

Genesee County Circuit Court Launches Text Alert Programming

Effective April 1, 2019, if you owe money to the Genesee County Circuit Court arising out of a criminal conviction, you will be asked to enroll in a program that sends text message alerts to your mobile phone that a payment is due or that a payment was missed. The goal is to prompt a defendant to stay in compliance with a payment plan and increase revenue for Genesee County.

This initiative is an enhancement of collection software, developed by a private vendor in collaboration with the Michigan Supreme Court. Genesee County is already using the collection software and will become the second circuit court in the state to implement the text messaging feature.

According to Circuit Court Administrator, Barbara A. Menear, this was an option that the court has been eagerly looking forward to implement. Menear said that “sending out paper notices for the same purpose is expensive and ineffective. The chances of a person who owes money to the court looking at their cell phone is greater than the same person looking in their mail box. “

The initiative will be evaluated to determine if text message alerts may be used for other purposes, such as reminding unrepresented litigants about future court dates.

3.1.19

For More Information:
Barbara A. Menear
Administrator
Genesee County Circuit Court
bmenear@co.genesee.mi.us