



Right of Access

Juvenile Court's
Foster Care Records

Right to Case Plan & Court Rpt

- If you are over 12 years of age or older, you have the right to:
 - Review your case plan
 - Receive information about your out-of-home placement
 - To be informed of any changes to your case plan

Right to Review Your Juvenile Court Record

- What is your juvenile court record?
 - All of the orders, court reports and other evidence provided to the court by the attorneys, social workers, and others.

How do I go about reviewing my juvenile court records

- 1. Contact your attorney and ask for a chance to review your records. Your attorney should have all of your records.
- 2. Go to the Juvenile Court and ask the court clerk to provide you with the court record. (Bring Photo I.D.)

Where to Go and Who to Call?

- The Juvenile Court Clerk at:
 - 2200 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro
 - 400 Broadway, Oakland, CA
 - 24405 Amador St., Hayward, CA
- Right to copy anything from the file.
 - Bring picture Identification
 - Review file/copies cost \$0.75 per page.

What if my foster care case is closed?

- Go to the Juvenile Court in San Leandro. They handle all cases that have been closed or dismissed for more than 6 months.

What happens to my records when I leave foster care?

- The court records will either be:
 - Sealed
 - Released to You
 - Destroyed

How are my foster care records sealed?

- They are not automatically sealed.
- If you want to seal them, you have to petition the court

What do you need to do to seal your foster care records?

- The case must be dismissed.
- You must be at least 18 years old
- File a petition with the juvenile court clerk requesting that the court seal your records
- Must file a petition on special form provided by county
- Contact juvenile court clerk to obtain copy

What happens after I file a petition to seal my records?

- Applications are processed the same way as sealing juvenile delinquency records in Alameda County
- Court will confirm with district attorney and probation department that they don't object
- Court will set a hearing date
- Appearance optional if no objection.

When would my foster care records be destroyed?

- The juvenile court record for foster youth may be destroyed five years after your court case ends.
- They are supposed to be destroyed by the time you are 28 years old
- This destruction is suppose to happen without having to file any kind of request.

What if I want to keep the records?

- Make a written request to the juvenile court clerk to release the records to you.
- Include your name, date of birth, and the court case number (if possible)
- Court may only release records 5 years after your foster care case ends.
- Once the records are released to you or destroyed, the proceedings are deemed never to have occurred.

Contact Information

- Alameda Juvenile Court (Oakland) (510) 268-7373
- Alameda Juvenile Court (San Leandro) (510)667-4910
- Alameda Juvenile Court (Hayward) (510) 670-5393
- Alameda Probation Record Sealing Unit: (510) 618-1918 or (510) 667-4480

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