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**OFFENSES COMMITTED BY JUVENILES WHILE ON AUTHORIZED LEAVE,  
UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE, AND MINIMUM SECURITY STATUS  
DURING FISCAL YEAR 1992**

**A Report To The Legislature As Required By  
Chapter 271, Laws of 1989**

NOVEMBER 1992

NCJRS

MAR 23 1997

ACQUISITIONS

Department of Social and Health Services  
Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report, which is required by RCW 13.40.030(1b), describes offenses committed by juvenile offenders under the supervision of the Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation (DJR), while on authorized leave (AL), unauthorized leave (UL), or minimum security status. Included in this report are the current security guidelines for the Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation (Appendix A) which describe how DJR youths are supervised at each security level.

### MINIMUM SECURITY

- In FY 1992, there were 1,467 transfers to minimum security status in DJR operated or contracted residential facilities.
- Youths on minimum security committed a total of 20 offenses. In addition, 101 minimum security placements resulted in unauthorized leaves. Fifty-eight of these leaves resulted in 54 escape convictions and 14 convictions for other offenses.

### AUTHORIZED LEAVES

- In FY 1992, there were 369 authorized leaves from DJR operated or contracted residential facilities.
- Two of these leaves resulted in offenses for which the youth(s) responsible were later convicted; a Theft 1 and a Theft 2. In addition, 4 of these leaves resulted in unauthorized leaves. Two of these unauthorized leaves resulted in convictions for escape. There were no other adjudicated offenses associated with unauthorized leave from authorized leave status in fiscal year 1992.

### UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES

- In FY 1992, there were 167 unauthorized leaves from DJR operated or contracted residential facilities.
- A total of 20 offenses (in addition to 88 adjudicated escapes) were committed by youths on unauthorized leave from DJR operated or contracted facilities.
- Forty-six percent of all unauthorized leaves were technical in nature and did not result in criminal conviction for escape.

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**SUMMARY**

- Between July 1, 1991 and June 30, 1992, juveniles on authorized leave, unauthorized leave, or minimum security status were adjudicated for 130 offenses.
- Sixty-eight percent of the convictions were for escape.
- Of the 42 non-escape convictions, those involving intended or actual physical harm to persons included: 2 burglaries in the first degree, 1 robbery in the second degree, 1 assault in the second degree, 1 unlawful imprisonment, and 3 assaults in the fourth degree.
- Most youths placed on minimum security or authorized leave abided by the limitations placed on their movement in the community. Almost half of the above 42 non-escape convictions were for offenses which occurred during unauthorized leaves. The most common offense committed by juveniles on unauthorized leave status was Auto Theft (25.0 percent). Burglaries, thefts, and attempted thefts accounted for 70.0 percent of all offenses committed by youths on unauthorized leave.
- Of the 1,467 minimum security placements which occurred during Fiscal Year 1992, 101 (6.9 percent) resulted in unauthorized leaves. Of these, 4 (4.0 percent) resulted in criminal convictions other than escape.
- Of the 369 authorized leaves which occurred during Fiscal Year 1992, 4 (1.1 percent) resulted in unauthorized leaves. Of these 4 unauthorized leaves, 2 resulted in escape convictions. No other adjudicated offenses were associated with unauthorized leave from authorized leave status in fiscal year 1992.

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## INTRODUCTION

This report was prepared in accordance with RCW 13.40.030(1b) which requires the secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services to submit a report to the legislature each year describing security in the state juvenile corrections system during the preceding one year period.

The security report is required to cover the following areas:

- the number of escapes from each juvenile facility.

- the most serious offense for which each escapee had been confined.

- the number and nature of offenses committed by juveniles while on escape (unauthorized leave) status.

- the number of authorized leaves granted.

- the number of failures to comply with authorized leave requirements.

- the number and nature of offenses committed while on leave status.

- the number and nature of offenses committed while on minimum security status.

Previous reports examined data for fiscal year 1984, fiscal years 85-86, fiscal years 87-88, fiscal year 1989, fiscal year 1990, and fiscal year 1991. This report is based on available data for the period July 1, 1991 to June 30, 1992 (fiscal year 1992), and covers the ninth one year period after the implementation of the security report requirement.

Attached as Appendix A, are the Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation's current security guidelines. These guidelines describe the purpose, objectives, and definitions of security standards throughout DJR.

## METHODOLOGY

The data described in the sections which follow were produced from two sources: the DJR Management Information System, the Juvenile Information System of the Office of the Administrator for the Courts (JUVIS) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP) information system. Information on the three types of events (unauthorized leaves, authorized leaves, and minimum security) were obtained from DJR. Conviction information for youths involved in these events were collected from JUVIS and the WSP information system and merged with the DJR data. The time span of each event (unauthorized leaves, authorized leaves, and minimum security) was used to identify offenses which occurred during an unauthorized leave, authorized leave, or minimum security placement.

## DATA

This study reports criminal conviction data from JUVIS. Only adjudicated offenses are included in this report. Charges which were not filed or were filed and dismissed are not included. The findings presented are based on the best available information on offenses committed by juvenile offenders. Any offenses which were not adjudicated and entered onto JUVIS and the WSP information system before September 30, 1992 were not included in the study.

## DEFINITIONS

The remainder of this section reviews the definitions of several terms employed in this report in order to clarify the methodology used and to avoid misinterpretation of the results. Three types of events are tracked in this security report: **unauthorized leaves, authorized leaves, and minimum security.**

### *UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES*

As used in this report, the term "unauthorized leave" refers to unauthorized absences from DJR operated or contracted residential facilities. Unauthorized leaves range from the use of physical force to leave a maximum security cottage to returning late from work to a privately operated group home or community residential placement.

Unauthorized leaves may or may not be prosecuted, and therefore may not result in a criminal conviction. Several counties have informal policies of not prosecuting unauthorized leaves from group homes if the youth returns within 24 hours and commits no new offenses.



Thus while often used interchangeably with the term "escape", UL's do not necessarily result in the charging of a criminal offense for the crime of escape under RCW 9A.76.

As a matter of policy, DJR administratively assesses consequences for all unauthorized absences. These consequences can range from being placed in a higher level of security, having the release date extended, or loss of privileges. The decision to prosecute rests with the local county prosecutor.

### *AUTHORIZED LEAVES*

As used in this report, the term "authorized leave" refers to absences of up to seven days from the physical custody of DJR which are approved in advance by DJR program staff. Leaves are used for transition planning (e.g., to register for school, to apply for work, etc.) and to maintain family relationships. Leaves to court (e.g., to appear in court) were excluded.

### *STAYS ON MINIMUM SECURITY*

For purposes of this report, "minimum security" is defined as assignment to DJR Security Level 4. DJR maintains a continuum of security from Level 1 (maximum security) to Level 4 (minimum security). Minimum security, or Security Level 4, typically involves placement in a group home. A copy of the current DJR Security Guidelines is included in this report as Appendix A.

### *OVERLAP BETWEEN EVENTS*

There is a potential for overlap across event types reported. For example, offenses may be committed while a youth is on authorized leave from a minimum security facility or an offender may escape from minimum security and commit an offense on the same day. To avoid duplication of reporting, any offense committed after an unauthorized leave is reported as an offense committed while on unauthorized leave, regardless of whether the absence was from authorized leave or minimum security. Offenses which are committed on authorized leave or minimum security status, without an unauthorized leave being reported, are included in the tables for authorized leave or minimum security placement, respectively.

## OFFENSES COMMITTED WHILE IN DJR CUSTODY

### INTRODUCTION

This section reports on offenses committed by juveniles while on unauthorized leave, authorized leave, and minimum security status during fiscal year 1992. The first subsection presents a general overview of the data. The remaining three subsections provide detailed information on offenses committed by youths on each of the three types of statuses.

Tables 1 and 2 present offenses committed by youths while on unauthorized leave, authorized leave or minimum security status. They display unduplicated counts of offenses committed by youths on each status.

A total of 130 offenses were committed across the three types of events. Eighty-eight, or 67.7 percent of these convictions were for escape. Forty-two, or 32.3 percent, were for offenses other than escape. Of these, the most serious were 4 Class B+ offenses: 2 burglaries in the first degree, 1 robbery in the second degree, and 1 assault in the second degree. The remaining 38 non-escape offenses were Class B or lower in seriousness. The most common non-escape offense was Auto Theft (14.3 percent). The next most common offenses were Theft 1 and Theft 2, each comprising 9.5 percent of the total offenses committed by youths on minimum security, authorized leave and unauthorized in 1992.

Table 3 summarizes offense data on authorized leaves, minimum security, and unauthorized leave. The data in each column are mutually exclusive. For example, offenses committed while a youth escaped from minimum security or authorized leave are not counted twice. Offenses committed while on escape from minimum security are counted as being committed while on unauthorized leave status; offenses committed while on escape from authorized leave status are also counted as being committed while on unauthorized leave status. Thus offenses shown as being committed while on minimum security represent those offenses committed without the youth actually "escaping" from DJR custody.

In fiscal year 1992, there were 369 authorized leaves from DJR custody. Two of these leaves resulted in offenses (a Theft 1 and a Theft 2) for which the youth(s) responsible were later convicted. In addition, 4 (1.1 percent) of these leaves resulted in unauthorized leaves. Two of these unauthorized absences from authorized leave status resulted in escape convictions. No other adjudicated offenses were associated with unauthorized leave from authorized leave status in fiscal year 1992.

Of 1,467 minimum security placements in fiscal year 1992, 17 (1.2 percent) resulted in 20 offense convictions. Another 101 (6.9 percent) resulted in unauthorized leaves.

There were 149 unauthorized leaves from DJR custody in fiscal year 1992. In addition, 18 youths who went on unauthorized leave prior to July 1, 1991 and continued on unauthorized leave status for at least part of fiscal year 1992 were also tracked, yielding a total of 167 unauthorized leaves.

TABLE 1

UNDUPLICATED SUMMARY OF OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY DJR  
YOUTHS WHILE ON UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE, AUTHORIZED  
LEAVE, OR MINIMUM SECURITY STATUS  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	OFFENSE	(N)	%
B+	BURGLARY 1	2	4.8
B+	ROBBERY 2	1	2.4
B+	ASSAULT 2 AS OF 7-1-89	1	2.4
B	BURGLARY 2	2	4.8
B	THEFT 1	4	9.5
B	RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	2	4.8
C+	UNLAWFUL IMPRISONMENT	1	2.4
C	FORGERY	1	2.4
C	AUTO THEFT	6	14.3
C	THEFT 2	3	7.1
C	POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	3	7.1
C	ATTEMPTED RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	1	2.4
D+	ASSAULT 4 AS OF 7-1-89	3	7.1
D	CRIMINAL TRESPASS 1	3	7.1
D	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF 3	1	2.4
D	THEFT 3	4	9.5
D	OTHER CLASS D OFFENSE	2	4.8
E	RESISTING ARREST	1	2.4
E	OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC SERVANT	1	2.4
TOTAL		42	100.0

\*Excludes 88 adjudicated escapes

TABLE 2

UNDUPLICATED SUMMARY OF CLASSES OF OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY DJR  
YOUTHS WHILE ON UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE, AUTHORIZED  
LEAVE, OR MINIMUM SECURITY STATUS  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	(N)	%
B+	4	9.5
B	8	19.0
C+	1	2.4
C	14	33.3
D+	3	7.1
D	10	23.8
E	2	4.8
TOTAL	42	100.0

\*Excludes 88 adjudicated escapes.

TABLE 3

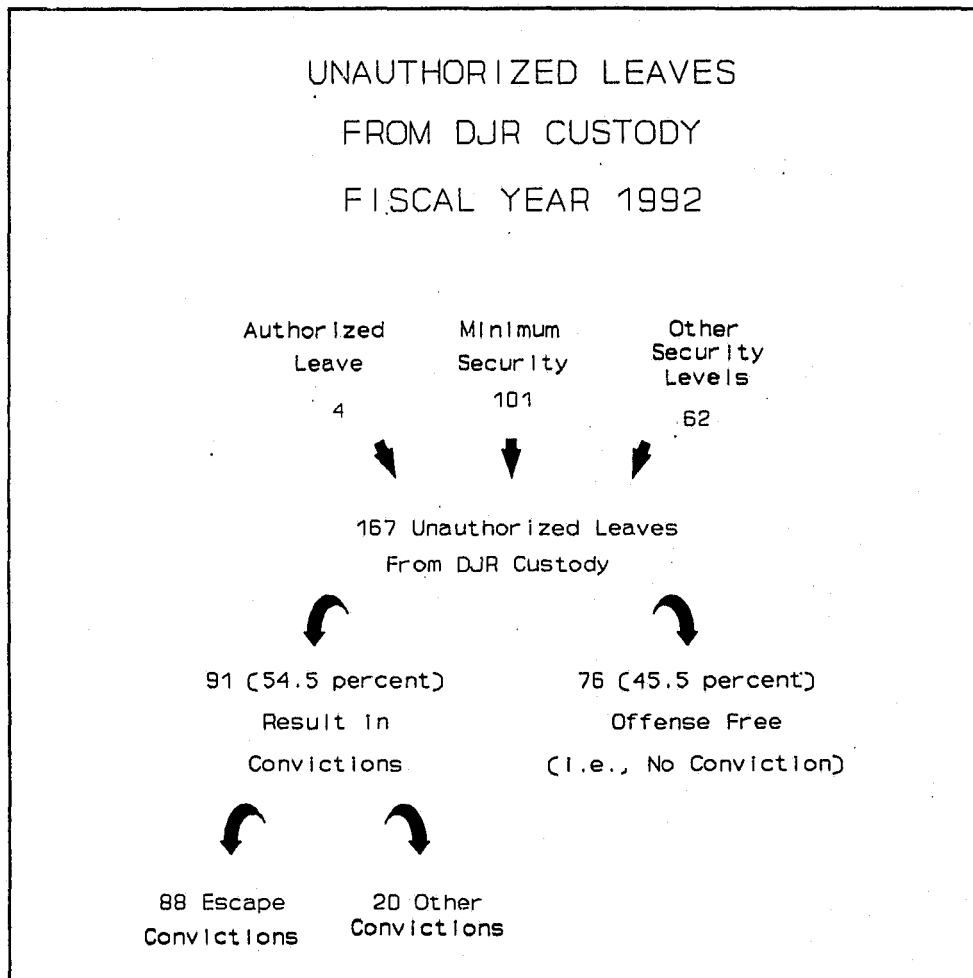
SUMMARY OF SECURITY REPORT DATA  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

	Authorized Leaves	Minimum Security	Unauthorized Leaves
Total Number of Events	369	1467	167
Number of Offense Free Events	367 (99.5%)	1450 (98.8%)	76 (45.5%)
Number of Events Resulting in Offenses	2 (0.5%)	17 (1.2%)	91 (54.5%)
Number of Events Resulting in Unauthorized Leaves	4	101	n/a
Number of Events Resulting in Escape Convictions Only	n/a	n/a	85
Number of Events Resulting in Convictions for Other Offenses	2	17	6
Total Offense Convictions	2	20	108
Number of Escape Convictions	n/a	n/a	88
Number of Other Offense Convictions	2	20	20

One hundred one (60.5 percent) of all unauthorized leaves were unauthorized absences from minimum security. Ninety-one unauthorized leaves resulted in 88 escape convictions (54 for escape from minimum security) and 20 non-escape convictions (14 of these convictions were for offenses committed while absent without permission from minimum security).

**UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES**

In fiscal year 1992, of the 167 unauthorized leaves from DJR facilities studied, 91 (54.5 percent) resulted in court adjudications. Altogether, youths who were absent without permission from custody were adjudicated and convicted of 88 escape offenses and 20 other offenses. Figure 1 illustrates the outcomes of the 167 unauthorized leaves.



**FIGURE 1. SOURCE AND OUTCOME OF UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES**

Most unauthorized leaves (60.5 percent) were absences from minimum security. Forty-three (42.6 percent) of these absences were offense free. Fifty-eight (57.4 percent) of these unauthorized leaves resulted in 54 convictions for escape and 14 for other offenses. These offenses represent 61.4 percent of all adjudicated escapes and 70.0 percent of all other adjudicated offenses occurring during unauthorized leaves in fiscal year 1992.

Table 4 presents unauthorized leaves by facility. Thirty-four percent of all unauthorized leaves were from privately operated group homes, 34.8 percent were from institutions and camps, and 31.8 percent were from state operated group homes.

Minimum security facilities accounted for a disproportionate share of unauthorized leaves. While 66 percent of the DJR capacity is in institutions, only 34.8 percent of all unauthorized leaves occurred in institutions. The over-representation of group homes in the unauthorized leave statistics is due in part to the technical nature of many group home unauthorized leaves and the higher level of security in institutions.

TABLE 4

UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES BY FACILITY  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

Facility	(N)	%
Maple Lane School	24	14.4
Green Hill School	5	3.0
Echo Glen Children's Center	19	11.4
Mission Creek Youth	4	2.4
Naselle Youth Camp	6	3.6
Woodinville Group Home	2	1.2
Sunrise Group Home	7	4.2
Oakridge Group Home	19	11.4
Canyon View Group Home	3	1.8
Parke Creek Group Home	10	6.0
Twin Rivers Group Home	6	3.6
Ridgeview Group Home	6	3.6
Region 1 Private Group Home	17	10.2
Region 2 Private Group Home	2	1.2
Region 3 Private Group Home	2	1.2
Region 4 Private Group Home	10	6.0
Region 5 Private Group Home	13	7.8
Region 6 Private Group Home	12	7.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 5 presents the adjudicated offenses of youths on unauthorized leave. The most common offense, not surprisingly, is escape. Most of the other offenses also did not involve real or intended physical harm to people. Seventy percent of all offenses committed by youths on unauthorized leave during fiscal year 1992 were thefts, burglaries, or attempted thefts. The most common offense, other than escape, was Auto Theft (N=5). The most serious of these offenses were 1 count each of Burglary 1, Robbery 2, and Assault 2.

Table 6 summarizes the data presented in Table 5 by offense class.

TABLE 5

OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY YOUTHS WHILE  
ON UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE (FY1992)

CLASS	OFFENSE	(N)	%
B+	BURGLARY 1	1	5.0
B+	ROBBERY 2	1	5.0
B+	ASSAULT 2 AS OF 7-1-89	1	5.0
B	BURGLARY 2	2	10.0
B	THEFT 1	2	10.0
B	RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	2	10.0
C+	UNLAWFUL IMPRISONMENT	1	5.0
C	AUTO THEFT	5	25.0
C	ATTEMPTED RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	1	5.0
D	OTHER CLASS D OFFENSE	2	10.0
E	RESISTING ARREST	1	5.0
E	OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC SERVANT	1	5.0
TOTAL		20	100.0

\*88 escapes were also adjudicated.

TABLE 6

CLASS OF OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY YOUTHS  
WHILE ON UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	(N)	%
B+	3	15.0
B	6	30.0
C+	1	5.0
C	6	30.0
D	2	10.0
E	2	10.0
TOTAL	20	100.0

\*88 escapes were also adjudicated.

Table 7 presents the most serious offense for which youths on unauthorized leave had been confined at the time of their unauthorized leave. Table 8 summarizes the same data by offense class. The most common of these offenses are Burglary 2 (N=41), Robbery 1 (N=21), and Assault 2 (N=18). Altogether, 47.9 percent of the youth who were on unauthorized leave in fiscal year 1992 had been confined for one of these offenses. Thirty-six of these youths (21.6 percent) had been confined for class B+ to A+ offenses.



TABLE 7

MOST SERIOUS CONFINEMENT OFFENSE OF YOUTHS  
ON UNAUTHORIZED LEAVE FROM DJR  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	OFFENSE	(N)	%
A+	MURDER 1	1	0.6
A-	RAPE OF A CHILD 1	2	1.2
B+	ASSAULT 1	5	3.0
B+	ARSON 1	5	3.0
B+	RAPE 1	1	0.6
B+	ROBBERY 1	21	12.6
B+	OTHER CLASS A OFFENSE	1	0.6
C+	BURGLARY 1	15	9.0
C+	INDECENT LIBERTIES	2	1.2
C+	INTIMIDATING A WITNESS	2	1.2
C+	ROBBERY 2	13	7.8
C+	CHILD MOLESTATION 1	1	0.6
C	ASSAULT 2	18	10.8
C	ARSON 2	2	1.2
C	BURGLARY 2	41	24.6
C	THEFT 1	3	1.8
C	POSSESSION OF NARCOTICS	12	7.2
C	ATTMPT RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY	1	0.6
D	ESCAPE 1	12	7.2
D	ASSAULT 3	1	0.6
D	FORGERY	1	0.6
D	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF 2	1	0.6
D	POSSESSION STOLEN PROPERTY 2	1	0.6
D	RECKLESS BURNING 1	1	0.6
D	AUTO THEFT	3	1.8
E	SIMPLE ASSAULT	1	0.6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>167</b>	<b>100.0</b>

TABLE 8

CLASS OF MOST SERIOUS CONFINEMENT OFFENSE  
OF YOUTHS TAKING UNAUTHORIZED LEAVES  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	(N)	%
A+	1	0.6
A-	2	1.2
B+	33	19.8
C+	33	19.8
C	77	46.1
D	20	12.0
E	1	0.6
TOTAL	167	100.0

### AUTHORIZED LEAVES

In fiscal year 1992, DJR authorized 369 leaves for offenders. These leaves are designed to assist in the transition of youths back into their communities and to help them maintain family ties. Two of these leaves resulted in 2 adjudicated offenses; a Theft 1 and a Theft 2. Another 4 of these leaves resulted in unauthorized absences from custody. Of these unauthorized leaves, 2 resulted in escape convictions. No other adjudicated offenses were associated with unauthorized leave from authorized leave status in fiscal year 1992.

Table 9 presents data on leaves by facility. Group homes authorized 302 leaves (81.8 percent of the total); institutions and camps authorized 67 leaves (18.2 percent). Echo Glen Children's Center authorized the bulk of leaves from DJR institutions and camps (13.3 percent).

TABLE 9

AUTHORIZED LEAVES BY FACILITY  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

Facility	(N)	%
Green Hill School	3	0.8
Echo Glen Children's Center	49	13.3
Mission Creek Youth	14	3.8
Naselle Youth Camp	1	0.3
Woodinville Group Home	46	12.5
Sunrise Group Home	26	7.0
Oakridge Group Home	4	1.1
Canyon View Group Home	8	2.2
Twin Rivers Group Home	5	1.4
Region 1 Private Group Home	77	20.9
Region 2 Private Group Home	104	28.2
Region 3 Private Group Home	3	0.8
Region 4 Private Group Home	16	4.3
Region 5 Private Group Home	4	1.1
Region 6 Private Group Home	9	2.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### MINIMUM SECURITY PLACEMENTS

In fiscal year 1992, a total of 1,467 minimum security placements were approved. Only 17, or 1.2 percent of these placements resulted in offense convictions. Table 10 shows the offenses for which youths on minimum security were convicted. Altogether, youths placed on minimum security in fiscal year 1992 were adjudicated for a total of 20 offenses. The most serious offense was 1 count of Burglary 1, a class B+ offense. The most common offenses were Theft 3, Possession of Controlled Substances, Assault 4, and Criminal Trespass 1. These four offenses comprise 13 of the 20 offenses. Table 11 summarizes the same data by offense class. As these two tables indicate, the majority of offenses committed by youths on minimum security do not involve real or intended physical harm to others.

TABLE 10

OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY YOUTHS WHILE ON MINIMUM SECURITY  
FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	OFFENSE	(N)	%
B+	BURGLARY 1	1	5.0
B	THEFT 1	1	5.0
C	FORGERY	1	5.0
C	AUTO THEFT	1	5.0
C	THEFT 2	2	10.0
C	POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANC3	3	15.0
D+	ASSAULT 4 AS OF 7-1-89	3	15.0
D	CRIMINAL TRESPASS 1	3	15.0
D	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF 3	1	5.0
D	THEFT 3	4	20.0
TOTAL		20	100.0

TABLE 11

CLASS OF OFFENSES\* COMMITTED BY YOUTHS WHILE ON  
MINIMUM SECURITY FISCAL YEAR 1992

CLASS	(N)	%	
B+	1	5.0	
B	1	5.0	
C	7	35.0	
D+	3	15.0	
D	8	40.0	
TOTAL		20	100.0

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## SUMMARY

This report presents information on offenses committed by youths under Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation jurisdiction who were placed on authorized leave, unauthorized leave, and minimum security during fiscal year 1992. Most youths placed on minimum security or authorized leave abided by the limitations placed on their movement in the community. The offenses committed by youths initially placed on these statuses typically occurred during unauthorized absences. A total of 130 offenses were committed. Escapes accounted for 67.7 percent of these offenses.

Minimum security placements constitute the bulk of time spent by juvenile offenders in community settings. In fiscal year 1992, only 6.9 percent of placements on minimum security (101 of 1,467) resulted in unauthorized absences. Of these, 58 resulted in criminal convictions, including 54 escape convictions and 14 convictions for other offenses.

The Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation granted 369 authorized leaves in fiscal year 1992. Only 2 leaves resulted in criminal convictions. In addition, 4 authorized leaves resulted in unauthorized absences. Two of these unauthorized leaves resulted in escape convictions. No other adjudicated offenses were associated with unauthorized leave from authorized leave status in fiscal year 1992.

The data presented indicate that the use of leaves and minimum security placements involves some risk. This risk, however, must be balanced against the benefits of these placements. These include greater family involvement in the treatment process and improved transition for the youths' return to the community. Only a fraction of the youths placed on authorized leave and minimum security status in fiscal year 1992 were ever absent without permission or committed new offenses during their placements. Those offenses that were committed consisted primarily of escape and relatively minor property offenses. The majority of the youths on authorized leave or minimum security status in fiscal year 1992 abided by the terms of their leaves and worked to improve their ties to the community.

APPENDIX A

DJR BULLETIN #5

SECURITY STANDARDS

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**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES**

**DIVISION OF JUVENILE REHABILITATION**

**DJR BULLETIN #5**

**TO:** Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation Staff  
**FROM:** Director, Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation  
**SUBJECT:** SECURITY STANDARDS  
**DATE:** September 1, 1986

**5-100 PURPOSE**

This Bulletin establishes and describes standards pertaining to the security imposed on youth under confinement in Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation (DJR) residential facilities.

**5-200 OBJECTIVES**

1. To provide for maximum public safety.
2. To provide security based on the age, offenses, and criminal history of the youth.
3. To provide a process for reducing or increasing security commensurate with the level of custody required for a youth.
4. To provide a method of administrative review.

**5-300 DEFINITIONS**

1. Restricted Offender

A youth serving a sentence for, or a series of sentences that include, an offense that would meet the statutory definition of "serious offender" (RCW 13.40.020) excluding the age requirement.

2. Minimum Term

The total of all consecutive minimum sentences.

## **5-400 SECURITY LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS**

### **5-410 Security Level I**

**Facility** - a youth at Security Level I will reside and participate in programs in a living unit with security window, locked exterior doors, lockable single-person rooms, and/or a security fence around the living unit.

**Campus Movement** - Campus movement is permitted only between secure units and close staff escort is required.

**Community Access** - Off campus movement is not allowed except for court appearance or emergencies. These require an escort and transportation in a security vehicle and/or restraints. Authorized leaves are not permitted except for medical or emergency reasons as per DJR Bulletin #8 - Policy & Procedure for Authorized leaves From Residential Status.

### **5-420 Security Level 2**

**Facility** - A youth at Security level 2 may reside in any institutional unit with security windows and locked exterior doors and/or with fire exit doors fitted with alarms.

**Campus Movement** - Movement on campus requires staff escort or continuous visual surveillance.

**Community Access** - Off campus activities are not permitted except for participation in Department of Natural Resources supervised work crews or other programs approved by the Director. Movement off campus for court appearances or emergencies requires an escort and transportation in a security vehicle and/or restraints. Authorized leaves are not permitted except for medical or emergency reasons as per DJR Bulletin #8.

### **5-430 Security Level 3**

**Facility** - A youth at Security Level 3 may reside in an institutional unit with security windows and locked exterior doors and/or with fire exit doors fitted with alarms.

**Campus Movement** - Consistent with public safety, unescorted movement on campus may be permitted.



**Community Access** - Consistent with public safety, escorted off campus activities may be permitted. Authorized leaves may be permitted as per DJR Bulletin #8.

#### **5-440 Security Level 4**

Security Level 4 is minimum security.

**Facility** - A youth at Security Level 4 may reside in an institutional unit, group home or contracted community residential placement.

**Campus Movement** - Consistent with public safety, unescorted movement on campus may be permitted.

**Community Access** - Escorted community activities may be permitted. Unescorted participation in community work, educational, community service or treatment programs may be permitted for up to twelve hours a day. Authorized leaves may be permitted as per DJR Bulletin #8.

#### **5-500 INITIAL SECURITY LEVEL DESIGNATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT CHANGES**

##### **Restricted Offenders**

1. Restricted offenders will be placed at Security level 1 at intake.
2. After 2 months at Level 1, a youth may be considered for Level 2.
3. After 2 months at Level 2, a youth may be considered for Level 3.
4. At 60% of the minimum term, a youth may be considered for Level 4. A youth must have gained Level 3 before being eligible for Level 4; 5-510(2) and 5-510(3) take precedence over the 60% rule.
5. All exceptions to these rules for restricted offenders must be approved by the Institution Superintendent or Regional Administrator and noted in a Record of Official Action.

#### **5-520 Other Long-Term and B+ Offenders**

1. A youth who is not a restricted offender, but serving a sentence for a B+ offense or serving a minimum sentence of 103 weeks or more will be placed at Security level 2 at intake.

2. After 4 months at Level 2, a youth may be considered for Level 3.
3. At 60% of the minimum term, a youth may be considered for Level 4. A youth must have gained Level 3 before being eligible for Level 4.
4. All exceptions to these rules must be approved by the Institution Superintendent and noted in a Record of Official Action.

#### **5-530 All Other Youth**

1. All other youth initially placed in an institution will be placed at Level 2 at intake.
2. After 2 months at Level 2, a youth may be considered for Levels 3 or 4.
3. All youth serving a 16 week sentence or less, excluding serious and restricted offenders, will be initially placed in a group home or CRP at Level 4 by a diagnostic program. Exceptions may be approved if the youth: a) present a risk to public safety; b) present a danger to themselves; and/or, c) have an escape or run away history.
4. Certain Community Corrections Projects utilizing a three-phase format for short sentence offenders may adjust time-frames for Levels 2 and above to facilitate and requirements of their program. Such adjustments shall be submitted to the Director or designee for approval, and thereafter be made a part of, or addenda to, their Statement of Work.
5. All exceptions to these rules must be approved by the appropriate Institution Superintendent or Regional Administrator and noted in a Record of Official Action.

#### **5-540 Security Level Changes**

1. No security level change will be made unless it is consistent with public safety and commensurate with the level of custody required for the youth.
2. Other than initial placement of Restricted Offenders, placing a youth at Security Level I requires an administrative review and approval by a Juvenile Rehabilitation Administrator I or above of the treatment team's recommendation. A Record of Official Action will document the decision.
3. All other changes in security levels may be made by the living unit treatment team. Such changes shall be entered in MAPPER and recorded in the next Treatment Report.

4. Any time there is a reasonable assumption that a youth has committed an offense while serving a sentence, the living unit treatment team will evaluate any threat to public safety and consider an increase in the level of security. Any actions will be documented in a Record of Official Action.

#### **5-600 APPEALS**

Youth may appeal their security level placement through the Youth Complaint-Appeal procedure (DJR Bulletin #13).