



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES

**CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (“DYRS”) is deeply committed to assisting our clients (for purposes of this confidentiality agreement, “client” is defined as any and all youth within the jurisdiction of the Department), as they try to gain control over their lives. Towards this end, it is imperative that our clients know that this agency will protect their dignity and privacy by treating all information regarding them and their lives as strictly confidential. **This agency prohibits disclosure of any client information without the client’s express written permission or unless disclosure is mandated by law.** This means *even the confirmation or disclosure of whether a person is a client of this Agency*, unless the client has signed a written consent to release information or unless this Agency is required by law to disclose the information, is strictly prohibited.

As a representative of the media, you may gain access to client information during the course of a tour of a facility, a review of a program, or in a pre-approved interview with a client. DYRS may have given permission to film or take photographs. *Under all circumstances*, you must maintain strict confidentiality with respect to our clients. Unless you obtain express written permission from a client, you are prohibited from filming, recording or photographing any client or from broadcasting, publishing, or putting to other uses consistent with media coverage a client’s name, face or other identifying characteristic (such as the client’s voice).

DC Code §§ 2-1515.06, 16-2331 and 16-2332 mandate the confidentiality of juvenile records and the confidentiality of any and all information pertaining to juveniles associated with the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. Moreover, DC Code §16-2336 states:

Whoever willfully discloses, receives, makes use of, or knowingly permits the use of information concerning a child or other person in violation of sections §16-2331 through §16-2335, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$250 or imprisoned not more than ninety days, or both. Violations of this section shall be prosecuted by the Attorney General in the name of the District of Columbia.

Once you have reviewed the preceding information, please affirm your assent to maintain the confidentiality of juvenile records by signing the following agreement:

**In consideration of my participation in activities that may involve disclosure of client information, I agree not to disclose client information to anyone. I will direct any questions about clients to the appropriate staff member of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. If I violate this agreement, I understand that I may be subject to actions taken against me, up to and including prosecution by the Office of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature