

PSA Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia

Promoting pretrial justice and enhancing community safety

YOU HAVE BEEN CHARGED, NOW WHAT?

Information for defendants with cases pending in DC Superior Court

WHAT TO EXPECT

You have been charged in a criminal case in DC Superior Court. The judge in the courtroom where you were seen has decided to release you until your next court appearance. You have signed a promise that you will show up for all court appearances. To help keep your promise and to minimize the risk of you being arrested again, the judge may have ordered you to follow certain conditions of release. Your conditions of release can be found on your release order (the piece of paper you signed and received before leaving the courtroom).



You must follow all of the release conditions ordered by the judge. If you violate any of those conditions, the judge could change your conditions or revoke your release and order you to remain in jail until your case is resolved. You could also face a new criminal charge for contempt of court.

You must show up for all of your court dates. If you do not report for a court date, a bench warrant will be issued for your arrest, and you could receive a new charge for failing to appear. If you do miss a court appearance, contact your lawyer and call PSA's Release Services Unit (202-585-7077) as soon as possible to resolve the bench warrant.

PSA'S ROLE AND SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH PSA

PSA is responsible for monitoring certain release conditions, such as drug testing, GPS surveillance, curfew and other conditions imposed by the judge. Many defendants are assigned to a Pretrial Services Officer (PSO), who is responsible for notifying the court if release conditions are (or are not) being followed.

While your case is pending, PSA can help you in a variety of ways. We can help you voluntarily surrender on an outstanding bench warrant, obtain drug use disorder and/or mental health treatment or other social services (such as employment and education referrals). If you need any of these services, please talk with your PSO. Also, be sure your PSO knows how to reach you and has your most current phone number (including a cell phone number, if you have one), address and email address. Providing this information helps PSA remind you of upcoming court dates.

Also be sure to stay in touch with your lawyer and PSA to make us aware of any changes to your contact information.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

If you had personal property taken from you when you were arrested, you may be able to have it returned from the location where you were processed after your arrest. If you do not know that location, the agency that arrested you (e.g., MPD or US Capitol Police) may be able to help you obtain this information.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS

PSA GENERAL INFORMATION

- 202-585-7077 (Available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week)

DC SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL CASE INFORMATION

- 202-879-1373

500 INDIANA AVENUE, NW | DC SUPERIOR COURT

PSA Release Services Unit | Room C-301 | 202-585-7077

Report here for assistance with court dates, missed court appearances or to request a referral for an assessment.

PSA Drug Testing Unit | Room C-220 | 202-585-7060

Report here to get drug tested.

601 INDIANA AVENUE, NW | PSA

General Supervision Units | 2nd, 3rd and 10th Floors | 202-585-7955

Social Services and Assessment Center | 9th Floor | 202-442-1660

Traffic Safety and Supervision Unit | 9th Floor | 202-442-1920

633 INDIANA AVENUE, NW | PSA

Specialized Supervision Unit | 9th Floor | 202-220-5556

Drug Court | 10th Floor | 202-220-5505

High Intensity Supervision Program | 10th Floor | 202-220-5530

