

Our Individual Programs

General Programs

It is our goal to provide the best wrap-around services as can be offered toward the recovery of each participant. DPP is committed to the protection and safety of the public and fully utilizes a wide spectrum of community resources to facilitate the completion of participant contracts. The program remains in accordance with all statutes and codes to ensure due process for all parties.

Opiate Program (DPP-O)

Participants of the Opiate program will be required to be in compliance with a rigorous drug testing program, meet with the DPP counselor face-to-face weekly until advancing in the program, submit a number of written assignments, fully comply with substance abuse treatment recommendations and address any barriers in leading sober lifestyle. After being referred to the program by the D.A.'s office, a defendant is required to come to our main office and complete the pre-screening form so an intake can then be scheduled.

Child Abuse Initiative (DPP- CAI)

As the larger community explores non-violent parenting initiatives and the cultural context of corporal punishment, the Dane County DA's Office has incorporated a diversion program designed to protect all children and strengthen families.

Deferred Prosecution Philosophy and Principles

The Deferred Prosecution Program's (DPP) success depends on our ability to engage, educate, enhance intrinsic motivation and activate defendants by targeting interventions appropriately.

We hope to ensure all defendants leave DPP more competent to function effectively in the community by adequately assessing defendants risk and needs and targeting interventions appropriately.

We focus on develop a higher needs of accountability for the offense behavior, as well as their responsibility to repair the harm done, increase victim empathy and community engagement.

Additionally, we aim to improve connection and collaboration with defendants and community resources to provide educational opportunities as well as access to healthcare and economic options.



**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
DEFERRED PROSECUTION PROGRAM**

PHONE: (608) 284-6896

FAX: (608) 266-4687

HOURS: 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM

DANE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



DEFERRED PROSECUTION PROGRAM

*City-County Building, Room 212
211 South Carroll Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Melvin Jette, Program Director*

**ISMAEL R. OZANNE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

What is Deferred Prosecution?

The program is one in which eligible persons can divert out of the formal criminal justice process. Participants sign a contract by which they agree to attend classes, make restitution, engage in community service work, secure needed psychiatric, substance abuse, domestic violence, vocational or other counseling.



Deferred Prosecution Benefit the Community In Many Ways

Victims who suffer personal property and monetary loss are compensated by the offender through restitution or community service.

Courts and police benefit from the elimination of costly court fees and time spent in appearances for court trials, hearings, and pretrial conferences.

The public benefits from the reduction in recidivism, the monetary restitution and the community service work received, and also the savings of court time and resources.

The participants benefit from the education and counseling received, as well as the avoidance of the criminal conviction.

Taxpayers benefit from reduced court costs. National studies reveal that the cost of handling cases through pre-trial intervention programs such as this, are less than half the cost of handling similar cases in the traditional manner of prosecution

Communities are impacted substantially by programs such as these being available, otherwise offenders may receive little to no supervision, and may have limited access to resources and services following arrest.

Program Eligibility

- Accept responsibility for the offense.
- Have no previous criminal convictions within the past 5 years, **exceptions are considered**
- Be 17 years of age or older or be waived from juvenile jurisdiction, if under 17.
- Have consent of the Assistant District Attorney assigned to the case
- Not to be a repeat Domestic Violence Offender
- Voluntarily agree to participate in the program.

Additionally, defendant must meet with program staff for a personal interview to determine eligibility for participation in the program.



The Deferred Prosecution Program charges a \$10 fee for services.

No cash will be accepted, only money orders or cashier's checks made out to: Dane county District Attorney's office

Online payments can be made at:

https://da.countyofdane.com/unit_fees.aspx

Program Conditions

Upon entering the program a participant is required to sign a contract. The length of an offender's contract depends on the nature and seriousness of the offense, their attitude, commitment and educational or counseling needs. Contracts average between 9 to 36 months. Early completion of the program is possible, as long as all contract conditions have been accomplished, and a significant portion of the time frame stipulated in the contract has been completed.

An offenders contract can be terminated if they fail to adhere to any of the set conditions in the contract or they become involved in any criminal violations, excluding minor traffic violations.

If the contract terminates before completion of the program, the District Attorney usually resumes criminal court proceedings. This may result in a criminal conviction.



Deferred Prosecution is different from probation

A defendant placed on probation is found guilty by the judge or jury, or pleads guilty to a charge and is sentenced. Probation involves formal supervision and results in a criminal conviction.

A participant in Deferred Prosecution is not a sentence, but a plea is usually entered. A participant enters the program voluntarily. Any offender may elect to go to court rather than participate in the program.

In addition, supervision of an offender under the deferred prosecution contract provided by an intake counselor on an informal basis. The offender must follow through and meet the deadlines in their contract. If the offender completes the contract, the case is dismissed.

