

WASHOE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES
“PROBATION MANUAL”

RELEASE FROM DETENTION: TEMPORARY

Following a detention hearing, no child will be released without the approval of the Juvenile Court Master, or the District Court Judge. Probation Officers may request permission from the Court Master or Judge to temporarily remove children from detention for medical, psychological, dental, psychiatric evaluations, staffing for alternate placement possibilities, other agency interviews, and other special situations approved by the Juvenile Court Master. Probation Officers must follow the “Transportation of Detained Youth” policy. The Probation Officer is usually given the discretion to release the youth following the detention hearing, but the actual release may not occur for several hours, or even days, pending other arrangements being completed. All appropriate forms are to be signed at time of removal from the detention center, or upon permanent release.

The following procedures will be used regarding the temporary release of a youth from the Detention Center.

1. When a parent or other responsible adult (other than law enforcement officers) requests the temporary release of a youth from the detention center, a Temporary Release Order must be signed by a Juvenile Master or District Judge before the release may occur. If the Probation Officer agrees with the request, a Temporary Release Order will be prepared by the Officer. If the Probation Officer disagrees with the request, the officer should direct the parent to the youth’s attorney who can formally make the request at a detention hearing or review hearing. The Temporary Release Order must be presented to detention personnel (before the youth can be released).
2. A Temporary Release Order is not required for a Probation Officer to authorize the temporary release of a youth from the detention center to law enforcement officers from other agencies. However, Probation Officers MUST verify the reason for the temporary release with the law enforcement officers prior to authorizing the release. Probation Officers are prohibited from authorizing the release of a youth if the youth is to participate in police activities that could in any way endanger the safety of a youth; cause the youth to be involved in or around criminal activity; or be involved in any activity that would otherwise be a delinquent act. For example, a youth’s participation in a drug purchase or sting operation is prohibited. Typically, youths may be released to participate in such activities as polygraph examinations, line-ups, identifying residences that were burglarized, or assisting officers in locating weapons that were hidden. Authorizations must be approved by a Program Manager.