



Information for Parents

Our daughter / our son has been remanded in custody

What is the purpose of custody on remand?

Custody on remand facilitates measures of inquiry to the Youth State Prosecutor's Office at an early stage, to prevent collusion among the defendants and / or an expected escape of the suspect. A warrant of custody on remand requires the existence of a strong suspicion concerning an indictable offence or misdemeanour. In addition, at least one of the following reasons for detention must be met:

- ◆ Risk of absconding
- ◆ Risk of collusion or suppression of evidence
- ◆ Risk of re-offending
- ◆ Execution risk

How can we get in contact with our daughter / son?

Establishing contacts by way of letter is possible at any time. The letter must be sent to the Youth State Prosecutor's Office, for the letter being checked for its contents, and who passes it on to the prison authorities. The letter must not include any information on the proceedings; otherwise, the competent Youth Attorney may direct that the letter shall not be forwarded.

Prison visits require a prior written approval of the competent Youth Attorney and, subsequently, an appointment made with the prison authorities.

How long does custody on remand last?

The period of custody on remand is dependent on various factors such as the complexity of the proceedings, the number co-suspects, etc. The police investigation and the investigation of the Youth State Prosecutor's Office take different lengths of time, depending on the circumstances. If the custody on remand lasts longer than seven days, the Youth State Prosecutor's Office requests an extension at the Court of Coercive Measures. The custody on remand may be prolonged for further periods not exceeding one month. In the light of experience, it may be said that custody on remand for adolescents – in contrast to adults – rarely lasts more than two to three weeks.



What options do we have if we do not agree with the custody on remand?

Against the custody on remand, a substantiated complaint in writing can be brought before the Court of Coercive Measures within 10 days following the delivery or notification of the decision.

The suspect and the legal representatives may at any time request the release from custody on remand. The request has to be submitted to the competent Youth State Prosecutor's Office in writing or orally with a brief explanation for the record.

What happens after our daughter / our son was released from custody on remand?

The aim of the investigations is to clarify whether a punishable offence was committed. Often criminal proceedings are not yet completed even after the release of the young person from custody on remand. Therefore, it is likely that further hearings and discussions at the Youth State Prosecutor's Office are to be expected. If an offence was committed, the Youth State Prosecutor's Office decides on the appropriate sentence in the particular case. Should it be found in the course of the investigation that the young person needs one or more measures of a particular educational care or a therapeutic treatment, they are imposed upon her or him in addition in a so-called protective measure.