ATTACHMENT A.

WHAT CHILDREN NEED WHEN THEIR PARENTS ARE ARRESTED

√ To know the parent’s arrest is not their fault
√ To know what is happening to their parent
√ To know if they can have contact with their parent, and if so, when and how
√ To know where and with whom they will be staying and where they will go to school
√ To know what will stay the same and what will be different while their parent is under arrest
√ To know it is OK to still love their parent, and it is OK to be angry sometimes too
√ To be encouraged to express, in safe and healthy ways, their feelings about their parents and their parent’s arrest
√ To visit and maintain contact with the arrested parent as much as possible, when permitted and appropriate
√ To have stability and consistency in their living situations and daily routines
√ To feel safe
√ To have fun
√ To realize that people make choices in life that lead to different consequences

Source: Adapted from Oregon Department of Corrections, How to Explain…Jail and Prisons. to Children, A Caregiver’s Guide