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Court of Common Pleas



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Juvenile Services Division

1. How do I file a custody action?

- a. This office is not permitted to give legal advice. However, the law library has Custody forms available. The Beaver County Bar association 724-728-4888 and Neighborhood Legal Services 724-378-0595 are resources as well.
 - i. <https://www.palawhelp.org/organization/neighborhood-legal-services-association-beave>
 - ii. <https://bcba-pa.org/>
 - iii. <https://www.beavercountypa.gov/departments/courts/courts-forms>

2. Where do I take my completed custody forms?

- a. Custody motions are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:45 am in front of the Honorable Deborah Lancos-DeCostro Courtroom 4.

3. Can I talk to person who will hear my custody case?

- a. The Conciliation Conference officers are not permitted to talk (ex-parte) or answer questions except during the conference.

4. Can I turn my paperwork in to Juvenile Services?

- a. Juvenile Services does not accept any custody filings for any reason. Please follow the instructions listed in the Custody Packet or consult an attorney.

5. What do I do if the other party isn't following our custody order?

- a. Juvenile Services is not responsible to enforce any conditions listed in a Custody Order unless otherwise specified. Please see the Law Library or an attorney for more information.

6. My court order says something about parenting classes. Do you have more information?

- a. Please review the Positive Transitions section on the County website for updated forms.

<https://www.beavercountypa.gov/departments/courts/positive-transition-educational-custody-seminar-requirements>

- 7. My child has been charged with a crime as a juvenile, but I can't afford an attorney. What can I do?**
 - a. All juveniles who are charged with an allegation are entitled to an attorney regardless of income. The Public Defender's office doesn't attend the Intake Appointment. If the matter cannot be resolved at the appointment, the juvenile will be represented for all Court hearings.

- 8. My child has been placed on electronic monitoring. What if we need to take them somewhere?**
 - a. All electronic monitoring "windows" need to be approved during the business day.

- 9. How can we make payments on our juvenile's fines?**
 - a. All Court Costs, Fines, and Restitution can be paid at the Clerk of Courts office or online. <https://ujportal.pacourts.us/PAePayFCR/Index> Please have the Juvenile's CP number available.

- 10. My child has a drug/alcohol problem but won't get help. What resources are there?**
 - a. A petition for involuntary treatment or commitment of a minor is available. The Act 53 process begins with a call for pre-screening to Juvenile Services. The link for the Act 53 petition can be found here:
<https://www.beavercountypa.gov/getmedia/89428db4-cba0-4c2a-934e-f42f7a940ccc/Act-53-Petition-3-12-2024.pdf>