

# Informal Adjustment

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## Notice for Informal Adjustment §43-21-403

1. Sender  
436 Everywhere Blvd  
Johns Creek, GA 30097

Favored Recipient  
123 Somewhere Place  
Westfield, MA 01085



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## Speedy Trial



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FORMAL



VS.



INFORMAL

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If authorized by the youth court, informal adjustment may be commenced after the filing of a petition.

Section 43-21-401(2)

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How is the informal Adjustment Process Initiated?

The informal adjustment process shall be initiated with an informal adjustment conference.



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# RIGHTS



- Right to Counsel
- Child's right to appointment of counsel
- Child's right to remain silent

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At the beginning of the informal adjustment conference, the informal adjustment counselor shall inform the child and his parent, guardian or custodian:

- (a) That information has been received concerning the child which appears to establish jurisdiction of the youth court;
- (b) The purpose of the informal adjustment conference;
- (c) That during the informal adjustment process **no petition will be filed**;



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- (d) That the informal adjustment process is **voluntary** with the child and his parent, guardian or custodian and that they **may withdraw** from the informal adjustment at any time; and
- (e) The circumstances under which the informal adjustment process can be terminated under Section 43-21-407.



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The informal adjustment counselor shall then discuss with the child and his parent, guardian or custodian:

- (a) Recommendations for actions or conduct in the interest of the child to correct the conditions of behavior or environment which may exist;
- (b) Continuing conferences and contacts with the child and his parent, guardian or custodian by the informal adjustment counselor or other authorized persons; and
- (c) The child's general behavior, his home and school environment and other factors bearing upon the proposed informal adjustment.

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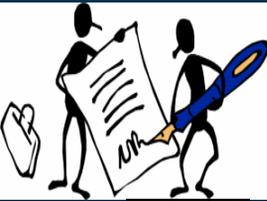
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The informal adjustment agreement shall be in writing and signed by the child, their parent and the informal counselor.

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The informal adjustment agreement may be modified at any time upon the consent of all parties to the informal adjustment conference.



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The informal adjustment process shall not continue beyond a period of six (6) months from its commencement unless extended by the youth court for an additional period not to exceed six (6) months by court authorization **prior** to the expiration of the original six-month period.



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§ 43-21-407, Termination

If it appears to the informal adjustment counselor that the child and his parent, guardian or custodian:

Have complied with the terms and conditions of the informal adjustment agreement; and

Have received the maximum benefit from the informal adjustment process,

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**TERMINATE  
SATISFACTORILY**



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If it appears to the informal adjustment counselor that further efforts at informal adjustment would not be in the best interests of the child or the community, or that the child or his parent, guardian or custodian:

- (a) denies the jurisdiction of the youth court;
- (b) declines to participate in the informal adjustment process;
- (c) expresses a desire that the facts be determined by the youth court;



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- d) fails without reasonable excuse to attend scheduled meetings;
- e) appears unable or unwilling to benefit from the informal adjustment process,

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### Terminate Unsatisfactorily

The informal adjustment counselor shall terminate the informal adjustment process.

If the informal adjustment process is so terminated, the intake unit shall reinitiate the intake procedure under Section 43-21-357.



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The intake unit shall not be precluded from reinitiating the informal adjustment process.



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