

RULES OF SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA
PART EIGHT
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURTS

Rule 8:18. Pleas.

(a) *Permissible Pleas by Child.* A child may admit the allegations of the petition or summons by pleading guilty, or the child may plead not guilty, nolo contendere, or enter no plea. If the child enters no plea, the court will proceed as if a denial were entered to the allegations of the petition or summons.

(b) *Determining Voluntariness, Understanding, and Intelligence of a Plea of Guilty by a Juvenile.* The court shall not accept a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a charge of delinquency by a child without first determining that the plea is made voluntarily with an understanding of the nature of the allegations in the petition or summons and the consequences of the plea, including that such a plea constitutes a waiver of the right to confront one's accusers and the right against compulsory self-incrimination.

(c) *Determining Voluntariness, Understanding, and Intelligence of a Plea of Guilty by an Adult.* In any case involving an adult charged with a crime, the court shall not accept a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a misdemeanor charge except in compliance with Rule 7C:6.

(d) Upon rejecting a plea agreement in any criminal or delinquency matter, a judge shall immediately recuse himself from any further proceedings on the same matter unless the parties agree otherwise.

Last amended by Order dated July 2, 2014; effective immediately.