

SAMPLE COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

What to include in the statement

Your name
How long you have lived in the community
Your feelings on repeat offenders
How crime has affected you and/or your community
Your thoughts on this particular crime
What sentence or punishment would you like the Defendant to receive

EXAMPLE

Good morning Your Honor. My name is Courtwatcher (C. Watcher or Court W.) and I have lived in the community for 19 years.

The Defendant is well known in our community with a record of multiple arrests for entering auto, criminal trespass, and burglary. His pattern of crime has become bolder over time with residential burglaries in Zone 6 of last year occurring while residents were home and asleep, leaving residents afraid in their own homes.

It is my understanding that this individual had been released from jail for just a month when he re-offended and was arrested for the case you are hearing today. It is clear to me that, if this individual is allowed to return to our community, he will continue his criminal acts and further harm citizens.

During the time I have been living in Zone 6, my husband's car has been broken into, and our home has been burglarized. In addition, many friends and neighbors have suffered with auto break-ins over the years. The fact that is most concerning is that these crimes are most often being committed by Repeat Offenders.

Enough is enough. The police have apprehended this Defendant and he needs to be locked away for a very long time. He has been arrested too many times and chooses to continue down the path of crime. We are tired of living in fear in our community.

For these reasons, I would ask that the sentence for this individual reflect the many prior arrests and the impact these crimes have had on our community.

Respectfully submitted,

CourtWatcher (C. Watcher or Court W.)