

ing is sought. The case shall be docketed in the name of the child, as respondent.

840. Whenever any officer takes a child into custody because of violation of any law or ordinance he shall, if he deems it practicable, release said child in the custody of and upon the written promise of the parent, guardian, or other custodian of the child to bring the child to court at a time fixed. If not so released, the child shall be placed in the custody of some person designated by the Judge, or shall be held in such place of detention as may be provided. No child shall be confined in any police station, prison, jail, or lock-up, unless in a room entirely separate from adults, nor be transported in association with criminal, vicious or dissolute persons. Within a reasonable time after arresting a child as provided in this section, and before the child is confined in any place of detention, the arresting officer shall file a petition under oath as described herein. Nothing in this sub-title shall be construed as forbidding any peace officer, police officer, or other authorized person from immediately taking into custody any child who is found violating any law or ordinance, or who is reasonably believed to be a fugitive from his parents or from justice, or whose surroundings are such as to endanger his health, morals, or safety unless immediate action is taken. In every such case, the officer taking the child into custody shall proceed as provided in this section.

841. Upon the filing of any petition as herein provided, the Division of Parole and Probation shall make such investigation as may be directed by the Court to supplement information already available. Such report and recommendations, together with the petition and all other papers in the case, shall be transmitted to the Judge.

842. If a hearing is to be held, the Judge may issue writs of summons for all parties whose appearance is necessary, ordering them to appear before him at a time and place named therein. Service of writs and process issued by the Judge may be made by any police officer, peace officer, or by the members of the Division of Parole and Probation. In the performance of any of their duties under this sub-title, the Division of Parole and Probation shall have all the authority of Constables.

843. (Hearing—Disposition.) All cases under this sub-title concerning children shall be heard separately from cases against adults. Hearings shall be conducted in an informal manner, and may be adjourned from time to time. The Judge