

44.3 Interviews of Juveniles

- A. Generally, a juvenile who is in custody and being interrogated has the same rights as an adult under the 5th Amendment. See G.O. #1.4.3. Juveniles will be immediately advised of their constitutional rights when required and agency/juvenile justice system procedures that are relevant or will aid the juvenile in making decisions.
- B. In addition, a juvenile's parents *may* become involved in a custodial interview. Prior to or during an interview with a juvenile, an *officer may* contact the juvenile's parents, legal guardians or custodian. If the juvenile requests to speak with the juvenile's parents, or the parents request to speak with the juvenile, that communication *shall* be permitted unless exigent circumstances exist or the parents are involved in the alleged criminal activity. A parent who is present and requests to be permitted in the interview with the juvenile *shall* be allowed to be present, unless the parent is involved in the alleged criminal activity, interferes with the interview or investigation, or the juvenile does not want the parent present.
- C. Juveniles who are not suspects, but are only *victims* or witnesses, *may* not be involuntarily detained or taken into custody without the juveniles' consent (if they are of suitable age and maturity to provide consent), parental consent, or an appropriate court order.

