

Juvenile Hearing Board

Basic Information

Public

There is hereby established within the town a juvenile hearing board with the powers set forth in this division for the purpose of hearing all cases referred to such board by the chief of police of the town with respect to persons resident in the town, under the age of 18, who are charged with violating the criminal laws of the state or the town.

The juvenile hearing board shall hear all cases referred to it by the chief of police and shall determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe that the person so referred has committed the offense alleged and whether such person should be disciplined as a result thereof. A further condition of referral is that the juvenile agrees to his involvement in the incident and waives his rights. In making such determination, the juvenile hearing board shall not be bound by the customary rules of evidence, and may consider all probative and relevant evidence whether or not such evidence would be admissible in a court of competent jurisdiction. In those cases in which the juvenile hearing board shall determine that there is reasonable ground to believe that the offense was committed by the person so charged and that such person should be disciplined, it shall recommend sanctions (other than incarceration) and shall direct restitution for any injuries resulting from the commission of such offense. In those cases in which the board shall order restitution, it shall attempt to assist the juvenile offender and his parents in providing a means whereby the offender may make such restitution including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, attempting to provide with cooperation of the town administrator or the superintendent of schools suitable employment by the town. In any such proceeding the juvenile hearing board, prior to imposing sanctions, shall request the juvenile offender and his parents to agree to the sanctions imposed, and the amount of restitution and manner of making the restitution. In ordering restitution, the juvenile hearing board shall take into account the juvenile offender's ability to pay, and the amount of actual damage caused as a result of the commission of such offense.

Composition

5 members, 3-year terms 1 alternate member, 3-year term