



Community Law School (Sarnia-Lambton) Inc.

Legal Literacy Activity Form

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Legal Literacy Activity Title: Before Trial: Disclosure, Crown Resolution/Pre-Trial Meetings and Diversion

Date Developed: November 14, 2019

Learner Name:

Date Started:

Date Completed:

Legal Literacy Activity Description: The learner will locate and read information from the Steps to Justice website dealing with disclosure, Crown Resolution/Pre-Trial meetings and diversion programs. They will consider questions relating to the readings and discuss them with their tutor.

Materials Required:

Pen and paper

Access to a computer and the internet

Instructor preparation: Read over the learner instructions with the learner and check for understanding.

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Legal Literacy Activities:

Task # 1: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "What documents does the Crown have to give me?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task # 2: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "What is a Crown pre-trial?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task # 3: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "I have been offered diversion. What do I need to know?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task# 4: Please discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. What is disclosure?
2. What is included in disclosure?
3. What is a Crown pre-trial?
4. What is the purpose of a Crown pre-trial?
5. What is diversion?
6. Why would someone choose diversion rather than a trial?
7. Please describe at least 3 examples of "up front" work someone may complete as part of a diversion plan.

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Answers for Legal Literacy Activities:

The learner will undertake the following activities. Answers to the questions are provided where applicable.

Task # 1: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "What documents does the Crown have to give me?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task # 2: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "What is a Crown pre-trial?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task # 3: Using an internet search engine (for example, Google), locate the Steps to Justice website. Click "Criminal Law" and then "Going to criminal court". Under that heading, click the question "I have been offered diversion. What do I need to know?". Please read the answer to that question.

Task# 4: Please discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. What is disclosure?

The information that the police and Crown have about a person's case is called their disclosure.

2. What is included in disclosure?

The disclosure may include:

- police officer's notes
- witness statements
- surveillance video and photos
- financial documents
- medical records
- forensic reports

The disclosure might include evidence that shows a person is guilty. It might also include information that shows they are innocent.

3. What is a Crown pre-trial?

The Crown pre-trial is the first chance for the accused person and/or their lawyer to talk to the Crown about the case. The discussion takes place in private outside the courtroom.

4. What is the purpose of a Crown pre-trial?

The main purpose of the pre-trial is to identify issues that might be raised at trial. The accused person may also discuss ways to resolve their case, and the sentence the Crown is asking for if they plead guilty.

5. What is diversion?

Diversion is a voluntary way to resolve minor criminal charges. It is also called "direct accountability". If the accused completes the diversion offered, they will not be convicted of the offence. The Crown will either stay or withdraw the charges. There will not be a formal "finding of guilt." But, in some cases they may be required to accept responsibility. In return, the accused must do some work. This work is called "upfront" work.

6. Why would someone choose diversion rather than a trial?

If someone completes the diversion offered, they will not be convicted of the offence. The Crown will either stay or withdraw your charges. There will be no trial or costs of a trial in terms of money and time.

7. Please describe at least 3 examples of "up front" work someone may complete as part of a diversion plan.

Upfront work may include:

- community service
- a charitable donation
- anger management counselling
- addiction or mental health counselling
- a combination of the above

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These Legal Literacy Activities: were successfully completed____ need to be tried again____

Learner Comments

Instructor (print and signature)

Learner Signature