

ADVANTAGES OF PARTICIPATING IN THE JUVENILE CIVIL CITATION PROGRAM

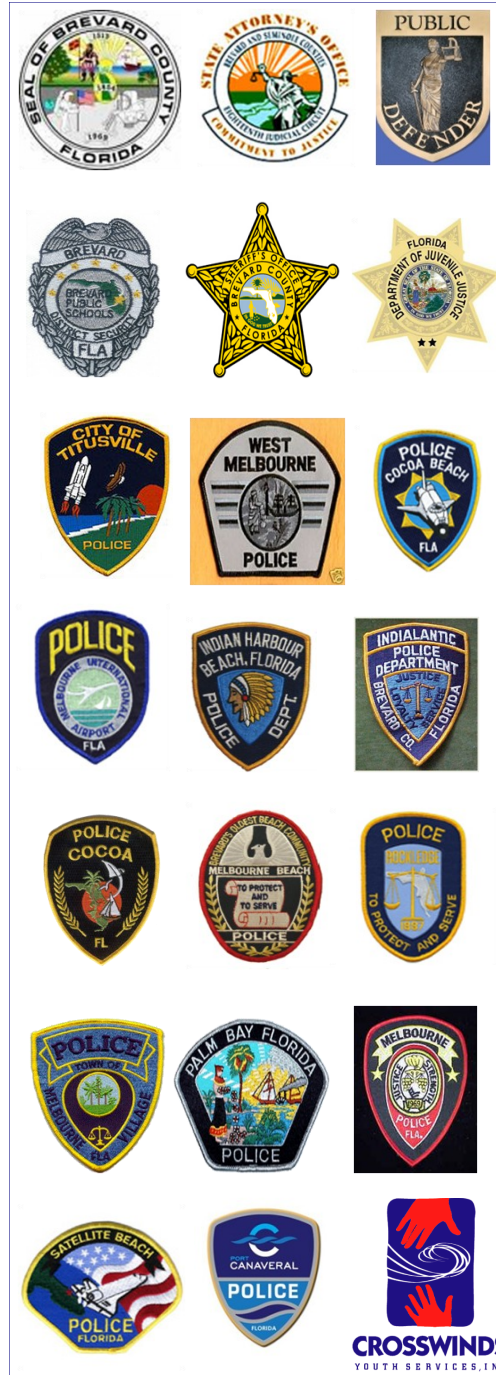
- No arrest record.
- Youth are held accountable.
- Youth learn the consequences of their actions.
- Youth are taught new behavior.
- Youth receive immediate intervention.
- Youth are given a second chance.
- Youth “pay back” the community.

Juvenile Assessment Center



Crosswinds Youth Services, Inc.
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JAC Advisory Board



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Juvenile Civil Citation Program

**An Initiative of the
 Brevard County
 Juvenile Assessment
 Center (JAC)**

www.brevardcivilcitation.org

JAC Program Coordinator
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 321-452-0800 ext. 179

WHAT IS THE CIVIL CITATION PROGRAM?

As authorized by Florida Statute 985.12, Civil Citation is an alternative to arrest for children and youth under 18 who commit certain misdemeanor offenses. The program offers law enforcement the option of issuing the youth a civil citation in lieu of arrest. All participating youth will be assigned a community service project. Youth will also receive an assessment and, as needed, referral to services, such as counseling, education, and other appropriate community resources. The Civil Citation Program works with community partners in the effort to reduce juvenile crime and to provide services for at-risk youth.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Any juvenile who commits certain misdemeanors or violates a county or municipal ordinance is eligible for the Civil Citation Program. Both the child and the parent/legal guardian must agree to participate in the program.

The Law Enforcement Officer has the discretion of issuing a civil citation or making an arrest.
Victim cooperation is important to the program's success.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM?

The Law Enforcement Officer issues the Civil Citation, giving the juvenile seven (7) calendar days to contact the program office at Crosswinds to schedule an appointment for the initial assessment. A parent or legal guardian must accompany the child to the assessment.

The intake counselor will designate the number of community service hours to be completed, the project the juvenile will complete, and the due date. To promote accountability and empathy for the victim, youth may complete projects such as writing letters to victims and officers, making their wrong right by helping in the community, and/or the payment of restitution. The counselor will also work with the family to determine any additional services needed.

WHAT WILL THE JUVENILE'S LEGAL RECORD BE AFTER COMPLETING THE PROGRAM?

Upon successful completion of the Civil Citation Program, the juvenile's record will be closed out. The young person will not have an arrest record.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A JUVENILE DOES NOT ABIDE BY THE RULES OF THE PROGRAM?

If the juvenile fails to successfully complete the program, his/her case will be referred back to the State Attorney's Office to evaluate whether further legal action is necessary to address the behavior that led to the initial civil citation. If the juvenile is charged with another crime while in the program, he/she may be arrested for the new offense.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE PARENT?

A parent or legal guardian is expected to support the child's participation in the Civil Citation Program, including providing transportation as needed to the community service project and other services.

The parent's support is very important to the success of a child in this program.
