



Wayne County  
Juvenile and Youth Services

**SUBJECT:**

Confidentiality and Disclosure of Youth Tether Information

**POLICY NUMBER:**

407.06

**GOVERNING AUTHORITY:**

Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL)

**DIVISION:**

Community Supervision

**PAGE:**

1 of 5

**ISSUE DATE:**

3/27/2026

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

4/27/2026

**ANNUAL REVIEW DATE:**

March Annually

**RESCINDS:**

All Previous

**AMENDMENTS:**

(1)

**PURPOSE:**

This policy establishes the classification, control, and disclosure framework for youth electronic monitoring (tether) information maintained under court-authorized supervision by the Wayne County Juvenile and Youth Services Department (WC-JYS). Youth tether information constitutes confidential juvenile justice information protected under applicable law and court rules. This policy defines the authority, conditions, and limitations governing routine disclosure and authorized real-time information release during officer-declared active critical incidents.

**SCOPE:**

This policy applies to House Arrest Services, Inc. (HAS), all Providers authorized to deliver electronic monitoring services on behalf of WC-JYS, and any personnel with access to youth tether information. It governs the classification, handling, and disclosure of youth tether information in all circumstances, including routine law enforcement requests and authorized real-time information release during officer-declared active critical incidents.

**Definitions:**

**Electronic Monitoring:** Tethering technology that allows a juvenile to be "tracked" via a Global Positioning System (GPS) device while residing in an in-home living arrangement. The technology involves a bracelet-like device (Secure Cuff/Strap) fastened to the juvenile's ankle, which is monitored by a Web-based database.

**House Arrest Services, Inc. (HAS):** The contracted service provider authorized by WC-JYS to operate and administer electronic services, including installation, monitoring, maintenance, and management of youth tether equipment and related data. HAS performs these functions on behalf of WC-JYS under court-authorized supervision and is subject to all confidentiality and disclosure requirements set forth in this policy.

**Juvenile Agency Information System JAIS:** Wayne County's electronic case information system used to record intake/registration, assignments, case notes, reports, and required incident reporting for juveniles and youth receiving services.

**Juvenile Justice Information:** Records and information related to a youth subject to juvenile court jurisdiction or court-authorized supervision that are protected from unauthorized disclosure under MCL 712A.28 and applicable Michigan Court Rules.

**Provider:** Any external entity authorized by WC-JYS to provide electronic monitoring services, supervision, equipment, or support functions related to juvenile court-authorized activities.

**Warrant Enforcement Bureau (WEB):** The WC-JYS Unit staffed by Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies and operating in association with the Violent Crime Reduction Initiative-Fugitive Apprehension Service Team (VCRI-FAST). WEB is responsible for community-based enforcement activities including curfew checks, field compliance checks, apprehension of youth with court ordered warrants, secure transport, and support in locating missing youth. The unit operates in coordination with the Court, CMOs, House Arrest Services, and law enforcement partners to ensure supervision and public safety.

**Violent Crime Reduction Initiative-Fugitive Apprehension Service Team (VCRI-FAST):** A specialized law enforcement task force established to execute arrests based on warrants and probable cause. VCRI-FAST is a partnership between Wayne County and the Detroit Police Department. The team responds primarily to serious and violent offenses, supports fugitive apprehension efforts, and supports juvenile tethers in connection with critical incidents. Civilian intelligence specialists associated with WEB and VCRI-FAST have authorized access to juvenile tether systems and may review tether data and provide real-time location information during active critical incidents.

## **Procedures:**

### **A. Confidential Status of Youth Tether Information**

Youth electronic monitoring information maintained under court-authorized supervision constitutes confidential juvenile justice information protected under applicable law and court rules.

Youth tether / juvenile justice information shall not be released except as authorized under this policy or by valid court order.

The Provider shall neither confirm nor deny the existence of a tether assignment, compliance status, location data, or any other supervision-related information unless disclosure is authorized under this policy.

### **B. Disclosure Authority Framework**

1. Primary law enforcement disclosure authority rests with the Violent Crime Reduction Initiative-Fugitive Apprehension Service Team (VCRI-FAST) and the Warrant Enforcement Bureau (WEB).
2. The Provider is not authorized to serve as the routine point of disclosure for youth tether information.
3. The Provider shall not independently release youth tether information except as authorized under Section D of this policy or by valid court order.

### **C. Routine Law Enforcement Requests**

1. When a law enforcement agency requests youth tether information outside of a real-time critical incident, the Provider must not release information.
2. The Provider must direct the requesting agency to the appropriate primary disclosure authority. WEB primarily handles youth-related enforcement inquiries and VCRI-FAST handles adult and youth inquiries.
3. Upon receipt of a request, Providers must respond only for the purpose of directing the requesting agency to VCRI-FAST and WEB and shall provide the following routing resources:
  - Tether Tracking matters (Person-of-Interest Tether Tracking): [VCRI/FAST WCSO tether tracker](#)
  - Tether Scene Matters: [VCRI/FAST Tether Scene Requests](#)
  - Vendors may also direct the requesting agency to contact VCRI-FAST at [fast@detroitmi.gov](mailto:fast@detroitmi.gov).
  - WEB may be contacted through the same official channels identified for VCRI-FAST in this section.
4. The Provider must not confirm or deny the existence of a tether assignment, compliance status, location data, or any other supervision-related information.

### **D. Real-Time Law Enforcement Disclosure**

This section governs real-time law enforcement inquiries requiring immediate tether review or response. Real-time law enforcement inquiries may include, but are not limited to, officer-declared active critical incidents or crime scene-related investigations.

Real-Time Law Enforcement Disclosure is authorized when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- A sworn law enforcement officer in the State of Michigan represents that the incident is active and requires immediate response.
- The Provider verifies that the requesting individual is a sworn law enforcement officer in the State of Michigan prior to disclosure.
- Credential verification is completed through review of official identification if the request is made in person or confirmation of an official law enforcement agency email address if the request is made electronically.
- The requesting officer states that VCRI-FAST or WEB could not be reached through the official channels identified in Section C at the time of the request.

If these conditions are satisfied, the Provider may review tether data for the location and time period identified and may disclose youth-specific tether information as requested.

If the provider chooses to release information under this section, the provider shall release the information immediately after verifying credentials.

The Provider shall not release information if the identity or sworn status of the requesting individual cannot be verified.

**E. Documentation Requirements**

The Provider shall document all requests and disclosures related to youth tether information in JAIS no later than twenty-four (24) hours from the time the request was received.

Documentation shall include:

- The date and time the request was received.
- The name of the requesting agency.
- The name of the requesting officer, if provided.
- The method used to verify credentials.
- A summary of the information requested and disclosed.

Documentation is not required when no youth is identified and no youth-specific information is disclosed.

**F. Training and Internal Controls**

- The Provider shall ensure that all personnel with access to youth tether information are trained on this policy prior to performing related duties.
- The Provider shall implement internal controls to prevent unauthorized access to or disclosure of youth tether information.
- Any unauthorized disclosure or suspected breach shall be reported to WC-JYS immediately.

**Acknowledgement & Compliance:**

The CMO is required to comply with all provisions of this policy. Failure to adhere to the requirements outlined herein and established WC-JYS procedures may result in corrective action, administrative sanctions, fiscal remedies, or other actions permitted under contract and applicable regulations.

**Exhibits:**

- None

**References:**

- MCL 712A.28
- Michigan Court Rules governing juvenile proceedings and record

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