

## What is the AJSD?

The Ambulante Justizsozialdienst (AJSD, agency for criminal justice social work) is part of the Lower Saxony justice system. About 450 employees, who perform duties in the fields of probation service, supervision of conduct, court assistance and offender-victim mediation, are working in the AJSD.

Criminal justice social workers are involved in the social reintegration of criminal offenders, support their clients in avoiding going to prison due to unpaid fines, prepare reports on participants in the proceedings and settle disputes.

We cooperate with private agencies and network partners concerned with offender and victim support and we support voluntary work.

The AJSD is committed to the basic values of tolerance, social justice, human rights and non-violent conflict resolution.

The AJSD does prevention work for our society and contributes to internal security.



Ambulanter Justizsozialdienst Niedersachsen



## Probation Service in the AJSD

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Niedersachsen. Klar.



Niedersachsen

# What is Probation Service?

## Support and Monitoring

The court has sentenced you to prison and has suspended this sentence. Or you have already served part of your sentence, the court dismisses you prematurely from prison and suspends the remainder of your sentence on probation.

In both cases, the court may appoint a probation officer, for all or part of the probation period, who will offer assistance and care.

The probation officer prepares regular reports for the court on your current life situation and your personal development and on whether you comply with the conditions of your probation and/or the directions issued.

In Lower Saxony, probation service tasks are performed by the criminal justice social workers of the Lower Saxony AJSD.

## Purpose of Probation

Its purpose is to prevent you from committing any further offences and for you to comply with your conditions of probation and/or the directions issued.

On termination of the probation period, the court will then remit the prison sentence.

## Duration of Probation Period

The probation period will last no less than two and no more than five years. The court may subsequently reduce or prolong this period.



## Conditions and Directions

For the duration of the probation period, the court may impose conditions of probation on you and/or issue directions.

These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Making restitution for the harm caused by the offence.
- Performing community service.
- Paying a sum of money to a charitable organisation or the public treasury.
- Undergoing a therapy.
- Following instructions which relate to your residence, work, education or leisure.
- Not contacting certain persons or groups of persons.

Conditions of probation and directions issued may generally be amended or supplemented.

Your probation officer will support you and advise you for example on

- owning up to your offence and its consequences;
- preparing your release from prison, therapy facility or any other inpatient facilities;
- complying with the conditions of probation and the directions issued;
- clarifying your career prospects;
- contacting authorities, counselling agencies and other institutions;
- filing applications and writing letters;
- preparing a settlement of debts;
- clarifying personal problems in your family, with employers, landlords etc.