## Law Office of JULIANNE M. HOLT

Public Defender

Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida 700 East Twiggs Street, Fifth Floor P.O. Box 172910 Tampa, Florida 33672-0910

## BENEFITS OF HAVING A LAWYER

## A Lawyer Can:

- Speak on your behalf to the judge and prosecutor
- Fight to have you released from the juvenile detention center
- Investigate the facts of the case
- File a motion if the police officer illegally stopped you
- File a motion if the police officer forced you to talk to him/her
- Review all of the information about your charge and discuss it with you
- Hire experts to talk with you or speak in court on your behalf
- Find out what everyone is going to say before trial
- Have your witnesses and friends come to court to help you
- Fight the charge
- Assist during trial
- Challenge the state witnesses brought to speak against you
- Try to have the charges
  - Dismissed
  - Reduced, or
  - Dropped in exchange for a plea to some of them
- Try to have the case sent to pre-trial diversion where it would later be dropped if you successfully complete the program
- Help to get you assistance with counseling for
  - Yourself
  - Your family
  - Both you and your family
  - A drug/alcohol problem
- Help to get you assistance with school problems
- File an appeal of the judge's decision if the judge rules against you

Legal representation and public service with dignity and respect Telephone (813)272-5980 • Suncom 543-5980 • E-mail Address <u>pd13@pd13.state.fl.us</u>