

Law Enforcement Interviews on Campus

If a student is a suspect in a crime that has been committed on or off campus, the School Resource Officer or any Law Enforcement Agency may attempt to interview the student at school. If any Law Enforcement Agency (Sarasota Sheriff Office, Sarasota Police Department, Venice Police Department, North Port Police Department, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, etc.) arrives on campus to interview a suspect or victim of a crime, the School Resource Officer must immediately notify the school administration that the agency is on campus. The notification should include the student's name and the reason of the interview. The School Resource Officer should be utilized as the liaison between the school and the Law Enforcement Agency. The Law Enforcement Officer shall follow Florida State Statute for interviewing students on campus. This will include a "meaningful attempt" to contact the parents prior to the interview. This will be the officer's responsibility who is conducting the questioning. This is based upon case law that the "meaningful attempt" must be made and if the attempt is not made, any statements will be suppressed. After completion of the interview, the School Resource Officer will notify the principal of any results of the interview and that the interview was completed.