

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



Juvenile Justice

This comprehensive legislation was developed alongside a host of stakeholders that will hold for longer periods of time juveniles who possess or use a firearm, and bolster the juvenile justice system with more options to address the most serious crimes.

Recent events where juveniles were in possession of or used a firearm require time and deliberation to determine the best course of action. Juveniles charged with a firearm offense must remain in secure detention until they see a judge. Statutes should also be revised to make certain that for violent and gun related crimes that the presumption is to hold the juvenile in secure detention and to then allow a judge to depart from this with written findings. Unfortunately, the opposite is the case today and it puts the onus on the judge to submit findings in writing if they believe the juvenile should remain in secure detention.

This important piece of legislation will work to find balance where juveniles are offered chances at rehabilitation, while also keeping our communities safe from violent acts.

Support HB 1181 by Rep. Jacques and SB 1274 by Sen. Martin



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