

Wayne County Victim/Witness Program

The Wayne County Victim/Witness Program was created to assist victims and witnesses of crime during their involvement with the processes of the criminal justice system as well as helping them to recover from the physical, emotional and financial impact of the crime. We encourage you to call with any questions or concerns you may have and allow us to assist you.

We provide the following services:

INFORMATION

- About available community services such as counseling.
- About the criminal justice system, upcoming hearings, paroles and releases.
- About receiving restitution.
- About recovering property held in evidence.
- About Crime Victims' Compensation and how to apply.

ASSISTANCE

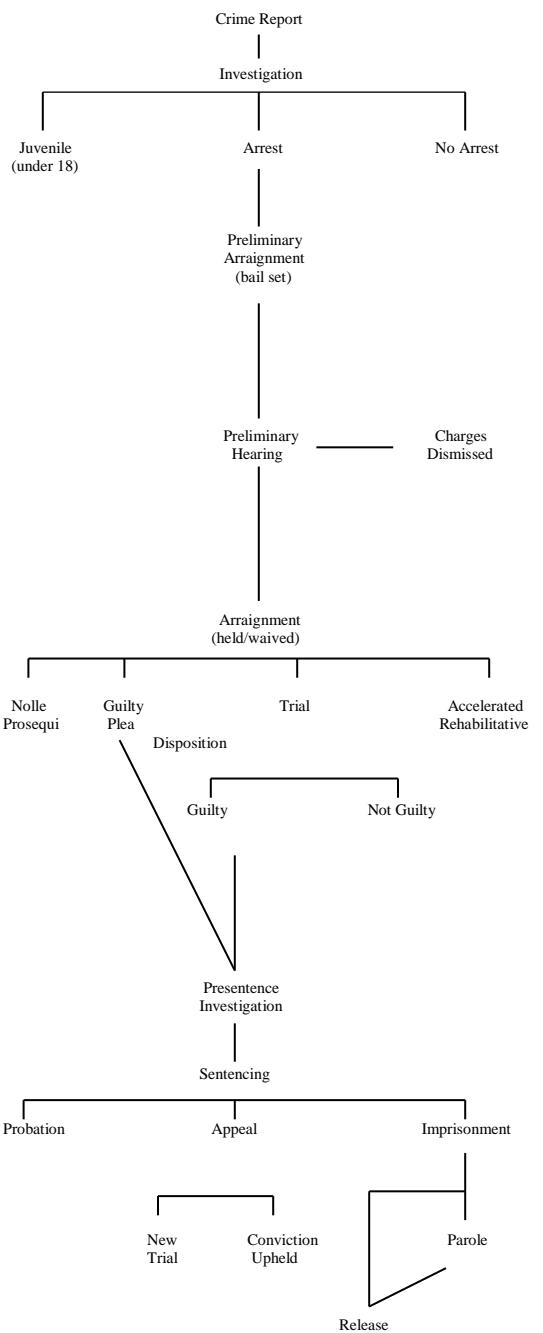
- By court accompaniment, if requested.
- With child care.
- With transportation.
- With filing applications for Crime Victims' Compensation.

REFERRED

- To community service agencies which are designated to deal directly with specific needs and/or issues.

*** To report a complaint of an unlawful or inappropriate action by an individual or agency within this justice system regarding this case, please contact our office. ***

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



TIPS FOR TESTIFYING

You may be required to testify to facts regarding a crime. Below are some suggestions which may help you feel more relaxed and confident about testifying.

1. **Become familiar** with any documents and refresh your memory regarding any event you may testify to. Do not develop a common story with other witnesses; you must only tell what **YOU** recall.
2. **Dress neatly**, but do not overdress. **Avoid any** undignified behavior such as loud laughter from the time you enter the Court House.
3. **The District Attorney** will have a witness preparation, at which time they will go over your testimony with you.
4. **When you are called** as a witness, stand upright while taking the oath, and answer "I do." You are now sworn to tell the truth. Speak loudly and clearly so that everyone can hear you, especially the jury and court reporter.
5. **Do not memorize** your testimony. Be yourself and speak in your own words.
6. **Listen carefully** to each question, making sure you fully understand it before you answer. Do not volunteer information. Answer yes or no whenever possible.
7. **Stop immediately** when the judge or attorney objects to what you are saying. You will be told whether or not to continue.
8. **Always answer truthfully.** It is alright to have discussed the case with family, friends, police, and the District Attorney.
9. **If you testify** for a long period of time you may feel tired or cross. Strive to overcome this, or ask the judge for a five-minute break or a glass of water.

At your request the Victim/Witness Coordinator will accompany you on a tour of the courtroom in advance of any hearing

BASIC RIGHTS FOR CRIME VICTIMS

1. To receive basic information about the services available;
2. To be notified of certain proceedings and actions pertaining to the case, *if requested*;
3. To be accompanied, *if requested*, at all court proceedings by an advocate, family member or other support person;
4. Be given an opportunity to offer prior comment through written and/or oral victim impact statements regarding the sentence of the defendant, *if requested*;
5. To have prior notice and to provide prior comment on a judicial recommendation that the defendant or juvenile participate in a motivational boot camp, *if requested*;
6. To be restored to the extent possible, the pre-crime economic status through restitution, compensation, and the prompt return of property seized as evidence when no longer needed;
7. To assist with the preparation, submission or follow-up of claims to Victims' Compensation, *if requested*;
8. To be notified of the final disposition of the case, *if requested*;

Also, *if requested*, personal injury and burglary crime victims have the right to:

1. Submit prior comment regarding the potential reduction or dropping of a charge or, the changing of a plea;
2. Be given notice of the release of the defendant including work release, furlough, parole, release from boot camp or community treatment center, and immediate notice of escape and subsequent apprehension;
3. Be notified of the termination of the courts' jurisdiction

WAYNE COUNTY COURT INFORMATION

President Judge:
The Honorable Janine Edwards

District Justices:
The Honorable Bonnie L. Carney
The Honorable Linus Myers

District Attorney:
A.G. HOWELL

Assistant District Attorneys:
Shelley L. Robinson, Esq.
Deborah E. Rothenberg, Esq.
Brendan R. Ellis, Esq.

Public Defenders:
Ashley Zimmerman, Esq.
Stephen E. Burlein, Esq.
Christopher Farrell, Esq.
Richard Henry, Esq.

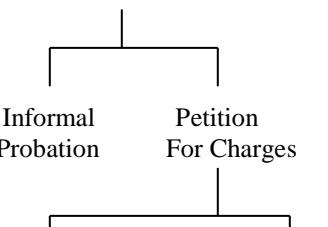
Probation Department:
James Chapman, Director of Adult Probation
Sandy Fofi, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Sheriff:
Mark Steelman

STAGES OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Crime Reported / Juvenile Charged

Juvenile Probation
Intake Interview



Informal
Probation

Petition
For Charges

Adjudication
Hearing

Consent
Decree

Finding

Dismiss

Psychological Evaluation
Social Summary

Disposition

Consent
Decree

Adjudicated
Delinquent

Probation

Placement

ASSISTANCE NUMBERS

POLICE:

Pennsylvania State Police 570-253-7126

Honesdale Borough Police 570-253-1900

Hawley Borough Police 570-226-9545

Waymart Borough Police 570-488-7575

Leigh Township Police 570-842-0434

Wayne County Sheriff 570-253-2641

AGENCIES:

Area Agency on Aging 570-253-4262

Children and Youth Services 570-253-5972

Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-932-0313

Crime Victims' Compensation 1-800-233-2339

Legal Services 570-253-1031

Aaron Center 570-253-0321

Probation Department 570-253-5970

TreHab Center
(Drug and Alcohol Abuse) 570-253-8941

Victim/Witness Program 570-253-4912

Victims' Intervention Program 570-253-4401

Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault
& Other Serious Crimes 1-800-698-4VIP
(4847)

Wayne County Drug & Alcohol Abuse
570-253-6022

Wayne County Program for Victims Victim/Witness of Adult and Juvenile Crime



The Wayne County Court house is located at 925 Court Street, Honesdale, Pa (next to Central Park). The Victim/Witness Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.