

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Policy
Section 625: Release of Information

Prohibited Release of Information

The following information **will not** be released:

- Comments or conjecture about the suspect's character or reputation, or opinions regarding his guilt or innocence
- The name and address of the suspect's employer, unless the incident or offense deals specifically with such employment
- Information about the existence or contents of any confession, admission or statement made by a suspect
- The suspect's refusal or failure to make a statement, or to submit to tests or examinations
- Results of any tests or examinations, including BAC of DUI arrestees
- Re-enactment of the crime
- Information that the suspect directed investigators to the location of any evidence
- The credibility of any witness
- The identity of the victim of any sexual offense
- The exact location of a sexual offense, where such information could lead to the identification of the victim
- The identity of any juvenile
- Any misleading or false information
- The dollar amount taken in a robbery or burglary

Reports to be withheld from the Public:

- Reports involving juvenile suspects
- Reports involving juvenile victims of sexual assaults
- Runaway reports
- Suicide reports until the case is closed
- Attempted suicide reports
- Child abuse reports
- Mental health reports
- Protective detox holds - not as a result of a DUI arrest
- At risk adult reports
- Felony controlled substance reports
- Open case reports with suspect information

Releasable Information Prior to Arrest

Information that **may** be released pertaining to victims and suspects **prior** to any arrests is limited to:

- A description of the offense, including a brief summary of events
- Location, date and time of offense
- Description of property loss, injuries sustained or damage resulting from the action
- Identity of the victim, except for a victim of a sexual offense, a death, or a situation where the next of kin have not been notified
- Information regarding unidentified suspects, such as physical description or vehicle description, when the release will not hinder or jeopardize the investigation
- Identification of fugitive suspect(s) for whom arrest warrants have been issued
- Criminal background of a fugitive when the public should be alerted to any danger

Prohibited Release of Information Prior to Arrest

The following information ***will not*** be released ***prior*** to any arrests:

- The identity of any suspect who has not been interviewed
- The identity of any victim where such information could subject them to danger or significant embarrassment
- Exact information about a weapon or other physical evidence
- Any information that could be known only by those responsible for the offense: "investigative keys"

Release of Information Subsequent to Arrest

The following information ***may*** be released ***after*** the arrest of a suspect:

- Time, date and location of arrest
- Defendant's name, age, residence, usual occupation and marital status
- Criminal charge(s)
- Facts and circumstances relating to the arrest, such as resistance, pursuit or possession or use of a weapon
- The name of the arresting agency
- Pretrial release or detention arrangements, location of detention and amount of bond
- Scheduled dates for various steps of the judicial process
- Mug shot of a suspect upon approval by the investigating deputy, the District Attorney's Office, or the arresting agency