

CONFERENCES INCIDENT TO AN INFORMAL ADJUSTMENT MAY NOT BE ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE IN ANY ADJUDICATORY HEARING OR IN A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING AGAINST HIM PRIOR TO CONVICTION.

(B) ANY INFORMATION SECURED OR STATEMENT MADE BY A PARTICIPANT DURING A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY PURSUANT TO §3-810 OR A STUDY PURSUANT TO §3-818 MAY NOT BE ADMITTED IN EVIDENCE IN ANY HEARING PRIOR TO THE ADJUDICATION OR IN A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING AGAINST HIM PRIOR TO CONVICTION.

(C) A STATEMENT MADE BY A CHILD, HIS PARENTS, GUARDIAN OR CUSTODIAN AT A WAIVER HEARING IS NOT ADMISSIBLE AGAINST HIM OR THEM IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS PRIOR TO CONVICTION EXCEPT WHEN THE PERSON IS CHARGED WITH PERJURY, AND THE STATEMENT IS RELEVANT TO THAT CHARGE AND IS OTHERWISE ADMISSIBLE.

3-812. PETITION; GENERAL PROCEDURES.

(A) A PETITION SHALL ALLEGE THAT A CHILD IS EITHER DELINQUENT, OR IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE, OR IN NEED OF SUPERVISION. IF IT ALLEGES DELINQUENCY, IT SHALL SET FORTH IN CLEAR AND SIMPLE LANGUAGE THE ALLEGED FACTS WHICH CONSTITUTE THE DELINQUENCY, AND SHALL ALSO SPECIFY THE LAWS ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED BY THE CHILD. IF IT ALLEGES THAT THE CHILD IS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE OR IN NEED OF SUPERVISION, THE PETITION SHALL SET FORTH IN CLEAR AND SIMPLE LANGUAGE THE ALLEGED FACTS SUPPORTING THAT ALLEGATION.

(B) PETITIONS ALLEGING DELINQUENCY SHALL BE PREPARED AND FILED BY THE STATE'S ATTORNEY. ALL OTHER PETITIONS SHALL BE PREPARED AND FILED BY THE INTAKE OFFICER.

(C) THE FORM OF PETITIONS AND ALL OTHER PLEADINGS, AND EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE COURT, SHALL BE AS SPECIFIED IN THE MARYLAND RULES.

(D) THE STATE'S ATTORNEY, UPON ASSIGNING HIS REASONS, MAY DISMISS A PETITION ALLEGING DELINQUENCY IN OPEN COURT.

(E) THE COURT SHALL CONDUCT ALL HEARINGS IN AN INFORMAL MANNER. IT MAY EXCLUDE THE GENERAL PUBLIC FROM A HEARING, AND ADMIT ONLY THOSE PERSONS HAVING A DIRECT INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDING AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

(F) THE COURT SHALL TRY CASES WITHOUT A JURY.

3-813. MASTERS.

(A) THE JUDGES OF A CIRCUIT COURT, AND THE SUPREME