



2026 Valid Court Order (VCO) Exception Checklist for Detained WIC §601 Wards of the Court

County:

Date of Detention Hearing:

Name of Minor:

County ID #:

A valid court order (VCO) is one given by a juvenile court judge to a youth who was brought before the court and made subject to such order, and who received, before the issuance of such order, the full due process rights guaranteed to such youth by the Constitution of the United States.

If a youth is taken into custody for contempt of court for committing a status offense, the following conditions must be met:

YES NO

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Was the youth interviewed in person, by an appropriate public agency (e.g., Probation Officer, Court, Public Defender), within 24 hours of their placement in secure detention, excluding weekends and holidays?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Did the appropriate public agency (probation, school) submit an assessment to the court, prior to the hearing, regarding the immediate needs of the youth and the most appropriate placement needs of the youth pending disposition of the violation?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Was the hearing held within 48 hours of the youth’s placement in secure detention, excluding weekends and holidays?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Was there a judicial determination that there was reasonable cause to believe the youth violated such order?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Was there a judicial determination that the juvenile hall is the most appropriate placement for the youth pending subsequent hearings and/or disposition of the violation?

YES NO

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Is the minute order specifying terms of commitment attached?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Was the youth held in secure custody for 7 days or less? Note: The 2018 JJDP A Reauthorization prohibits a youth held in excess of 7 days. This time limit cannot be renewed or extended.

Comments:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Please check this box to certify the forgoing is true and accurate.</i>
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Name and Title of Reporting Person (Print or Type): Date:

Phone: Email:

Name of Juvenile Hall Facility Manager (Print or Type): Date:

Phone: Email: