# CIVIL CITATION OVERVIEW

Marion County Juvenile Civil Citation Program is an individualized diversion program in lieu of arrest for youth (ages 13-17) who have committed a specified first time misdemeanor offense or violated a city or municipal ordinance. Law enforcement has the discretion to issue a civil citation instead of arrest based on Florida Statute 985.12. The Civil Citation Program works with community partners in an effort to reduce juvenile crime and provide services for at-risk youth.

To participate in the Civil Citation program, youth must accept responsibility for the offense and agree to participate in the program immediately.

There is a \$25.00 participation fee. The fee must be paid in full within 30 days of the orientation meeting with the Civil Citation Staff member.



# Marion County

**Problem Solving Courts** 

Juvenile Civil Citation Program Marion County Judicial Center 110 NW First Avenue Ocala, FL 34475 Room 1-1062

Phone: (352) 401-6762 or (352) 401-6724 Fax: (352) 401-7896 MARION COUNTY PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

# JUVENILE CIVIL CITATION PROGRAM



#### **EDITH ELLIS**

JUVENILE CIVIL CITATION

COORDINATOR

# MARION COUNTY JUVENILE CIVIL CITATION PROGRAM

#### **ELIGIBLE OFFENSES**

- Affray
- City/ County ordinances
- Criminal Mischief ( Damage less than \$1000)
- Disorderly Conduct
- Disruption of a school function
- Simple battery/assault
- Simple possession of alcohol
- Simple possession of marijuana (under 20 grams)
- Theft (value less than \$300)
- Trespassing

# **REQUIREMENTS**

After Law enforcement issues a civil citation, the citation paperwork is sent to the Juvenile Civil Citation office. Parents must contact the office within 5 days of issuance, and must schedule an intake appointment with-in 14 days with the juvenile and guardian. They will receive the completion date of their sanction. The juvenile is to complete all requirements within 60 days.

### **SANCTIONS**

## **Mandatory sanctions are:**

- \$25.00 Fee
- Written Apology to parents
- Written apology to those involved
- 20 community service hours
- Know the Law session
- Exit letter
- Drug screen
- Offense related workbooks

# Other customized sanctions may include:

- Additional community service hours
- 2-4 jury duties
- Anger management classes
- Curfew
- Random drug screens
- Other written assignments and special instructions
- Pathway to recovery

### **OUTCOMES**

The Marion County Civil Citation Program holds youth accountable for their actions and offers immediate intervention without arrest. Consent of the parent or guardian must be given for the youth to enter the program. Throughout the program, it is expected that the guardian be supportive of the juvenile's participation.

With successful completion of the program, the youth will not have a formal criminal record, can deny arrest, and is eligible for future expunction, if applicable, under Florida Statute S 943.0585.

If the youth fails to successfully complete the requirements of the program, or is charged with another crime while in the program, the case will be referred back to Law Enforcement to re review the case.