



## Going to court

A **victim** of crime may have to go to court.

A **witness** of a crime may have to go to court.



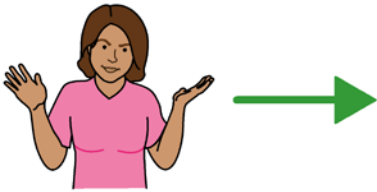
A victim

- was hurt by another person
- had something stolen or damaged
- had a family member who was killed.



A witness is a person who saw a crime.

The witness gives information to the court about what they saw.



## What happens

Police will tell you the date and place for the court hearing. The police will

- call you
- or
- send you a letter.



You do **not** need a lawyer. There will be a **prosecutor** working on the court case. The prosecutor helps the victim. The prosecutor's job is to show the court the evidence.

The evidence is to say the **accused** person broke the law.



The **accused** is the person the police charge with doing the crime.



Police will give you information about court.

For example,

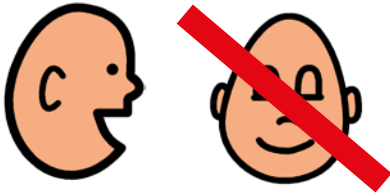
- how to give evidence
- cross examination. This means the **defence** asks you questions.

The **defence** is the lawyer for the accused person.

- who will be in court and what they do
- how the court room works.



A victim or a witness might get a **subpoena** to come to court. This means police tell you that you **must** go to court.



## Safety

Tell the police if you are worried about your safety.

The police will tell the prosecutor.

The prosecutor will tell the court.

The prosecutor or court support person can show you a safe place to sit.





## Money for a witness

A witness may be able to get some money. The money is to help with the cost of going to court. It does **not** pay for all of the costs.

## If you need money

- 1 talk to the police officer **or** prosecutor **before** you go to court.
- 2 **after** you give evidence in court the police officer or prosecutor can sign a form. The form says you can get some money for your costs.
- 3 take the **signed** form to the court office.

## More information

Call 02 9285 8606

The Easy English is from information in **Attending Court**.

Scope's Communication Resource Centre wrote the Easy English.

July 2013.

[www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au).

To see the original book, contact the NSW Police Force.

Mayer-Johnson LLC says we can use the Picture Communication

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