***Treatment of Minors In Journalism***

***Ethical Statement:***

*The publication of names and detailed information related to juveniles, under the age of 18, should be treated with a sensitive approach. While it may be legal to name an underage suspect in a publication, it’s important to address the reasons for your approach. The decision should be made with care and respect pertaining to a minor’s privacy in all situations.*

***Procedure***

* *Staff members should ask themselves the following questions as presented by the* [*RTDNA*](https://rtdna.org/content/identifying_juveniles):
	+ *What is the purpose of identifying the individual? Why does the public need to know?*
	+ *What’s the circumstances surrounding the decision of naming the child? Is the juvenile charged with a crime?*  *Is the juvenile facing adult charges? What’s the severity or nature of the crimes?*
	+ *Would naming the juvenile minimize harm?*
	+ *Find additional questions*here*:* [*https://rtdna.org/content/identifying\_juveniles*](https://rtdna.org/content/identifying_juveniles)
* *Once you’ve identified the purpose and reasoning behind your decision, remain transparent and honest by reporting your decision to name the juvenile. Let the public know why you made this decision and the circumstances surrounding this case that makes it different than others.*