Shackling and Courtroom Safety

In jurisdictions that limit juvenile shackling, order and safety are maintained.

Oregon

- Jackson County eliminated juvenile shackling in 2010 and does not shackle youth in court. Juvenile department staff sit with the youth in the courtroom. There have been no substantial incidents since eliminating shackling. (Source: Judge Crain, Jackson County)

- Benton County has been unshackling youth for court proceedings for over 10 years. Youth have always behaved themselves when unshackled. (Source: Jennifer Nash, Attorney)

- In 2008, Linn County limited juvenile shackling in the courtroom. I've been practicing in the county juvenile court since 2007 and have never heard of a problem with behaviors of unshackled youth since the change in policy. (Source: Brendan Kane, Attorney)

Nationally

- Miami-Dade County limited juvenile shackling in 2006. Since then more than 25,000 children have appeared in the county's juvenile court without injury or escape. (Source: Miami-Dade Public Defender)

- The Children's Court Division of Albuquerque, NM has limited shackling for 12 years and seen no escapes and only three incidents of children "acting out in court." (Source: *Juvenile and Family Court Journal*, Spring 2015)

- Clayton County Georgia has had no escapes or violence in more than a year of limiting shackling. At times an additional deputy has been stationed outside the court since the change. However, that deputy has never been called upon to act, as there have been no incidents. (Source: Sheriff Victor Hill & deputies.)

- In New Orleans Parish, Louisiana, security staffing was *reduced* after shackling reform due to budget cuts. The parish conducts roughly 4,000 juvenile hearings a year and has had no incidents. (Source: Louisiana Center for Children's Rights)

- In Maricopa County, Arizona, nearly 2,500 detained youth have appeared in court since the county began limiting shackling. The court remains safe, and there have been no escapes. (Source: Maricopa Co. Public Defender)