

## How Defendants May Enter a Plea in the Municipal Court of Uvalde

If the defendant is 17 or older, and wishes to plead guilty or no contest, the plea may be entered:

- In person,
- By attorney,
- By mail,
- By delivery of a written plea with a signature to the Court, or
- By paying the fine.

If the defendant is 17 or older, and wishes to plead not guilty, the plea may be entered:

- In person,
- By attorney, or
- By mail.
- Furthermore, if the defendant appears in person and refuses to plead, a plea of not guilty will be entered.

Special Exception: If the defendant is 17 or younger and charged with Electronic Transmission of Certain Visual Material Depicting Minor, the defendant must enter a plea as if he or she were 16 or younger.

Special Exception: If the defendant is charged with Minor in Possession, Consumption, Purchase, Importation, or Attempt to Purchase Alcohol by a Minor, or DUI by minor, the defendant is under 21, and wishes to plead guilty, the defendant must personally enter the plea in open court.

If the defendant is 16 or younger, a plea of guilty, no contest, or not guilty may only be entered:

- In person with the defendant's parent, guardian, or managing conservator present.
- If the defendant lives outside of Uvalde County, the defendant may, with leave of the Court, enter a plea before a judge in the county in which the defendant resides.
- If the defendant is 16 or younger, and has had the legal disabilities of minority removed (has become a legal adult), then the defendant may plea as if he or she were 17 or older.
- If the defendant is 16 or younger, and the parent, guardian, or managing conservator has been issued a summons, and they still have not made an appearance, the defendant may enter a plea as if he or she were 17 or older.

Examples of How Pleas May Not Be Entered

- By spouse
- By parent
- By other family member
- By fax
- By e-mail
- By telephone

*Any defendant may appear with a lawyer.*