

19.04 RUNAWAY REPORT

Runaway reports will be handled as any other priority 3 calls. Officers will have to personally make contact with the complainant. In addition to completing a runaway Missing Person report (PD-368) and narrative (on an EPD Follow-Up report form), a statement that is signed by the complainant must accompany the report.

Parents/complainants will be encouraged to provide a recent photograph to be added to the runaway report.

SEE JUVENILE OPERATIONS

21.0 RUNAWAY REPORTING

Runaway reports will be handled as any other priority 3 calls. Officers will have to personally make contact with the complainant. In addition to completing a runaway Missing Person report (PD-368) and narrative (on an EPD Follow-Up report form), a statement that is signed by the complainant must accompany the report.

Parents/complainants will be encouraged to bring a recent photograph by the station to be added to the runaway report.

In 1995 the Washington State Legislature enacted a bill governing at-risk youth this bill was called the "Becca Bill." In 1996 this Bill was amended is referred to as the "Becca Too Bill." This bill went into effect June 6, 1996. A protocol has been developed in cooperation with the Snohomish County Becca Bill Task Force, Social Services and Law Enforcement agencies.

This protocol lays out the procedures for law enforcement to follow to access services of DSHS, Division of Children and Family Services, and the secure and semi-secure Crises Residential beds in Snohomish County.

(Semi-secure facilities in Snohomish County are any of the Cedar House Facilities. As of April 2000 there will be a secure facility for Snohomish County Runaways, located at Denny Juvenile Justice Center)

21.02 RUNAWAY PROCEDURE

If the child is a runaway from home, or is in danger, the law enforcement officer should first attempt to contact the parent and do the following:

Inform the child why he/she is in custody;

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Take the child home. *If the parent is not home, take the child to the parent's place of employment.*

Release the child to the parent and give the following information:

Inform the parent why the child was in custody

Inform the child and the parent about available community services.

If the parents request, the officer shall take the child to one of the following places if in the officer's belief the place is in reasonable distance of the parent's home:

To the home of an adult extended family member (18 years of age or older)

To a responsible adult

To a Crises Residential Center

To local Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) office, or Emergency Response Unit or, to a licensed youth shelter (In Snohomish County the licensed youth shelter is: **Cocoon House**)

Inform the child and person receiving the child about available community services. If a parent cannot be contacted, if the child is afraid to return home, or if transporting the child home or to the parent's work place is not within reasonable distance the officer should contact the Snohomish County DCFS office, during conventional business hours or the DCFS Emergency Response Unit during non-conventional hours. If it is more convenient the officer has the option of contacting Cedar House, (the semi-secure Crises Residential Center in Snohomish County).

The Becca Bill gives the officer the option to contact the local Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) office or the Crises Residential Center (CRC). It is advisable for the officer to contact the local DCFS office first to arrange for services and possible placement of the youth. Attached is a list of local contact phone numbers and addresses.

Local offices of:

Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)

840 N. Broadway, Bldg. A, Suite 340
Everett, WA 98201
Phone No. **425-339-4768**
Toll Free: 1-800-927-4665
Fax No. 425-339-1945

Snohomish County Semi-Secure CRC (Crises Residential Center)

2024 Cedar Street 617 148th St. NE
Everett/Arlington, WA 9822304
Phone No. ~~425-258-4235~~ 360-652-

DCFS

Emergency Response Unit

(For non-conventional business Hrs.)
Everett DCFS Office
840 N. Broadway, Bldg. A
Everett WA 98201
Phone No. **425-339-3900**
Fax No. 425-339-1945

Snohomish County Licensed Youth Shelter (Cocoon House)

2726 Cedar St.
Everett, WA 98201
Phone No. **425-259-6042**

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Fax No. 425-259-9335

21.08 CLEARING REPORTS

If an officer is detailed to take a report in which a reported runaway has returned home, or has been located, the officer must correctly clear the report by one of the following methods;

If the returning juvenile was reported as an Everett Runaway, then the officer must use the original Everett case number, and complete a follow-up report to the original Missing Person Report.-

If the juvenile was picked up and is a reported runaway from a jurisdiction other than the City of Everett, a new case number must be used. Officers will complete a new Incident Report to document their actions.