

# TRIAL

## A GUIDE FOR ADVOCATES

- Does the victim understand the advocate's role and purpose?
- Is the victim aware that all conditions of release and any HRO or OFP is still in place, and to contact police if violations occur?
- Does the victim know that she/he can and should meet with the prosecutor to prepare for her testimony, and what to expect when testifying?
- Does the victim understand the process and timelines of a trial?
- Does the victim know she/he can raise any special concerns with the prosecutor, such as disabilities or special needs?
- Does the victim know she/he can wait in a separate area during the trial?
- Does the victim know she/he will likely be sequestered as a witness, and what that means?
- Does the victim understand appropriate courtroom demeanor and dress for her/himself and for her/his supporters?
- Does the victim know that she can request to meet with the prosecutor for questions during trial?
- Does the victim know about available witness fees or transportation reimbursements?
- Does the victim know about the protections from discipline at work for witnesses under subpoena?
- Does the victim know that the defendant can choose not to testify?
- Does the victim understand that the defendant can choose to plead guilty at any time during trial or jury deliberations?
- Does the victim know she/he can ask the court to wait to have the verdict read until she/he is present?
- Does the victim understand what the implications are in the event there is a hung jury?

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