

TO: _____
 First, Middle, Last

STATE OF VERMONT
 Superior Court
 Criminal Division

Unit _____

DOB: _____

PHONE #: _____

CITATION

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF VERMONT, you are hereby ordered to appear before a judicial officer at the Superior Court of Vermont, Criminal Division at the following time and place:

Date	Time	to answer to the charge of
Town/City		
Offense		

An information charging you with this offense will be presented at the time of your appearance.

IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE TIME AND PLACE ORDERED, A WARRANT WILL BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST AND YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL CHARGES AND PENALTIES.

Date Issued:	Town/City	Unit
Signature Issuing Officer		Title/Dept.

I received this Citation on:

Date	Signature Defendant
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2/15 SML

White ~ Court's Copy

Yellow ~ Officer's Copy

Pink ~ Defendant's Copy

Notice

You have just been issued a CITATION to appear in COURT. This appearance in COURT is called an ARRAIGNMENT. This notice tells you what to expect at this first court hearing and what you can do between now and then to prepare.

BEFORE YOU GET TO THE COURTHOUSE:

- You may want to speak to a lawyer so that you will understand what to expect.
- If you cannot afford a private lawyer, you can apply for the services of the public defender on the day of your arraignment. The court will consider your income and the income of any adult family members living with you in deciding whether to appoint a public defender.
- If you are assigned the public defender, a minimum payment of \$50 will be required unless you are found unable to pay.
- You may be required to pay for a

part of the cost of the public defender's services. You may need to pay some money (a down payment) on the day of your arraignment and some additional money within the next two months.

WHEN YOU GET TO THE COURTHOUSE

(plan to be there for several hours):

- **If you are under 18 years old, your parent or guardian must come to court with you.**
- You will receive several important court papers including the INFORMATION which explains the criminal charge against you, AND an AFFIDAVIT describing the alleged facts upon which the charge is based.
- A public defender will be in court and will speak with you before the arraignment if assigned.
- If you have your own attorney, make sure that he or she comes with you. It is not enough to tell the judge "I have a lawyer." The lawyer must either be in court with you, or the lawyer must send a letter to the court saying that he or she represents you.

- Go to the courtroom where the judge **will** explain your rights to you. The judge **will** ask you if you want to plead GUILTY; NOT GUILTY; or NO CONTEST.
- If you plead not guilty, the judge will decide whether to let you go based on your word that you will come back for future hearings (called PERSONAL RECOGNIZANCE) or that you will abide by certain restrictions while the case is pending (called CONDITIONS OF RELEASE).
- In a few cases, the judge may order you to deposit cash or other valuable security with the court (called BAIL). Bail will be returned when your case is closed if you have appeared in court as requested.
- **IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR FOR YOUR ARRAIGNMENT, THE COURT WILL ISSUE A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST.**

Pretrial Screening

Individuals cited or arrested for certain offenses may be given the opportunity to participate in a **Risk Assessment** which asks about your criminal history and a **Needs Screening** which asks about your mental health and substance use. A person called a **Pretrial Monitor** will ask you these questions.

Participation is voluntary.

You may speak with a private attorney or a public defender before deciding whether to participate.

Anyone may call a public defender regardless of personal finances. If you are uncertain about whether to participate you may wish to speak with an attorney first.

The Pretrial Monitor will not ask you about your charges and you should not discuss those charges with the Monitor.

Following the **Risk Assessment** and **Needs Screening**, the **Pretrial Monitor**:

- Will share the results with the prosecutor. The results cannot be

Pretrial Screening, Continued

used against you to prove guilt.

- Will provide you information about other resources to help you address your areas of need and concern.

If the prosecutor files your case with the court, the judge may also use the results of the **Risk Assessment** and **Needs Screening** in determining bail and conditions of release which can include ordering you to get a **Clinical Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Assessment** and follow the recommendations which may include treatment. The specific details of the **clinical assessment** will not be shared with the court.

The prosecutor might also review the results of the **Risk Assessment** and **Needs Screening** and offer you the opportunity to participate in a program that does not involve filing your case with the court. This is called a **Precharge Program**.

Pretrial Screening, Continued

The decision whether to offer you a **Precharge Program** is entirely up to the prosecutor.

Pretrial Monitor Contact
To contact a Pretrial Monitor in Your Area CALL:
1-802-888-8588

Public Defender Contact
(area code 802) Business Hours

Addison County	388-4656
Bennington County	442-8316
Caledonia County	751-0444
Chittenden County	863-6323
Essex County	751-0444
Franklin County	524-7979
Grand Isle County	524-7979
Lamoille County	888-7921
Orange County	685-9944
Orleans County	334-7911
Rutland County	786-5823
Washington County	479-2514
Windham County	254-2375
Windsor County	296-6200
Defender General Central Office	828-3168