

# When to Petition Juvenile Court

- The child's need for emergency care and transfer of custody from the home due to conditions dangerous to the child's well-being, safety, prevention of further abuse or neglect and voluntary placement cannot be secured.
- The unwillingness or inability of the parents or other custodians to accept the help offered to change the situation. Court action is sometimes used as a leverage to achieve rehabilitative ends. The parent may be willing to accept treatment to avoid separation from his/her child.
- The possibility of further abuse continuing in the home is greater than the benefits to the child derived from continued placement at home without judicial intervention.
- Abandonment or desertion of the child.