

S.T.O.P. Goals

The Fort Bend County Juvenile Probation Department is committed to the protection of the public by rehabilitating youth with licensed treatment providers and probation officers with specialized training. Intervention strategies are designed to be therapeutic, rehabilitative, and community-based while fostering responsibility and accountability for both youth and parent.

The **S.T.O.P.** team strives to:

- Create safer communities by monitoring and assessing behavior in the home, school, and community
- Hold youth accountable for their actions
- Challenge criminogenic attitudes and beliefs
- Teach youth about healthy sexual relationships
- Provide opportunities for healing in families
- Serve as a resource for families and youth in Fort Bend County
- Facilitate family reunification and safety planning when the need arises

Contact Us

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Please contact any member of the S.T.O.P. Team if there are any questions or concerns.

Fort Bend County Juvenile Probation



Sexual Treatment Offender Program

S.T.O.P.

Sexual Treatment Offender Program (S.T.O.P.)

Youth mandated into S.T.O.P. are required to attend sexual behavior treatment on a weekly basis, which includes individual and group counseling as well as family counseling when warranted. The individual and group sessions utilize cognitive behavioral interventions that increase a youth's awareness about the relationship between deviant thoughts, attitudes, and behavior. Youth learn the importance of healthy sexual boundaries, healthy sexual relationships, true consent, and specific skills to improve emotion regulation, sexual arousal, self-control, and empathic understanding. S.T.O.P. focuses on rehabilitation by teaching youth effective strategies to manage sexual arousal, improve decision making, and the importance of healthy sexual relationships.

Offender Probation and Supervision

Youth mandated into S.T.O.P. are also required to meet with a Juvenile Probation Officer as directed by the Court. These meetings occur in the office and in the community. The Probation Officer visits the youth at home, at school, at his/her place of employment, and any other location at the Probation Officer's discretion.

Probation Officers monitor academic progress, family relationships, social functioning, and rule compliance. Youth participating in S.T.O.P. must adhere to curfew, must be under adult supervision at all times, and must receive the court's permission before partaking any type of travel. All youth in S.T.O.P. must develop a safety plan before they are allowed to travel, during any major change in their living situation, or if there is a change during the treatment progress. Probation Officers strive to create safer communities by monitoring the behavior of the youth. Probation Officers encourage youth to recognize their potential high risk situations (HRS) and to use their safety plan when managing those potential risks.

Probationary timelines and community monitoring typically occurs for a one to two year time period allowing the Fort Bend County Juvenile Probation Department sufficient time to monitor, assess, and evaluate the youth's behavior and decision making skills.

The S.T.O.P. Team Approach

Psychology staff and Probation Officers work together to both protect the community and rehabilitate a youth. Specialized counseling paired with community monitoring and Probation supervision equate with a better rehabilitation approach. The S.T.O.P. team meets monthly to review each youth, and the Team decides on interventions and consequences. The Team believes in an individualized rehabilitation approach, and each youth is encouraged to exert his or her best effort during counseling and when completing written assignments.

Competency of curriculum information and the ability to implement those learned skills in the community are important milestones for the S.T.O.P. Team to monitor, assess, evaluate, and discuss.

The S.T.O.P. Team also understands that some youth may continue to demonstrate a disregard for societal expectations, rules, and norms resulting in a potential for continued harm. In those cases, the S.T.O.P. Team may recommend to the court that the youth participate in rehabilitation treatment in a residential facility or correctional setting. These decisions and recommendations result after careful consideration and deliberation in order to best serve the community and the youth.