



Information sheet

Obligation to appear

What does this mean for you?

On April 20, 2021, the Senate adopted the Expanding Victims' Rights Act (Wus). With this Act, victims will have more rights in the criminal process. This Act provides among other things, that suspects of serious violent and sex offences must be present during the substantive proceedings of their case. This is called obligation to appear.

What does the obligation to appear mean for you?

You have read in a summons from the court that you have to appear at a Court hearing soon and that the obligation to appear applies. You will be informed at least 1 day before the hearing from what time onwards you must be ready to go on transport to the Court.

Can you refuse to go to Court?

Due to the obligation to appear, you cannot refuse the transport to the Court. If you refuse to cooperate with your transport, the

staff of the facility may force you to go with them. It is therefore important that you cooperate with the transport and be ready on time.

During transport to and from the Court, we also expect you to behave properly and obey the instructions of the transport supervisor.

Do you have any questions or concerns about the appearance requirement?

In case you have any questions about the transport to the hearing please ask the staff of the ward where you are staying.

If you have any questions about what will happen at the hearing, then you can ask your lawyer.

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