

A MESSAGE FROM THE SOLICITOR

The Office of Solicitor for the Third Judicial Circuit firmly believes that those committing crimes must be held accountable for their actions. In most cases, this means a vigorous prosecution of those who commit crimes. In a few cases, however, we recognize that some people who make mistakes are truly deserving of a second chance.

The Pretrial Intervention Program (PTI) has been established for such cases. PTI offers a first time offender an opportunity to turn his or her life around. A participant may be responsible for completing drug treatment, participating in counseling, paying full restitution to the crime victim, attending a prison tour or making a contribution to the community by performing community service work at a non-profit organization. Random drug testing is required. Those who commit violent crimes need not apply.

Our program is regimented and challenging. The stringent requirements placed upon each participant must be strictly followed if the participant is to receive the full benefits of the program. Upon successful completion, all records of the arrest may be destroyed.

If you find yourself charged with a crime, yet you have the motivation and desire to correct your mistake, I urge you to take advantage of this second chance by contacting the PTI coordinator in the county where you are charged.

C. Kelly Jackson

OUT – OF – COUNTY

Participants who are charged in Sumter, Lee, Clarendon or Williamsburg county, but who live in another county within the State of South Carolina, can request their PTI participation be transferred to their home county.

OUT – OF – STATE

Participants who are charged in Sumter, Lee, Clarendon or Williamsburg County, but who live in another state can request an application package by mail. If accepted into PTI, participation would be monitored by telephone and mail.

SUMTER COUNTY

803-436-2193

LEE COUNTY

803-484-5341 EXT. 381

CLARENDON COUNTY

803-435-4071

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY

803-355-9321 EXT. 174

Pretrial Intervention Program



C. Kelly Jackson

Solicitor

Third Judicial Circuit

**Carol B. Gailliard
Director, Pretrial Intervention**

**Sumter, Lee, Clarendon and
Williamsburg Counties**

WHAT IS PRETRIAL INTERVENTION?

Pretrial Intervention (PTI) is a diversion program under the direct control and supervision of the Third Circuit Solicitor. If you apply and qualify, the Solicitor will intervene on your behalf to divert your case away from the court system and not seek a conviction. While in the program, you may be required to perform community service work, attend counseling, pay restitution to a victim, attend a prison tour or complete other similar tasks as assigned. In return for your completion of all PTI requirements, you may have your criminal arrest cleared from your record. This allows you a fresh start toward a responsible and productive life in our community. PTI gives you a second chance.

FEEES

Since PTI is a self-supporting department, there are fees for all applicants except those who show adequate proof of their inability to pay. Indigence is determined by the Solicitor's Office. The application fee is \$100.00 [non-refundable] and must be paid at the first interview. If an applicant meets the qualifications and is accepted, a \$250.00 participation fee is due at the orientation. This fee is also non-refundable in case of termination for failure to meet program requirements.

WHO CAN APPLY?

If you are a first time offender recently arrested for a non-violent crime, you may be eligible to participate in the PTI Program. The Third Circuit Solicitor accepts applications from defendants accused of committing crimes in Magistrate's Court, Municipal Court and General Sessions Court. You must apply to the Solicitor's Office within 75 days from the date of arrest or before indictment. Some examples of PTI-eligible offenses are: simple possession of marijuana or controlled substances, shoplifting, lesser assault cases, lesser larceny and other non-violent crimes, as long as the applicant has no significant prior criminal record. Offenses which are threatening to the personal safety of private citizens and/or violent in nature are not eligible for the program. Most traffic-related offenses, crimes of violence, driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, and most fish, game and wildlife offenses are ineligible for PTI.



A Treatment Alternative

HOW LONG WILL I BE IN PTI?

The length of participation in PTI ranges from 3-12 months, based on the participant's individual progress.

REQUIREMENTS

- Pay application and participation fees
- Pay restitution (if applicable)
- Attend and actively participate in counseling (if applicable)
- Submit and pay for random drug testing
- Attend a prison tour
- Complete assigned community service work (50 hour minimum)
- Keep all scheduled appointments
- Not be arrested while participating in PTI

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Upon successful completion of the Solicitor's requirements, the appropriate court can be notified and the charges against the defendant may be dismissed. At that time, the defendant is eligible under S.C. Code of Laws Section 17-22-150 to clear his or her arrest record.