

VIRGINIA:

**IN THE JUVENILE & DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT OF
LOUDOUN COUNTY**

Commonwealth of Virginia

vs.

NO. JJ _____

Defendant

Statement of Rights

1. **Attorney:** You have the right to be represented by an attorney. You may request time to hire an attorney. If you are unable to hire an attorney and your parent or guardian is unable or unwilling to hire an attorney, the court may appoint an attorney for you. Before the Court will appoint an attorney, you and your parent will be required to fill out a financial statement under oath. A parent or guardian may be required to contribute to the cost of a court appointed attorney. You also have the right to waive the right to have an attorney and represent yourself in which case you will have to sign a waiver.
2. **Public Hearing:** You have the right to have a public hearing or you may waive the right and request a private hearing.
3. **Plea:** You will be asked to enter a plea to the charge(s). You may plea not guilty, no contest or guilty.
4. **Not Guilty Plea:** If you plead not guilty, you have the right to a trial and a trial date will be scheduled (this is called adjudication in this Court). You are presumed innocent and the Commonwealth's Attorney must prove your guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. You may subpoena witnesses or documents for trial. You may cross-examine (question) the witnesses and call witnesses on your behalf. You may remain silent. Your silence may not be considered by the Court in determining your guilt or innocence. You may testify in your own behalf.
5. **Guilty or No Contest plea:** If you plead guilty or no contest, you are giving up your right to a trial and the rights set forth in paragraph 4.
6. **Punishment:** If you plead guilty, no contest, or if you are found guilty after a trial then the Court will schedule a date for the disposition of your case and will ask the probation officer assigned to handle the case to make a recommendation to the Court. The Court may impose a range of punishments which may restrict your liberty and may include detention (incarceration), fines, community service, probation, loss of license, counseling etc. A parent may also be ordered to do certain things. In some cases, you may have entered into a plea agreement and/or disposition agreement with the Commonwealth's Attorney. The recommendation of the probation officer and the plea agreement and/or disposition agreement is not binding upon the Court.
7. **Appeal:** You have the right to appeal this Court's decision to the Circuit Court.

Defendant

Parent or Guardian

I received this from the defendant after it was read and all questions about it were answered.

Date: _____

Judge