

[(t)] (U) "Violation" means a violation of § 400, § 400A, § 401, § 402, or § 403 of Article 27 of the Code and § 26-103 of the Education Article for which a citation is issued.

[(u)] (V) "Witness" means any person who is or expects to be a State's witness.
3-810.

(a) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE intake officer shall receive:

- (1) Complaints from a person or agency having knowledge of facts which may cause a person to be subject to the jurisdiction of the court; and
- (2) Citations issued by a police officer under § 3-835 of this article.

(B) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL ONLY RECEIVE COMPLAINTS WHICH ALLEGE THAT A CHILD IS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE. UPON RECEIPT AND CONSIDERATION OF A COMPLAINT, THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT SHALL:

- (1) FILE A PETITION;
- (2) AUTHORIZE THE PERSON OR AGENCY MAKING THE COMPLAINT TO FILE A PETITION; OR
- (3) DENY AUTHORIZATION TO FILE THE COMPLAINT PETITION.

[(b)] (C) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in considering the complaint, the intake officer shall make a preliminary inquiry within 15 days as to whether the court has jurisdiction and whether judicial action is in the best interests of the public or the child. The intake officer may, after such inquiry and in accordance with this section:

- (i) Authorize the filing of a petition;
- (ii) Conduct a further investigation into the allegations of the complaint;
- (iii) Propose an informal adjustment of the matter; or
- (iv) Refuse authorization to file a petition.

[(2) If a complaint that concerns a child alleged to be in need of assistance is brought by a local department of social services, the intake officer shall file the petition without further investigation.]

[(3)] (2) (i) If a complaint is filed that alleges the commission of a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by an adult or alleges a violation of Article 27, § 36B of the Code, and if the intake officer denies authorization to file a petition or proposes an informal adjustment, the intake officer shall immediately:

1. Forward the complaint to the State's Attorney; and