



PACS
OFFENDERS CAN CHANGE



COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS (CSO)

OFFENDERS PAMPHLET

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WHAT DOES CSO MEAN?

To anyone sentenced to community service...

The court has sentenced you to community service instead of imprisonment. This means:

- You will work without pay in the community as punishment for your offence.
 - You will be required to perform community service for the public for the period that the court ordered, but this may be extended by the court.
 - You will also be under the supervision by the Community Service Officer and work directly under the Work Agency Supervisors.
 - If you misbehave during the time you are under community service, you run the risk of being sentenced to prison.
 - This supervision starts immediately after the sentence has been passed, unless the court decides otherwise, but the community service work will start as the Probation Officer/ Community Service Officer directs.
 - The period under community service can be prolonged if you misbehave
 - Supervision has two purposes: (a) partly to make sure that you lead an orderly life, and (b) partly to give you a chance to pay back to the community through community service.
- A Community Service Officer and a Work Agency Supervisor have been appointed by the court as your supervisors and you must cooperate with them during your period of supervision.
 - The Community Service Officer who is in charge of your case can be found at the Probation Office.
 - You should cooperate and obey instructions given by the Community Service Officer and the Work Agency Supervisor.
 - The instructions given by the Community Service Officer are meant to make you law abiding and help you finish your supervision period well.
 - Immediately after you have received your sentence you must make contact with your Community Service Officer or with the Probation Office.
 - Once you are given instructions regarding your place of work, you must report there as ordered.

WHAT DOES SUPERVISION MEAN?

CSO SUPERVISION MEANS...

- You must maintain regular contact with your agency supervisor as agreed at the beginning.
- You must keep your Work Agency Supervisor informed in time on any challenge you may have that can make you not perform your work as ordered by the court.
- You must keep your Community Service Officer informed on where you are living, what sort of occupation you have and how you are maintaining yourself.
- Special instructions can be given to you during the supervision period.
- You may be required, for example, to:
 1. Meet the Community Service Officer in his/her office or at your residence.
 2. Take part in a programme or training meant to reduce reoffending or drug/alcohol misuse.

IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY....

- If you evade supervision or fail to perform work assigned to you, an application to court for your arrest will be made.
- If you misconduct yourself, a Community Service Officer can:
 1. Call you to the office for serious discussion about your behavior,
 2. Issue special instructions or change those already given,
 3. Give you a warning,
 4. Ask for you to be arrested by the police, or
 5. Recommend to the court to change the community service order into a prison sentence.

CSO SUPERVISION IMPLIES...

- That you can receive advice from the responsible Community Service Officer on a number of different issues connected with problems related to your offending behaviour.
- That you can be given help and support in contacting official agencies or other organizations that can help you in various ways that can make you live an industrious life and engage in productive activities through offenders empowerment programme.
- If you cooperate and work actively in accordance with your work assignment, you will be helped to develop the positive sides of yourself and to avoid going back to crime.

OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS

YOUR OBLIGATIONS

You must...

- Not commit any crime.
- Report to work and perform the tasks assigned as instructed by your supervisors.
- Actively cooperate in improving on your personal situation and problems, for example, deal with possible drug and alcohol abuse.
- Cooperate with your supervisor and perform your work assignments appropriately without being cautioned about it.
- Keep away friends of undesirable character.
- Keep your Community Service Officer informed about your address/residence or place of abode.
- Follow any special instructions given you by the court.
- Actively search for work if you are unemployed.
- Pay for any damages that you owe as ordered by the court.
- Always keep your appointment date with the Community Service Officer.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO...

- Take part in planning for how you will perform community service work while under supervision.
- Express your views about your supervisor at the work site or your Community Service Officer.
- Ask for a change of supervisor or work site or nature of work if there is a reason to request this.
- Ask for any decision by the Probation and Aftercare Service concerning your supervision and your work to be examined by the Court or Community Case Committee.
- See anything written by the agency supervisor about you or the Probation Service to the court or case committee if you so demand.
- Talk with a senior Community Service Officer about your case, for example, if you think that your supervisor is not treating you properly.
- Visit the Probation Office at agreed times for discussions, advice and support to deal with particular difficulties.
- Demand of your agency supervisor and Community Service Officer that he/she keep to what has been agreed between you, for example concerning times for work, reporting or home visit