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David L. Tumlinson IV Deputy Director Annie M. Romero Deputy Director

Referrals of Allegations for Investigations

The Cameron County Juvenile Justice Department (CCJJD) has a zero tolerance policy towards any type of abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE), to include sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Allegations of ANE, to include sexual abuse and sexual harassment are accepted verbally and in writing. Third parties, such as family members, attorneys and advocates may file an allegation on the behalf of a juvenile served by the CCJJD. Private reports may be submitted through the toll-free hotline operated by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) by calling 1-877-STOP ANE (1-877-786-7263).

The CCJJD ensures that an administrative or criminal investigation is completed for all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The CCJJD documents all such referrals.

- CCJJD refers allegations to the Cameron County Sheriff's Department (CCSD) as it is the designated law enforcement agency to conduct investigations of any potentially criminal behavior that stems from a sexual abuse or sexual harassment allegation that occurs in any CCJJD operated facility.
 - a. CCSD will be notified as soon as possible, but no later than one (1) hour after the allegation of potentially criminal behavior linked to sexual abuse.
 - b. CCSD is responsible for conducting criminal investigations in accordance with the current standards of law enforcement protocol.
- 2. TJJD is responsible for conducting administrative of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in any of the CCJJD facilities in accordance with 37 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 350.
 - a. TJJD will be notified as soon as possible, but no later than four (4) hours of the allegation.
 - b. TJJD will be responsible for any remedial action taken on a Juvenile Probation Officer or Juvenile Supervision Officer's certification.
- 3. CCJJD will ensure a specially trained investigator conducts an administrative investigation into the allegation.
 - a. CCJJD will ensure that any administrative investigation does not interfere with the CCSD or TJJD investigation.
 - b. CCJJD will take any remedial action upon the findings that the allegation was founded.