

10.2 Terminology Used in this Chapter

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Brady material is evidence or information that is favorable to the defense and material to the outcome of either the guilt-innocence or sentencing phase of a trial. This evidence must be disclosed by the State in a criminal case under the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), and its progeny. *See infra* § 10.5A, *Brady Material*.

Petitioner is “the individual who initiates court action by the filing of a petition or a motion for review alleging the matter for adjudication.” G.S. 7B-1501(20). The discovery statutes describe the obligation of the “petitioner” to provide discovery to the juvenile (and vice versa). *See, e.g.*, G.S. 7B-2300. As used in the discovery statutes, the term “petitioner” appears to be broader. It essentially refers to agents of the State acting on behalf of the petitioner, including the prosecutor, law enforcement officers, and juvenile court counselors—that is, the State.