

Dutchess County Public Defender
45 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
Phone: 845-486-2280 • Fax: 845-486-2266

To qualify for representation by the Public Defender's Office:

- Come to our office at the above address (Intersection of Market Street and Cannon Street) for an eligibility interview. We operate on a first-come first-serve basis. You should be prepared to wait.

*****INTERVIEWS ARE FROM 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY*****

You must provide the following at the time of interview:

- **Identification**
- Copies of **all documents** received from the Court, Police or District Attorney
- **Proof of your income** (including pay stubs or recent tax return for yourself). If you do not have any income, you must be prepared to show how you support yourself (including benefit statement from Department of Family & Community Services and/or Social Security, etc.)
- Homeowners must provide **proof of property value and equity**. Bring mortgage documents with you.
- College students must bring a copy of student account (including tuition and fees, as well as payments, etc.) from the college attended.

Your eligibility application may be investigated for accuracy.

******WARNING******

**DO NOT SPEAK TO ANYONE ABOUT YOUR CASE OR WHAT HAPPENED
UNTIL YOU TALK TO A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER STAFF.**

The Dutchess County Public Defender will not start to work on your case until you have qualified for legal representation. You should qualify **as soon as possible**, preferably at least a week before you must return to Court. **Do not wait or you will make your defense more difficult.**

NEXT COURT DATE: _____

DUTCHESS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER