

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What kind of cases does the Public Defender handle?

Felony offenses in the Greene County Court of Common Pleas
Misdemeanor offenses in Juvenile Court, Fairborn and Xenia Municipal Courts
Delinquency charges in Greene County Juvenile Court
Contempt charges for non-support in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court
(We do not get involved with minor misdemeanor only charges)

How do I get a Public Defender assigned to my case?

If you are indicted on a felony offense in the Greene County Court of Common Pleas, you must come to the Public Defender's Office and apply in person. If you are determined to be indigent (poor), an attorney will be assigned.

If you are charged with a misdemeanor offense, other than a minor misdemeanor, in Fairborn or Xenia Municipal Courts, then you can apply over the telephone. If you are determined indigent, you must sign a time waiver at the Court. Then, you will be given an appointment to speak with an attorney.

If you are a juvenile with a delinquency charge in Juvenile Court, your parent or guardian should call our office to apply.

All other cases, please call to apply as soon as possible.

What if I am in jail?

You can request an application form to fill out while you are at the jail. If you get released from jail, you must come into our office right away.

What if I am able to hire my own attorney?

If you are financially able to hire your own attorney, you are encouraged to do so immediately. Our program is a poverty program for people with household income that is determined to be eligible.

What can I do to help my lawyer help me?

If you are aware of witnesses who have information that might help your defense, provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of such persons to your lawyer as soon as possible. It would also be helpful for you to get written statements from these witnesses.