
BELLINGHAM MUNICIPAL COURT

INSTRUCTIONS AFTER COURT

Once the plea is completed, you still have responsibilities to the Court and possibly the DOL. The following may apply to your case and it is important to follow through.

Money: The total fees can be paid directly to the court or through a time pay with “Signal Management.” You must check in with the Court Clerk and set up a payment plan. The payment plan allows payments of 10% per month if the total is less than \$1,000 or 5% per month if more than \$1000. Be sure and pay these timely.

Probation: If Active (aka Supervised) Probation is ordered you must check in with the Probation Department following court. You will fill out an intake package and schedule a time to meet with the Probation office (typically 2-3 weeks later). Probation may also schedule a separate time to provide a UA (urinalysis) sample. During your period on Active Probation you can expect periodic UAs. Expect one every time you meet with Probation and remember that proof of marijuana consumption can be detected through testing up to and beyond the previously 30 days and alcohol can be detected for 4 days prior to a test.

Jail: Bellingham Municipal Court will utilize “Friendship Diversion Services” (FDS) in lieu of jail, if we have successfully negotiated this option. You will be instructed to contact this service within 24 hours and I recommend you do so immediately after court. FDS permits home detention in lieu of actual jail. The cost is approximately \$15/day and there is a \$50 set up fee.

DOL: If your sentence triggers a license suspension you will be notified by the DOL within 30 days. Please read the documentation carefully. Even if you have already served a license suspension you may still need to reinstate your driver’s license a second time.

More Questions? Please read your court documents carefully and do not lose them. As always, please contact us directly so we can help. We want the finality of your case to be as smooth as possible.

Bellingham Municipal Court Clerk	2014 C Street, Bellingham	(360) 778-8150
Whatcom Probation Department	311 Grand Ave, 406, Bellingham	(360) 778-5450
Friendship Diversion Services (FDS)	114 W. Magnolia, #109, Bellingham	(360) 392-3981
DOL	www.dol.wa.gov	(360) 902-3900
Signal Management (court payments)	P.O. Box 1849, Gig Harbor, WA 98335	(800) 874-1958