

FACT PATTERN

Charles

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- 15-year-old boy who has been charged with Possession with Intent to Distribute cocaine.
- First contact with the juvenile justice system.
- Identifies his father as his guardian and is released to his custody.
- First post-arraignment interview (he insists on doing at McDonalds).
- Tells you mom is dead and was actually raised by his aunt and his older sister.
- Lied about his father being his legal guardian because did not want to tell his aunt about the arrest.
- Insists that you not contact his aunt or his sister and tells you that he will be living with his father.
- Get school records with release signed by Charles and his father.
- Prior academic year Charles was an A-B student, ran track, had almost perfect attendance and was clearly college-bound.
- This academic year, missed many days of school, never showed up for the first day of track practice despite repeated calls from the coach and is failing all classes due to mandatory attendance policies.
- Your client gives you permission to meet with his father. You make an appointment.
- Charles's father is not home but the father's girlfriend is there, and she is obviously drunk.
- When you ask the girlfriend how Charles and his father get along, you learn that the father has recently coerced Charles into selling drugs.
- Despite the father's admonition, you go out and find your client again.
- You carefully ask him about his relationship with his father. He tells you everything is great.
- He also tells you that you should call his father if you want any more information about the case and that you don't need to investigate the allegations in this case because he will be pleading guilty.
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