

Questions from around the state



Q: I would like to interview a child witness. Do I have to notify the child's parents?

A: It has always been my understanding over the past 24 years of doing interviews with juveniles that we have no obligation to contact parents before talking with a child. However, my practice is to do so whenever possible especially with anyone under 16. It causes a lot fewer problems in the long run. The police have no obligation to contact parents and often don't so you can play it either way. I feel it's much safer letting the parents know what I'm doing and explaining my purpose. It rarely changes my success rate in talking with the juvenile. John Sweitz, SPD Investigator, MKE Juvenile

Q: Can I get my client's fingerprints removed from the DOJ database?

A: Wisconsin Statute 165.84(1) states in part "*Any person arrested or taken into custody and subsequently released without charge, or cleared of the offense through court proceedings, shall have any fingerprint record taken in connection therewith returned upon request.*" Completion and submission of the Fingerprint Record Removal Request will result in the removal of arrest information for those arrests that meet the requirements of the statute.

The form can be found here: <http://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/dles/cib-forms/record-check-unit/DJ-LE-250B-fw.pdf>

Special points of interest:

- **SPD Payment Processing Times**
- **Questions from around the state**
- **Save the Date: Upcoming SPD Training Events**

SPD Payment Processing Times

Thank you to everyone for your patience. We realize the payment times have been slowing and this makes it very difficult to run your businesses. In July, we will be hiring a temporary auditor to assist with processing. Our goal is to get the invoice submission-to-payment time down to around 60 days in September.



SAVE THE DATE!

Below are upcoming CLE programs sponsored by the State Public Defender's Office. Detailed information about each of these programs, including cost and registration instructions, will be emailed to private bar attorneys as each program date gets closer. Also, check the [SPD website](#) for more information.

July 16

Chapter 980 Training

Milwaukee State Office Building

August 5 & 6

Handling a Misdemeanor Case from A to Z

Marquette Law School

August 21

Rules of Evidence CLE

Milwaukee State Office Building

Sept 14-18

Criminal Defense Investigation Institute

Lake Lawn Resort—Delavan

September 24

Rules of Evidence CLE

Appleton

September 25

Rules of Evidence CLE

Madison

October 1

Rules of Evidence CLE

Eau Claire

October 2

Rules of Evidence CLE

Wausau

October 20 & 21

Termination of Parental Rights Cases: Private Bar Certification Training

Chula Vista Resort—Wisconsin Dells

November 11

Chapter 938 Juvenile Delinquency Cases: Private Bar Certification Training

Milwaukee Hyatt Regency Hotel

November 12 & 13

Annual SPD Criminal Defense Conference

Milwaukee Hyatt Regency Hotel