



# NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT

*If you have not retained your own attorney*

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## **Apply for a Public Defender**

If you cannot afford an attorney and are facing a possible jail sentence, you may be eligible for representation by a public defender.

To apply, call at least  
**THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS**  
**BEFORE**  
your next court date

# **412-350-2401**

**\*If you reach voicemail,  
you must leave a message with your  
NAME, PHONE NUMBER,  
and COURT DATE.**



# COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

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## Law Office of the Public Defender

542 FORBES AVENUE

400 COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219

MATTHEW DUGAN, ESQ.

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

**Juvenile Division Phone (412)350-3504 • Fax (412)350-2555**

Laura McWilliams, Deputy, Juvenile Division 412-350-2407



RICH FITZGERALD

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## **HOW TO GET A PUBLIC DEFENDER (Juvenile Court)**

Juvenile Court judges will not allow a child to go to a trial without an attorney. Therefore, you should arrange to have an attorney for your child as soon as possible. Failure to do so will most likely cause a postponement of your child's hearing. You can always hire any attorney that you choose. But if you are not going to hire an attorney, you need to contact the Public Defender's Office. All children are eligible for a Public Defender, no matter what their family's income is.

If your child is detained in a juvenile facility, the Public Defender's Office will arrange for representation automatically. If your child is not detained, you will need to contact the office to request representation.

**Contact the Public Defender's Office AT LEAST three (3) business days before the scheduled court hearing. Call (412) 350-3504 to request an attorney.**

## **IMPORTANT**

Your child's attorney will need time to speak to your child privately. They may require that your child set up a time to meet with them at the Public Defender's Office on the 4th floor of the County Office Building, 542 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219.