

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
1504 THIRD AVENUE
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61201
TELEPHONE (309) 558-3530
FACSIMILE (309) 786-9479

If a judge has appointed the Public Defender to represent you in a FELONY CASE ("CF" in the case number) and you are out of jail, *PLEASE call* the office number above to set up a time to discuss your case. Please schedule meetings in advance; *do not walk in without an appointment*. Scheduling an appointment early to discuss your case may avoid later delays in your case and help to preserve evidence or find witnesses.

If you are in jail you may contact us after your preliminary hearing to find out your attorney's name. An attorney will come to the jail to speak with you about your case.

If a judge has appointed the Public Defender to represent you in a **MISDEMEANOR CASE** ("TR" or "DT" or "CM" in the case number) an attorney will meet you in court on the date of your pretrial conference. Please bring any papers you think are relevant to your case to your pretrial conference, along with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of any witnesses that you think would be helpful to your case. Do NOT attempt to bring cameras or electronic devices to court without talking to your attorney first.

ALL PUBLIC DEFENDER CLIENTS; we advise the following:

DO NOT TALK ABOUT YOUR CASE. You should never talk about your case with anyone other than your lawyer. Anyone you talk to other than your lawyer may be called to testify against you; even your mother, father, husband, wife, child, *anyone*. If you are in jail, do not talk about your case on the telephone. *The jail telephones are recorded*. If you are in jail, do not talk about your case to other inmates. *Other inmates may testify against you*.

DO NOT WRITE DOWN ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR CASE except when requested to do so by your lawyer or when writing to your lawyer through legal mail. Do not write to the State's Attorney or the Judge without discussing it with your Lawyer. Do not write anything about your case or about anything illegal; *your mail may be monitored*. Things you write in a letter or a note to anyone other than your lawyer may be used against you.

DO NOT TRY TO NEGOTIATE YOUR OWN CASE; if you want a specific agreement, talk to your attorney so that she or he may obtain an agreement that can be enforced. Police officers cannot make a binding agreement with you.

Take note of each date and time you are ordered to **COME TO COURT**. It is very important that you appear in person before the Court on each date at the time ordered. If you are in jail the Sheriff should bring you to court. If you are out on bond, you must appear or you may forfeit your bond, owe the government a large amount of money, and be arrested and held in jail until the case is finished.

If you **CHANGE ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBERS** while your case is pending, you should notify this office, as well as the circuit clerk, of your address and a contact telephone number. These items are important to your effective representation by this office.

If you are in jail your attorney will answer questions about any possible **BOND REDUCTION HEARING**; there is no right to a bond reduction, and your bond may not be reduced, and could even be increased.

The court may order **DISCOVERY**, which is provided to your attorney on your behalf. Your attorney will discuss any discovery material with you.