

Overview

The Rock County Diversion Program may be available to those who are determined to be low risk for committing new crimes, based on the results of one or more scientifically validated criminal re-offense risk assessments; and, whose current pending charges are not excluded based on certain criteria (this is determined by Program staff prior to your initial appearance).

Participants in the Diversion Program may seek the assistance of an attorney by 1) hiring an attorney at their own expense; or 2) seeking services through the Public Defender's Office. Participants are not required to have an attorney to participate in the Diversion Program.

Diversion participants who meet the criteria for diversion, and whose case is referred by the District Attorney, will sign a written Diversion Agreement. Participants who successfully complete their Diversion requirements will earn a dismissal of their case. Those who fail to complete requirements will be

referred back to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Individuals interested in the Diversion Program are required to participate in a brief initial assessment that involves answering eight questions and will last approximately 20 minutes. Completing this initial assessment is voluntary; however, refusal to do so means the Diversion Program is not an option for your case.

Expectations

The Diversion Program is focused on encouraging participants to continue or pursue pro-social activities like work and school. Generally speaking, Program staff will be available to answer any questions but will not be contacting you on a regular basis so you can focus on those pro-social activities. However, if additional needs are identified, a resource list will be provided to you.

Diversion Agreements will be short in length, approximately three months. If a participant's case involves any victims, this may require additional processing time prior to a Diversion Agreement being completed.

A set of standard requirements will be included on all Diversion Agreements including:

- Remaining crime free during the Diversion process;
- Paying restitution, if applicable;
- Attending a short, one-time, educational session

If a participant is arrested while on a Diversion Agreement, the District Attorney's Office will consider the nature of the new charge(s) and may modify the terms of the original Diversion Agreement.

If a participant attends an education session under the influence of alcohol or drugs, becomes disruptive during a session, or refuses/is unable to participate they will be asked to leave. They will have **one** opportunity to call and reschedule. *They must call within two business days of the missed session.*

If a participant is unable or fails to attend an education session they will have **one** opportunity to call and reschedule. *They must call within two business days of the missed session.*

If a participant is asked to leave a session or fails to attend a session and fails to call to reschedule, they are considered non-compliant and will be referred back to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

What charges are excluded?

Excluded charges include but are not limited to:

- Operating While Intoxicated
- Charges involving firearms
- History of firearm charges
- Domestic violence charges
- Certain drug offenses
- Felony offenses
- Public welfare and entitlement charges
- Certain violent crimes, past or present

Certain charges may be considered on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the District Attorney.

My initial assessment is scheduled for:

This appointment will take place in the Deferred Prosecution Office, Floor 4R, in the Rock County Courthouse.

Please call (608) 757-5677 if you have any questions, if you need to reschedule your appointment, or if you wish to cancel.

There are no fees required to participate in the Diversion Program. The only cost involved is any restitution owed on your case.



ROCK COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM

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