COMMUNITY JUVENILE ARBITRATION PROGRAM

Physical Address
201 West Evans Street
Florence, South Carolina 29501

Mailing Address
County Complex, Room 1101
Office of Solicitor
Twelfth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Arbitration
180 North Irby Street, MSC-Q
Florence, South Carolina 29501

Contact Information
Office (843) 292-1630
Fax (843) 292-7430
Robin Hewitt
Program Director

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 21 years of age.
- Must possess a High School Diploma or GED.
- Must have no criminal record.
- Must have transportation and a valid South Carolina driver’s license.
- Must complete the 21-hour required arbitrator training course.

For additional information
Visit www.florenceco.org and select Solicitor under the Elected Offices tab or contact our office.

(843) 292-1630
What is Community Juvenile Arbitration?

Community Juvenile Arbitration is a diversion program designed to divert 1st time, non-violent/non-status offenders out of the Family Court system and into an informal arbitration setting that is conducted by trained community volunteers.

Goals of Community Juvenile Arbitration

* Offender Accountability
* Victim Reparation
* Community Reparation
* Reduce Department of Juvenile Justice, (DJJ) caseload of 1st time, non-violent offenders
* Lower Repeat Offender Rates in the 12th Judicial Circuit
* Increase Community Involvement and Pride

To Learn Quick Facts about the Department of Juvenile Justice and Arbitration Diversions

Visit http://www.state.sc.us/djj

This website includes:

- Educational Videos
- Arbitration Program Narrative
- Annual Report Cards

Data Reports that include:

- Most Frequent Offenses Associated with Referrals to DJJ
- Recidivism Rates
- Restitutions Paid
- Referrals
- Community Programs/Results
- Florence and Marion County Stats
- Balanced and Restorative Justice Facts

Arbitration Hearing Process

* An arbitration hearing is held by a trained volunteer and includes the juvenile, his/her parents, the victim and the arresting officer.

* With input of all parties involved, the arbitrator determines and imposes the appropriate sanctions which can include: restitution/donation, letters of apology, curfews, community service work and other sanctions the arbitrator deems appropriate.

* Once completed successfully, the case is closed with options available for expungement of the juvenile record. If the juvenile fails to complete the program, the case is sent back to court.