

**NOTE**

Consider pre-filing alternatives.  
See Diversion Bench Card.

## COMPLAINT FOR UNRULY CHILD [\[R.C. 2151.27\]](#)

Upon the filing of a complaint alleging that a child is unruly, the court may hold the complaint in abeyance pending the child's successful completion of diversion programming.

- If the child completes diversion to the court's satisfaction, the court may dismiss the complaint.
- If the child fails to complete diversion to the court's satisfaction, the court may consider the complaint.

## RIGHT TO COUNSEL AND APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

A child's right to counsel and rules for appointment of a Guardian ad Litem apply in unruly cases.

*See Juvenile Delinquency Bench Card (Right to Counsel and Appointment of Guardian ad Litem).*

## HOLDING AN UNRULY CHILD [\[R.C. 2151.312\]](#); [\[R.C. 2151.33\]](#)

- A child alleged to be or adjudicated an unruly child may be held only in the following places:
  - A certified family foster home or a home approved by the court, for a period not more than 60 days or until final disposition of the case;
  - A facility operated by a certified child welfare agency;
  - Any other suitable place designated by the court.
- An unruly child may not be held in any of the following facilities:
  - A state correctional institution, county, multicounty, or municipal jail or workhouse, or other place in which an adult convicted

of a crime, under arrest, or charged with a crime is held;

- A secure correctional facility.
- A child alleged to be or adjudicated an unruly child may not be held for more than 24 hours in a detention facility. [\[R.C. 2151.312\(B\)\(2\)\]](#)

*See Detained Youth bench card for additional information on detention of an unruly child.*

## ORDERS OF DISPOSITION [\[R.C. 2151.354\]](#)

- If the child is adjudicated an unruly child, the court may:
  - Make any of the dispositions authorized for an abused, neglected, or dependent child under [R.C. 2151.353](#);
  - Place the child on community control under conditions the court prescribes, provided that if the court imposes a period of community service upon the child, the period of community service not exceed 175 hours;
  - Suspend the driver's license, probationary driver's license, or temporary instruction permit issued to the child for a period of time prescribed by the court;
  - Commit the child to the temporary or permanent custody of the court.
- If a child is adjudicated an unruly child for committing any act that would be a drug-abuse offense if committed by an adult, the court must do both of the following in addition to any other disposition that may be imposed:
  - Require the child to participate in a drug-abuse or alcohol-abuse counseling program;
  - Suspend the temporary instruction permit, probationary driver's license, or driver's license issued to the child for a period of time prescribed by the court.

