

Overview of
Juvenile
Justice

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Youth Court &
It's Purpose



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Creation of Mississippi Youth Courts
Section 43-21-107

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Creation of Mississippi Youth Courts
Section 43-21-107

(1) Youth court is a division of county court.

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Creation of Mississippi Youth Courts
Section 43-21-107

(1) Youth court is a division of county court.

(2) If no county court, then youth court is a division of chancery court

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Criminal Court vs. Youth Court

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Construction of MS Youth Court Law

This chapter shall be liberally construed to the end that each child coming within the jurisdiction of the youth court shall become a responsible, accountable and productive citizen, and that each such child shall receive such care, guidance and control, preferably in such child's own home as is conducive toward that end and is in the state's and the child's best interest. §43-21-103 (emphasis added)



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Policy

It is the public policy of this state that the parents of each child shall be primarily responsible for the care, support, education and welfare of such children; however, when it is necessary that a child be removed from the control of such child's parents, the youth court shall secure proper care for such child. §43-21-103 (emphasis added)



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Why is the Stated Purpose and Policy of the Youth Court Important?

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- Reminder of reason youth court was created.

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Why is the Stated Purpose and Policy of the Youth Court Important?

- Reminder of reason youth court was created.
- Useful tool for juvenile defenders to use in advocating for the stated interest of the client.

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