

AB 899: Confidentiality of Juvenile Records

AB 899 is a new California law that took effect on January 1, 2016 and protects all youth, regardless of immigration status, from having their juvenile information and records shared with federal officials, including immigration authorities, without state court authorization.



Why was AB 899 necessary?

Despite pre-existing law that made juvenile records confidential in California, many probation departments have been reporting youth in the juvenile justice system to federal immigration officials, which:

- ✗ violates state law
- ✗ can extend youth's local detention in juvenile hall
- ✗ results in kids being put in deportation proceedings and immigration detention



What does AB 899 do?

- ✓ Prohibits probation departments from reporting youth in their care to federal immigration officials unless the juvenile court has authorized sharing of information, after considering the best interests of the youth
- ✓ Clarifies that no one can share juvenile records and information (including the youth him/herself) with federal officials, including immigration officials, without prior court authorization

