

**Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
Sitting as the Juvenile Court**

In the Matter of

STANDING ORDER OF THE JUVENILE
COURT

No. SSC-JV-98-003
Department 90

**THIRD AMENDED ORDER:
PLACEMENT IN DELINQUENCY
CASES
(Welf. & Inst. §§ 727, 727.1, 727.2)**

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, upon a minor being adjudged a ward of the Court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 602¹ and ordered committed to the care and custody of the Probation Department for suitable placement, the Probation Officer shall arrange for appropriate housing for the minor as follows:

I. Level A Placement (In-state Placement)

- A. Unless otherwise specified by the Court at the time of disposition, all orders for suitable placement shall be at this level. Level A placement does not include any out-of-state facility.
- B. Level A placement includes, and is limited to, placement in any of the following homes or facilities, located in the state of California:
- (1) the home of a relative or friend of the minor;
 - (2) a licensed foster home;
 - (3) a licensed group home; or
 - (4) a licensed residential treatment center.
- C. In each case in which the Court orders Level A placement, the Probation Officer shall use his/her discretion to initially select an appropriate home or facility in which to place the minor.
- D. The selection of a particular Level A home or facility in which to initially place the minor does not require specific approval by the Court.

¹ All statutory references hereafter are to the Welfare and Institutions Code.

II. Level B Placement (Out-of-state Placement)

- A. The Probation Officer may only place a minor at this level if specifically ordered by the Court at time of disposition. Level B placement excludes any in-state home or residential treatment facility.
- B. In cases wherein the Court orders Level B placement, the Probation Officer may place a minor only at the specific out-of-state facility identified in the Court's order.

III. Modifications of Placement Location

A. Level A Placement

- 1. During the period of Level A placement, the Probation Officer shall use his/her discretion to determine whether suitable placement requires that the minor be moved from a home or facility to a more appropriate Level A home or facility.
- 2. The selection of a particular Level A home or facility to which to the minor should be moved does not require specific approval by the Court.
- 3. The Probation Officer may not modify placement to a Level B facility of a minor who was ordered placed in a Level A home or facility, as described above, without a specific order of the Court after a sustained petition to modify the Court's prior order pursuant to section 778, or a motion to violate probation granted pursuant to section 777.

B. Level B Placement

- 1. The selection of a particular Level B facility to which to the minor should be moved requires specific approval by the Court.
- 2. The Probation Officer may not modify the placement of a minor who was ordered placed in a particular Level B facility to a Level A home or facility or to a different Level B facility, as described above, without a specific order of the Court after a sustained petition to modify the Court's prior order pursuant to section 778, or a motion to violate probation granted pursuant to section 777.

C. Return to Custody (Level A and Level B Placements); Urgency Basis²

1. The Probation Officer may return the minor to the Youth Detention Facility (Juvenile Hall) after placement in a Level A or Level B home or facility if:
 - (a) the minor is arrested for a criminal offense;
 - (b) on an urgency basis, the person in charge of that home or facility informs the Probation Department that the minor is excluded therefrom, and there is not sufficient time or opportunity for the Probation Officer to locate another suitable placement location; or
 - (c) on an urgency basis, that home or facility becomes legally ineligible to house wards of the Court.²
2. Upon the return of a minor to the Youth Detention Facility, the Probation Officer shall file:
 - (a) a petition to modify the Court's prior order pursuant to section 778, if the Probation Officer seeks to change a prior Level A or Level B placement to any other care and custody order, except a commitment to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Facilities;
 - (b) a motion to violate probation pursuant to section 777 if the Probation Officer seeks to change a prior Level A or Level B placement to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Facilities; or
 - (c) a Motion to Modify Custody Status (MMCS) if the Probation Officer seeks to maintain the same Level A or Level B placement order as previously

² "Urgency basis" means less than fifteen days notice to the Probation Officer.

ordered by the Court, but needs further time to arrange for returning the Minor to the appropriate home or facility.

3. Upon returning the minor to the Youth Detention Facility on either a petition to modify the Court's prior order pursuant to section 778, a motion to violate probation pursuant to section 777, or a Motion to Modify Custody Status (MMCS), the matter shall be calendared for a detention hearing.

D. Return to Custody (Level A and Level B Placements); Non-Urgency Basis

1. In any case wherein the Probation Officer has fifteen or more days notice of a need to remove a minor from a Level A or Level B home or facility, he/she may not return a minor to the Youth Detention Facility without advance approval of the Court.
2. The Probation Officer must file a non-detention petition or motion and calendar the matter for an out-of-custody arraignment, at which time the Court may determine whether the minor shall be detained thereafter in the Youth Detention Facility.

IV. Return Home

Except as described below, after the Court orders placement in a Level A or Level B home or facility, the minor may not be returned to the home of the minor's parent or guardian without prior approval of the Court.

A. Routine Home Visits

1. The Probation Officer may authorize routine visits by the minor to the home of the minor's parent or guardian without specific approval by the Court.
2. A "routine visit" is limited to not more than twenty-one (21) days during any consecutive sixty (60) day period.

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B. Extended Home Visits

1. After the Court orders a Permanent Plan of “return home,” the Probation Officer may authorize an extended visit by the minor to the home of the minor’s parent or guardian without specific approval by the Court.
2. An “extended visit” is limited to not more than thirty (30) days during any consecutive ninety-day (90) period.

Date: May 2, 2007



Kenneth G. Peterson
Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court