



# HOUSE BILL 295: Juvenile Media Release.

2015-2016 General Assembly

**Committee:**

**Introduced by:**

**Analysis of:** S.L. 2015-41

**Date:**

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Staff Attorney

**SUMMARY:** *S.L. 2015-41 permits the Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety to determine whether it is appropriate to release certain information about an escaped delinquent juvenile.*

*This act became effective May 29, 2015.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 7B-3102(a) currently requires the Division of Juvenile Justice to release the following information to the public within 24 hours of a juvenile's escape from the custody of the Division:

- For any juvenile in custody:
  - The juvenile's first name, last initial, and photograph.
  - The name and location of the institution from which the juvenile escaped, or if the escape was not from an institution, the circumstances and location of the escape.
- For any juvenile who escapes from a detention facility, secure custody, or a youth development center after having been adjudicated delinquent:
  - A statement, based on the juvenile's record, of the level of concern of the Division as to the juvenile's threat to self or to others.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** This act allows the Division to determine whether it is appropriate to release the statement regarding the level of threat when a delinquent juvenile escapes from a detention facility, secure custody, or a youth development center. The Division is still required to release the name, photograph and general escape information.

This act also clarifies that the determination of the level of threat posed by the juvenile is made by the Deputy Commissioner of Juvenile Justice or the Deputy Commissioner's designee.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act became effective May 29, 2015.

