



# OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY

## Policy Statement

### Part III – Youth Services (Community)



*Subject*

**Youth Legal Assistance [Field]**

*Section – Policy Number:*

**A: General Administration – 2.1**

*Supersedes:*

**None**

*Effective Date:*

**01/26/2007**

*Date of Last*

*Review:*

**08/07/2015**

**Related Standards and References:**

- [ORS 419C.200 \(Court-appointed Counsel\)](#)
- [ORS Chapter 151](#), Public Defenders; Counsel for Financially Eligible Persons
- [OAR Chapter 416, Division 150 \(Interviews with Offenders\)](#)
- [OAR Chapter 416, Division 440 \(Offender Mail\)](#)
- [Office of Public Defense Services](#)
- OYA policy: II-F-1.0 (Youth Rights [Facility])  
II-F-3.4 (Use of Phones [Youth])  
II-F-3.6 (Legal Assistance [Facility])  
III-B-4.0 (Youth Rights, Responsibilities and Grievance [Field])

**Related Procedures:**

- [General Field Procedure](#): Offender Legal Assistance

**Policy Owner:**

Community Services Assistant  
Director

**Approved:**

  
 Robert S. Jester, Director

#### I. PURPOSE:

This policy provides general standards for addressing youth attorney legal assistance.

This policy does not address assistance toward prosecution of youth.

#### II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:

None.

#### III. POLICY:

OYA recognizes youth have the right to consult privately with legal counsel and have access to courts, without obstruction or interference by staff.

Youth who have concerns regarding issues that require legal representation or assistance may obtain an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Oregon at their own expense. Youth determined to be indigent by the court may obtain a court-appointed attorney to assist in certain post-dispositional or probation violation hearings.

**IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:**

- A. All correspondence and communication between a youth and the youth's attorney is confidential.
- B. Youth must be free of harassment, intimidation, punishment or retaliation for presenting complaints to the courts, participating in litigation or communicating with their attorneys.
- C. Youth requests for communication by telephone or in person with their attorneys must be documented in JJIS notes.
- D. Staff in each OYA field office must be aware of local circuit court protocol regarding indigent defense representation.

**V. OYA GENERAL PROCEDURE REQUIRED: YES**

The OYA general procedure on youth legal assistance addresses the following:

- A. Provisions for communication between a youth and the youth's authorized attorney.
- B. Documentation of youth/attorney requests for contact or communication.

**VI. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO**