listed in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 653.5 (c), when the minor is not detained. If either the minor or parent fail to appear, the court will have satisfactory proof of service and may issue a warrant for Failure to Appear.

INFORMATION

Prior to March 1, 1991, the system of ensuring that non-detained minors respond to court was a lengthy and cumbersome administrative process that averaged two and one-half months from the time a minor received a cite-back interview until the minor eventually appeared for court. This process frequently resulted in continuances, clogged court calendars, and ultimately case dismissals. On March 1, 1991, the DA's Office initiated a pilot Cite-in Program for Los Angeles County. The results of that pilot study found that the minors and their parents reported for court within 30 days and that the appearance rate was significantly increased when a definite notice to appear was issued on the date of the cite-back interview.

Due to the success of the JCNA 653.5 WIC Citation Program, the DA's Office has expanded the JCNA Citation Program to include all Los Angeles County law enforcement agencies and the program will now include all non-detained minors where a petition is submitted. In order to assist the Juvenile Court and the Probation Department with the anticipated increase in JCNA citations, a 60 day cite-date has been established Countywide.

The expanded JCNA Citation Program applies to all offenses where a non-detained petition is submitted and especially to offenses listed in WIC Section 653.5(C). This section includes serious felony offenses such as murder, armed robbery, forcible sexual assault, and kidnaping.

PROCEDURE

When a juvenile appears at a Cite-Back Interview following their arrest for an offense in which they were not detained, a juvenile detective shall:

- * File a Non-Detained Juvenile Court petition if appropriate; and,
- * Issue a JCNA Citation to the minor and their parent/guardian with the appropriate 60-day cite-back date indicated.

CITATION COMPLETION REVISIONS

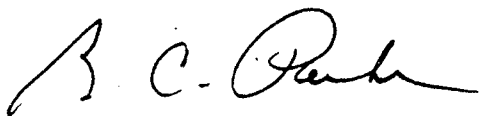
The original 30-day appearance date for each court has now been expanded to a 60-day appearance date entered on line 12 of the JCNA Citation. The cite-date will begin 60 days from the time of the investigative cite-back interview with the juvenile detective. If the 60th day is a weekend or holiday, the court cite-date will be the next available court date.

CITATION DISTRIBUTION

Juvenile detectives shall utilize a blank photocopy of the current JCNA Citation until the Department's JCNA Citation Books are available from Planning and Research Division. The JCNA Citation distribution of the photocopy remains the same and requires an original plus three copies.

NOTE: Once the Department's JCNA Citation Books are printed, Juvenile detectives shall order the Juvenile Court Notice to Appear citation books from Supply Division and not from the supervising DA's Office of their local Juvenile Court.

This Notice amends Sections 1809, 1809.5, 1809.15, and 1809.20 of the Manual of Juvenile Procedures and will be reflected in the Manual's next revision. Questions concerning this Notice should be directed to Operations Section, Juvenile Division, at (213) 485-2803.



BERNARD C. PARKS, Deputy Chief
Director
Office of Operations

DISTRIBUTION "B"