

Translation from the German language

Public Prosecutor's Office
Hamburg

P.O. Box 30 52 61
20355 Hamburg

General information

***on averting the enforcement of imprisonment as an alternative
by way of community service***

You were sentenced some time ago to payment of a monetary penalty. You failed to effect payment of the fine in question. You also failed to react to a reminder. Consequently, the Public Prosecutor's Office in Hamburg has ordered that a custodial sentence be imposed as an alternative (§ 459e Subsection (1) of the Federal Code of Criminal Procedure) and has summoned you to appear for commencement of service of your sentence in the Penal Institution [*Justizvollzugsanstalt*]. You can, however, avoid detention by voluntarily carrying out unpaid community service. This involves your providing **five hours** (in cases of hardship, three hours) of community service as an alternative to one day's detention.

This work can, for example, take place in community facilities and in charitable institutions. Previous knowledge may prove useful when it comes to being provided with work with one of the emergency services; this is not, however, an absolute requirement. Consideration will be given to your own proposals as regards a place of work, and the matter will be looked into as to whether the area of work requested is suitable in your case.

You will only be receiving this offer once. Should you wish to avert enforcement of a custodial sentence, then it is absolutely imperative that you make contact with the following authority **within one week**:

Fachamt Straffälligen- und Gerichtshilfe
[Specialist Department for Offender and Judicial Support]
Fachstelle Gemeinnützige Arbeit
[Community Service Division]
Max-Brauer-Allee 41, 22765 Hamburg (near Altona Railway Station)
e-Mail: sg24@eimsbuettel.hamburg.de
Tel.: (040) 428 11 - 2400 Fax: (040) 427 90 3086

Office hours:

Mondays	3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. personal and telephone contact available
Tuesday:	9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon telephone contact only
Wednesdays - Fridays:	9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon personal and telephone contact available

The Specialist Department has been commissioned by the Public Prosecutor's Office to organise and monitor the work that is to be carried out on a voluntary basis. A member of staff at the Community Service Division there will arrange an appointment with you to discuss the matter, and you will be made acquainted with all further details on the occasion of that discussion.

It is imperative that you bring the following items of documentation along with you to the meeting:

- **this information sheet**
- **the summons to appear for commencement of service of sentence or, as the case may be, confirmation of approval by the Public Prosecutor's Office of participation in a community-service programme**
- **evidence of any payment(s) in this matter**
- **up-to-date documentation verifying your current income situation (e.g. notification of unemployment-benefit or basic security-benefit entitlement)**

The Public Prosecutor's Office will, for the duration of this period, dispense with issuance of an imprisonment order. Should it be the case that you are unexpectedly unable to appear for the agreed appointment, you should, therefore, request a new appointment immediately. For, should you fail to appear for the agreed appointment without any excuse, or should it prove impossible to assign you a place of work for reasons for which you may be held accountable, postponement of enforcement will be terminated with immediate effect. You may then expect to be arrested in so far as you do not voluntarily present yourself immediately for imprisonment or pay the (remaining) monetary penalty.