

UNDERSTANDING YOUR RESTITUTION

This is information for you about restitution. It helps explain what restitution is and how it is paid.

If you have questions, you are always welcome to contact your parole agent.

1

What is restitution?

- Restitution is money owed to the victim in your convicted case.
- It is ordered by the judge, at sentencing or at a separate hearing.
- The sentencing judge makes the final decision on the amount of restitution ordered.
- It covers out of pocket expenses such as medical bills, stolen cash/items, damage to home/car.

2

Why is paying restitution important?

- The victim experienced a financial loss. (Medical bills, property damage, theft, etc.)
- Paying your restitution takes responsibility for your actions.
- This shows your effort to restore your victim.

3

How does restitution work while on parole?

- Regular payments towards restitution are a general condition of parole for all offenders.
- When released, you are expected to set up a payment plan at the county Clerk of Courts Office and make regular monthly payments.
- If you have cases in more than one county—you need a payment plan in each county.
- Payments are made to the Clerk of Courts.
- Most counties accept payments online at: <https://ujportal.pacourts.us/ePay.aspx>
- Let your agent know when your payment plan is set up and provide proof of payment each visit.
- Restitution is still owed—even after your sentence is complete.

4

What if I can't pay?

- Be honest with your agent about your ability to pay restitution and other obligations (like child support), they may be able to assist you.
- Payments are necessary regardless of your employment status. Even if you're not working, making small payments shows you are making an effort to be responsible and accountable.
- If you choose not to make any efforts to comply with this condition, it may result in sanctions and/or violation of parole.
- Not paying restitution could also negatively impact your credit and the debt may be sent to collections.

You can access court information, which includes restitution totals, on <http://ujportal.pacourts.us/DocketSheets.aspx>

Cases can be looked up by docket number and/or name.