

FOIA-019-25 – Paul Bowers

Number of Transfers FY 24-25	Reason for Transfer
11	Due to Facility Restructure
5	Security Transfer
1	Security Transfer for Safety
1	Due to Commitment Status Change
1	Due to Court Order

This data is responsive to item # 16 regarding the number of transfers from MEDC to other SCDJJ facilities and the reasons for those transfers.

Definitions:

Referral: A youth first enters the juvenile justice system when they are referred to SCDJJ. A referral can happen in two ways: the youth is taken into custody by law enforcement or SCDJJ receives a referral from a solicitor or a school.

If a youth is taken into custody by law enforcement, the officer can either release them to an adult (usually a guardian) or detain them at a juvenile detention center.

Detention: If law enforcement decides to detain a youth, they will be taken to a juvenile detention center. There are currently two juvenile detention centers in South Carolina. Charleston County has a juvenile wing in their county detention center that only serves youth from Charleston. All other youth are taken to SCDJJ's Juvenile Detention Center in Columbia. If a youth is taken to a juvenile detention center by law enforcement, they will be held there until they have a detention hearing before a family court judge, who will decide if they will be released to a guardian or remain detained. Detention hearings usually happen within 48 hours of the youth arriving at a detention center, but not always.

Commitment: A commitment to a secure facility can be determinate or indeterminate. A determinate commitment is a commitment for a specific amount of time that is decided by the judge. An indeterminate commitment is up to the youth's 22nd birthday. If a youth receives an indeterminate commitment, the length of time they spend in a secure facility is determined by the Board of Juvenile Parole or SCDJJ's release authority. Time in custody can range from 1 to 54 months but may be shortened for good behavior. Youths released from an indeterminate commitment can be released unconditionally or can be released to parole.

Admission: Youth will be admitted to and placed in secure custody at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (SCDJJ) Detention Center when ordered by the Court or when taken into custody by law enforcement who has determined the youth to be in need of detention.