



<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH DAKOTA</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</p>		POLICY NUMBER 1.1.A.06	PAGE NUMBER 1 OF 3
		DISTRIBUTION: Public	
		SUBJECT: Juvenile – Delegation of Authority	
RELATED STANDARDS:	None	EFFECTIVE DATE: December 01, 2023	
		SUPERSESION: 10/15/2022	
DESCRIPTION: Administration & Management – Facility Administration	REVIEW MONTH: November	 KELLIE WASKO SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS	

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the South Dakota Department of Corrections’ (DOC) Division of Juvenile Services to act as guardian of juveniles committed to the DOC, pursuant to court order and SDCL § 26-7A-92, and as such, the secretary of the DOC authorizes specific staff of the Division of Juvenile Services to take actions as set forth in Section IV consistent with the best interests of the child.

II. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this policy to establish criteria and guidelines for the consistent management of juveniles committed by court order to guardianship by the DOC.

III. DEFINITIONS

Division of Juvenile Services Staff:

Employees of the DOC Division of Juvenile Services, including the director of Juvenile Services, regional juvenile corrections agent supervisors, juvenile corrections agents, and community corrections specialists.

Guardian:

A person appointed by a court to be responsible for the personal affairs of a juvenile. Includes the secretary of corrections when appointed by court order pursuant to SDCL § 26-7A-92.

IV PROCEDURES

1. Delegation of Authority from the Secretary of Corrections (SOC):

- A. The director of Juvenile Services may approve the placement, transfer, and return to placement from aftercare, of a juvenile. Such placements and transfers may be to the Human Services Center, detention, shelter, group home, group care center, residential treatment center, specialized transitional service, or other community-based service (see SDCL §§ 26-11A-9 and 26-11A-16). Placements may be in the state or outside the state. Whenever possible, placement will be within the state.
- B. The director of Juvenile Services may execute a discharge order for a juvenile from the DOC (see SDCL § 26-11A-20).

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- C. The director of Juvenile Services may approve the release of a juvenile to aftercare, and release of a juvenile held in temporary detention or shelter, to continue aftercare supervision (see SDCL § 26-11A-17).
- D. Division of Juvenile Services staff will notify the committing court and prosecuting state’s attorney fifteen (15) days before conditionally releasing a juvenile to an aftercare program or discharging a juvenile from the DOC (see SDCL § 26-11A-22).
- E. The director of Juvenile Services, regional juvenile corrections agent supervisor, juvenile corrections agent, or community corrections specialist may initiate the process of placing a juvenile in temporary detention or shelter and begin revocation proceedings only if it is alleged the juvenile has violated a condition of the aftercare contract by committing an eligible offense, as delineated in SDCL § 26-11A-15.
- F. Division of Juvenile Services staff may release information concerning any juvenile in the custody of the DOC, to any facility that has a legitimate interest in the juvenile. Division of Juvenile Services staff may request information concerning any juvenile in the custody of the DOC, including the juvenile’s treatment, rehabilitative, health care, education, and court records (see SDCL §§ 26-7A-29 and 26-7A-97).
- G. Division of Juvenile Services staff may submit to the court, a report on the DOC’s actions regarding a juvenile in the custodial care of the DOC (see SDCL § 26-7A-103). The director of Juvenile Services may appear and act on the secretary of corrections (SOC) behalf at court hearings concerning a juvenile’s discharge from the DOC (see SDCL §§ 26-7A-122 and 26-7A-124).
- H. Juvenile corrections agents (JCAs) and regional juvenile corrections agent supervisors may disclose to the victim(s) or the state’s attorney, the amount of restitution a juvenile has paid while remanded to the DOC, whether the juvenile is currently employed, why the juvenile has been unable to pay restitution, and whether the juvenile is placed in a facility or is on aftercare.
- I. The director of Juvenile Services, regional supervisors, community corrections specialists, and JCAs may, in the best interest of a juvenile, give consent to chemical dependency, behavioral health, and medical professionals to examine, assess, screen, and provide treatment and care to a juvenile under the supervision of the DOC in exigent circumstances where the juvenile’s parent, guardian, or custodian is unable or unwilling to give consent.

2. Best Interests of the Child:

- A. The primary consideration in taking any delegated or authorized action under this policy shall be in the best interests of the juvenile.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the director of Juvenile Services to conduct annual review and revision, as needed, of this policy.

VI. AUTHORITY

SDCL §§ 26-7A-29, 26-7A-92, 26-7A-97, 26-7A-103, 26-7A-122, 26-7A-124, 26-11A-9, 26-11A-15, 26-11A-16, 26-11A-17, 26-11A-20, and 26-11A-22.

VII. HISTORY

November 2023
October 2022
March 2021

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April 2020
March 2019
March 2018
March 2017
March 2016
March 2015
March 2014
April 2013

ATTACHMENTS

1. DOC Policy Implementation / Adjustments