Recommendation from the Council for the Administration of Criminal Justice and Protection of Juveniles

- Summary -

Draft bills and draft order in council 'lawyer and police interrogation'

Recommendation to the Dutch State Secretary for Security and Justice, dated 26-3-2014

In its recommendation on the draft bills and the draft order in council, the Council has, in view of the scope of its advisory task, confined itself to the subjects related to minors.

With consent, the Council has taken note of the two draft bills and the draft order in council 'lawyer and police interrogation', among other things because the earlier recommendations made by the Council were largely followed. The introduction of the draft bills and the draft order in council will result in a further strengthening of the legal position of minor suspects. The Council has, however, placed two comments.

Firstly, the Council is of the opinion that a minor suspect should be assigned a lawyer in all cases in which the Public Prosecution Service wants to impose a punishment order on him/her.

Moreover, the Council recommends to have a lawyer present at each police station or to attach a lawyer to each police station who, if necessary, can be summoned in order to provide minor suspects with immediate legal assistance prior to and during police interrogation.

The recommendation can be obtained from the secretariat of the Council PO Box 30 137 2500 GC The Hague +31 (0)70 - 36 19 300, www.rsj.nl