

**SUPERIOR COURT  
Unit**

**STATE OF VERMONT**

**FAMILY DIVISION  
Docket No.**

**CITATION**

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

**BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF VERMONT**, you are hereby ordered to appear before a  
Judicial Officer at the \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Family Division of Vermont, on the following date and time:

Date	Time	
To answer to the charge of the following offense / delinquent act:		
[ ] Youthful Offender <i>(if checked, see page 2 for additional information)</i>		

A copy of petition & affidavit is available at the State’s Attorney’s office in the county in which you are cited to appear.

**IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE ORDERED, AN ORDER WILL BE ISSUED FOR YOU TO BE PICKED UP AND BROUGHT TO COURT AND YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO PENALTIES.**

Date Issued:	Town/City	County
Signature - Issuing Officer	Printed Name	Title/Department

**I received this Citation on:**

Date	Signature
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**NOTICE TO PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN** (if the youth is under 18 years of age)

**A parent, guardian, or custodian must go to court with the youth** (33 V.S.A. § 5108)

**IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE ORDERED, A WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR APPEARANCE.**

Name of person signing for citation	Address	
Child is in legal custody of: <input type="checkbox"/> person signing citation <input type="checkbox"/> DCF <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	Signature - Issuing Officer	Title/Department

**I received this Notice on:**

Date	Signature ~ Parent/Guardian/Custodian
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## NOTICE

You have just been issued a CITATION to appear in COURT. This court appearance is called a PRELIMINARY HEARING. This notice tells you what to expect at the preliminary hearing and what you can do between now and then to prepare for it.

**A copy of petition & affidavit is available at the State's Attorney's office for all persons required to receive notice, at least 5 business days prior to the preliminary hearing date.** The PETITION has information about the delinquent act as charged. The AFFIDAVIT is the police officer's or other person's story of what you allegedly did.

The State's Attorney may refer this matter to the Diversion Program. Diversion is an alternative to court.

You will receive information about completing an assessment. The assessment will assist the State's Attorney's Office with making a recommendation about how your case will proceed. The assessment is a confidential interview that is free of charge. The assessment typically takes 30-40 minutes to complete. If you are being considered for Youthful Offender status and you fail to participate within the time frame specified, your opportunity to be considered as a Youthful Offender may be denied.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GET TO THE COURTHOUSE:**

- You may want to speak to a lawyer so that you will understand what to expect.
- If you cannot afford a private lawyer, you can apply for the services of the public defender. A juvenile public defender application and information about the court process is available at the courthouse.
- Your parent, guardian or custodian must come to court with you if you are under the age of 18.

### **WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU GET TO THE COURTHOUSE**

- **Your parent, guardian or custodian must come to court with you, if you are under the age of 18.**
- You are entitled to have a lawyer at the hearing.
- If you have your own lawyer, make sure that he or she goes to court with you. It is not enough to just tell the judge "I have a lawyer." The lawyer must either be in court with you, or the lawyer must send a letter to the court saying that he or she represents you.
- If you do not have your own lawyer, a public defender will be in court and will speak with you before the preliminary hearing.
- If your parent or guardian cannot afford a lawyer, the court will appoint one for you.
- At your hearing, the judge will explain your rights to you. The judge will ask you if you want to ADMIT or DENY the charge.
- The judge may set certain restrictions on you (such as curfew) while the case is pending. (These are called CONDITIONS OF RELEASE.)

**NOTE: ALL HEARINGS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO GIVE ANY PUBLICITY TO THESE PROCEEDINGS.**