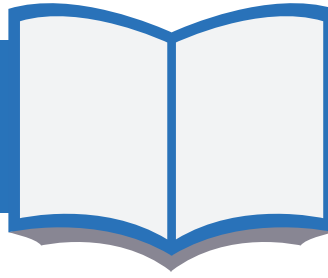




Participant Handouts Scenarios



Scenario 1 Worksheet: Demonstration

I'm supposed to attend court today, but I'm stuck out of town because my flight was cancelled. I'm worried about what will happen when I don't show up. Is there any way I can miss court without any problems?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Missing court" with the question, "I have an emergency and can't make it for my court date. What do I do?"

- What will the court do if your absence goes unexplained?
- Can you avoid consequences for missing court if you can explain your absence?
- If you don't have a lawyer, who should you call about your absence?
- If you don't have a lawyer, is there any way the court can proceed without you?
- If you were charged with a serious offence, is there any way the court can proceed without you?



Scenario 2 Worksheet

I used to have a real anger problem, and I was charged with uttering threats. But I'm a calmer person now, and I don't think it would be fair for me to stand trial. I'm going to tell my lawyer that we should get the Crown to drop the charges against me?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Court appearances" with the question, "How can I get my criminal charges dropped?"

- Is there anything I can do to force the Crown to drop the charges?
- Is there anything that might help me convince the Crown to drop the charges?
- Can I get any information about whether I can do anything to convince the Crown to drop the charges before I get to a trial?
- What is the difference between **withdrawing** the charges against you and staying the charges?
- What is the best way to discuss dropping charges with the Crown?



Scenario 3 Worksheet

I keyed somebody's car, but I regret doing it. I was charged with mischief, which is the first time I've been criminally charged. It was a bad choice, but I still think it is overkill to put me on trial for this. I know what I did was wrong and I want to show that I'm sorry and make up for it. Is there some way to resolve this without going to trial?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Court appearances" with the question, "What is diversion?"

- What happens if the Crown offers you diversion instead of charging you?
- What are some examples of "upfront work" for diversion?
- What sort of things will the Crown consider when deciding whether to offer diversion?
- How can I find out whether I'm eligible for diversion?
- What happens when a person agrees to diversion?



Scenario 4 Worksheet

I had an argument with my cousin who lives across town and I hit him. I was charged with assault. I really don't think I should have to go to jail or stand trial, though. It was a one-time mistake. Can't I just stay away from my cousin instead of going through all this trouble?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Court appearances" with the question, "Should I sign a peace bond in my criminal case?"

- What is a peace bond and when will a Court order one?
- What will happen if I sign a peace bond?
- Are there any reasons to consider not agreeing to a peace bond?
- What are some conditions this person might expect in their peace bonds?
- How do I accept my peace bond and what happens when I do?



Scenario 5 Worksheet

I have been charged with murder! I could be facing over 14 years in jail if I'm convicted, but I swear I'm innocent! I think the prosecutor's case is probably weak. I bet they shouldn't have even charged me in the first place. How can I learn more about the evidence against me?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Pre-trial hearings" with the question, "What is a preliminary inquiry?"

- What is a preliminary inquiry and how is it different from a trial?
- Why might this person want a preliminary inquiry?
- What must this person do to ask for a preliminary inquiry?
- How should this person prepare for a preliminary inquiry?
- If the Court decides there is enough evidence to go to trial, is there anything this person can do with the witness testimony from the preliminary inquiry?



Scenario 6 Worksheet

Last night, I was arrested and charged with breaking and entering and robbery. The police say that a confidential source named me as the robbery suspect and that they have surveillance footage of me fleeing the scene of the crime. I don't see how that's possible: I was at home alone that night. I wish the police would let me see the footage and tell me who reported me. It would make it so much easier to explain that I'm innocent!

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Court appearances" with the question, "What documents does the Crown have to give me?"

- Is the prosecution allowed to keep all of its evidence secret from an accused and surprise them with it at trial?
- What sort of information does the prosecution have to give an accused?
- What kinds of information or evidence are NOT required in disclosure?
- When must the Crown hand over this information to the accused?
- Why might this person want a lawyer to review their disclosure?