

Before you enter your plea

# **Consider the Possible Effects** of Pleading Guilty

You have a right to see a defense attorney, even if you can't pay for one. Your attorney will explain what can happen because of your plea and help you decide what to do.

In addition to possible penalties such as jail time and fines, examples of issues you may want to discuss with an attorney include:

## **IMMIGRATION**

- Be DEPORTED, or removed,
  - · Be denied entry to the
    - Lose certain benefits

If you are a non-citizen, you may:

- from the United States
  - **United States**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

- You may be unable to: · Work with children or vulnerable adults
- Work in airport security, the state patrol, and certain jobs involving transportation
- · Obtain work that requires a driver's license

### MILITARY SERVICE

**FAMILY ISSUES** 

You may be affected with

regard to:

· Proceedings involving your children

 Attempts to adopt Foster care proceedings

You may:

- Be disqualified from serving in the military
- · Lose certain privileges

# If You **Plead Guilty:**

### HOUSING

You may be subject to:

- Private landlord screening Denial of public housing
- and subsidies
  - Evictions

# STUDENT LOANS, **VOTING, DRIVING**

You may lose your ability to:

- · Obtain eligibility for federal education assistance
- Vote and serve on jury duty
  - · Hold a driver's license

# **PUBLIC BENEFITS**

You may lose eligibility for:

- Food stamps
- Social Security/disability
- Other welfare benefits

# PROBATION AND **OTHER ISSUES**

A guilty plea — even for a minor offense — may result in having probation revoked, and there are many other possible effects of a guilty plea. Only an attorney can identify all the consequences for you.

# REMEMBER

- · You have a RIGHT to an attorney right now.
- An attorney can explain the potential consequences of your plea.
- · If you cannot afford an attorney, an attorney will be provided at NO COST to you.
- If you don't have an attorney, you can ask for one to be appointed and for a continuance until you have one appointed.