

The Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitors Office takes a strong position in prosecuting those who would threaten our community and break our laws. We recognize however, that first time offenders of non-violent crimes may sincerely wish to turn their lives around. Those individuals deserve an opportunity for change through the Pretrial Intervention Program. Our program will require those who participate to repay the victim and the community for their criminal activity. This will be accomplished by the participant completing community service, drug screens, counseling or education and by paying restitution (if applicable) to

the victim in the criminal charge. activities, PTI participants will gain a better understanding of the judicial system and will have the opportunity to become a more productive and responsible citizen.

In return for participant's completion of all PTI requirements as assigned, successful participants will be eligible to have the record of their criminal arrest destroyed. A clean record can allow a new start towards a responsible and productive life in our community.

SCARLETT WILSON
9TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SOLICITOR

Pretrial Intervention Ninth Judicial Circuit



Scarlett A. Wilson
Solicitor

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Ninth Circuit Pretrial Intervention **General Sessions Court**

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WHAT IS PRETRIAL INTERVENTION?

PTI is a State legislated diversion program designed for first-time offenders of eligible crimes. The program allows the defendant to be diverted from court and enter into a program consisting of counseling, guidance, community service work and restitution. Successful completion of the program requirements will allow the defendant's arrest record to be expunged (destroyed). The goal of this program is to give first-time offenders a second chance.

Offenders may participate in this program only once.

PTI is under the control and supervision of the Office of the Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO APPLICANTS OF PTI

YOU MUST APPLY AT THE COUNTY PTI OFFICE WHERE YOUR ARREST OCCURRED

WHO CAN APPLY?

If you have recently been cited for a criminal charge, you may come to PTI through a referral from the Assistant Solicitor responsible for your case.

An individual is appropriate for PTI when:

1. A person is 17 years of age or older (16 and under if charged as an adult).
2. There is no evidence of significant prior arrests or criminal history. (No prior felony or General Sessions convictions)
3. The individual poses no detectable threat to society.
4. The person is unlikely to be involved in further criminal activity.
5. The person has no prior PTI program participation.
6. The person is likely to respond quickly to rehabilitative treatment.
7. Justice to the offender and the State will be served by placing the offender in an intervention program instead of the traditional criminal justice process.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

After the Office of the Solicitor has approved your case and a PTI referral has been received, you will be notified by mail of when you may come for a "walk-in application". General Session applications are only conducted at the Charleston and Berkeley offices between the hours of 9AM and 4PM. From the date of your letter, **YOU HAVE 4 TUESDAYS FROM THE DATE OF YOUR LETTER TO APPLY**. If you fail to show for your application during that period, your case will be returned for prosecution.

The following items must be brought with you at orientation to apply to the program:

1. \$100. money order, certified check or credit/ debit cards. (\$150. if you wish to transfer to another county in South Carolina)
2. Recent Picture Identification
3. Social Security Card

YOU MAY NOT APPLY WITHOUT ALL ITEMS ABOVE

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Before you can be accepted into the program, you must:

1. Furnish the program complete information on any matter dealing with pending charge(s) against you, your prior history, and your current activities.
2. Agree to make restitution for any losses to the victim in your case as required by the Solicitor.
3. Pay all program fees.
4. Keep all appointments promptly as scheduled for you by PTI personnel.
5. Agree to commit no more crimes.
6. Have had no prior participation in a PTI program

If you enroll and are accepted into the program, the Solicitor will agree to hold the charges against you from going to trial. As long as you are in the program and completing your requirements, your case will not be returned to court. Before the charges can be dismissed, you must have completed the following requirements:

1. Pay the \$350. program fees, \$100. Application/ \$250. Participation.
2. If required, submit to random drug testing.
3. Be a legally productive citizen.
4. Actively take part in the program set forth by the case manager. This may include client financed counseling at outside agencies or other educational services.
5. If required, attend a prison tour as scheduled.
6. Remain in the program a minimum of 90 days. Comply with the timeline of your case manager.
7. Pay back the victim of your crime for losses incurred.
8. **No new criminal arrests** while enrolled in PTI.
9. Remain in the State while the charges are pending against you, unless prior to leaving, PTI and your bonding company have been notified.

OUT OF AREA

Transfers to other counties within the State are available. Out of state supervision will be considered.