

JUSTICE DAY AT THE CAPITOL 2026



Who are my legislators?

Find them at <https://www.legis.ga.gov/find-my-legislator> or scan here:



The government officials who represent you depend on where you live.

- Enter your street address and zip code.
- Click on their name to find their contact info and write that below.

My State Senator

Senator: _____

Office Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Notes: (committees, sponsored legislation, etc.)

My State Representative

Rep: _____

Office Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Notes: (committees, sponsored legislation, etc.)

Talking to Lawmakers: DOs & DON'Ts



X Do NOT Try to Cover Too Much – It can be tempting to want to tell lawmakers everything you think about the criminal justice system. But remember you have a limited amount of time so it is important to stick to one or two issues. Most lawmakers are not experts in the criminal legal system. Keep your talking points simple and your messages clear.

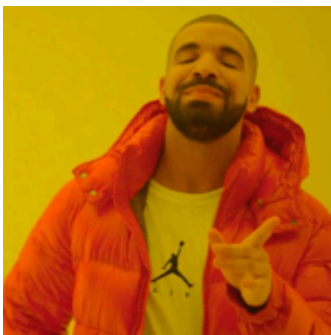
X Do NOT Avoid Lawmakers You Think Might be Opposed to Your Reforms – Most lawmakers are reasonable and open to consider the views of people who come to the Capitol. Calmly and clearly explain your position and be prepared to answer questions or respond to concerns.

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X Do NOT Confront, Threaten or Beg – No matter what, remain calm and remember why you are lobbying lawmakers. Give the lawmaker the appropriate personal space, and do not raise your voice. Don't threaten lawmakers, or say things like, "I'll make sure you get voted of office in the next election."

X Do NOT Be Dishonest or Make Promises You Can't Keep – Do not provide false information, exaggerate your experience or tell lawmakers you can do things that you cannot do.

X Do NOT Be Offended if Lawmakers Don't Respond to You – Legislative sessions are very busy, and some lawmakers may not respond to your email/calls or be available to speak to you. Follow up with an email or letter to the legislator and include any materials you have.



✓ Highlight Your Experience – Plan to spend 5 - 7 minutes telling them how you or your family has been impacted by the criminal legal system in Georgia, the specific issues you care about, and what can be done to improve your community and impacted communities across the state. Make sure to share any experiences you have working with people impacted by a criminal legal system in Georgia and any other relevant expertise that you have.

✓ Stay Calm and Polite – Despite the demeanor of the lawmaker, say what you can and share any materials that you have while keeping calm.

✓ Be Open to Questions – If you are in a meeting, watch the body language of the lawmaker and pause if it seems they would like to ask a question. If you are on the phone, make sure to pause briefly between sentences so that the legislator can engage if they'd like.

✓ Be Honest – Only tell lawmakers things that you know or have experienced. If you are asked a question you cannot answer, tell them you will get back to them with the answer. Find the answer and respond to the lawmaker as soon as you can.

✓ Ask Their Position – Try to use the final 5 minutes of your time to ask the legislator to commit to the legislative reforms you support. Ask how they will vote on bills that support your position. If they are opposed, politely ask them to explain why.

✓ Thank Them and Ask for a Date to Follow Up – No matter their position, thank every lawmaker for their time and attention to your issue. Tell lawmakers in support of your reforms that you appreciate their commitment and favorable vote. Tell lawmakers opposed to your reforms that you would appreciate their reconsideration and that you will follow up on their questions or concerns.