



What is court monitoring and what are the benefits?

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Court monitoring is a process of observing and gathering information on the courts. Monitoring includes observing real time court proceedings as well as conducting research and investigation of the court, its practices and procedures.

Why monitor?

Systems that go unmonitored tend to serve their own purposes. Monitoring promotes an open and transparent court process and holds the system accountable for protecting victim and public safety. Monitoring also engages the public to take responsibility for the justice system. This strengthens our democracy and the well being of our society.

Benefits of monitoring

Monitoring provides a consistent and on-going public presence with an independent viewpoint. Court monitor groups can provide feedback on individual cases, supports policy efforts, and shed light on gaps in the system

Challenges to monitoring

Court monitoring groups have a limited role. They can make recommendations but can't implement them. This makes partnering with members of the criminal justice system a critical part of court monitoring. Also, improving the courts is a continual process and takes time.

Contact WATCH!

We can help you get started on setting up a court monitoring program today.