



# State of Connecticut

## JUDICIAL BRANCH

COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION  
Juvenile Probation - \*\*\*\*\* , Supervisor  
(Office Address)

Superintendent \*\*\*\*\*  
Address School Dept.  
Town, CT, zip code

(The Date)

Dear Superintendent -----,

Over the past several years, the Juvenile Court has experienced a growth in the number of police summonses issued to juveniles for very minor offenses. Of particular concern are arrests of juveniles for minor offenses which occur in schools. For example, summonses have been issued to juveniles for being in possession of a soda, running in the hall, wearing pants which were deemed to be too low on the torso, and refusing to remove a hat. We believe that schools possess the insight, judgment and resources necessary to handle these types of incidents without the necessity of court intervention.

The Court is committed to holding juveniles accountable for their actions, ensuring public safety, and helping to form a more competent adult. However, contact with the Juvenile Court has been shown to have a long-term negative impact on juveniles who have committed very minor offenses. It is our opinion that Court intervention should be reserved for more serious threats to public safety.

Therefore, please be advised that effective immediately, and pursuant to CGS § 46b-128, the Juvenile Probation Department of Court Support Services will be screening all police summonses to determine whether the facts, if true, are sufficient to be a juvenile matter and whether the interests of the public or the child require that further action be taken. Any summons determined to be either insufficient or not requiring further action will be returned to the sending police officer notifying them that the complain is dismissed and with instructions for the immediate erasure of all police records of the alleged incident. Additionally, pursuant to CGS § 46b-149, Family With Service Needs complaints will be also be screened for sufficiency. Your school district is encouraged to utilize Juvenile Review Boards (JRB) for juveniles who education staff believe are in need of some intervention but don't require Court intervention. I have included information regarding JRBs for your convenience. Please contact me if you require additional information or have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)  
Supervisor.