



WATCH mission and philosophy

The mission of WATCH is to make the criminal justice system more effective and responsive in handling cases of violence, particularly against women and children, and to create a more informed and involved public.

We believe...

- The justice system is accountable to the public
- The public has a right to observe the process
- The criminal justice system should:

Be fair and consistent

Take into account victim and public safety

Hold offenders accountable

Send a clear message that violence will not be tolerated

Follow the law

We strive to...

- Maintain constructive relationships and keep open lines of communication with criminal justice system personnel and community agencies
- Maintain our credibility thorough and diligent and exacting research regarding the courts and cases we are watching
- Maintain an independent, public voice on the criminal justice system and its functioning

The underlying goal of all of our efforts is to prompt improvement. We do not sensationalize or exaggerate issues nor do we threaten or deliberately embarrass anyone. The more allies we have in the system the more likely we are to create lasting, positive change.