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September 2023

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You can find all the information in various languages and in plain language on our website:



<http://www.bgbw.landbw.de/pb/Lde/Startseite/Service/Faltflyer++Leichte+Sprache+und+Fremdsprachen>

Images: Agency photos. Posed by a model.



Our Focus
is on
the Person.



Baden-Württemberg

BEWÄHRUNGS- UND GERICHTSHILFE

Bewährungs- und Gerichtshilfe Baden-Württemberg

Rosenbergstraße 122 • 70193 Stuttgart


Tel.: 0711 627 69-400 • Fax: 0711 627 69-433

info@bgbw.bwl.de • www.bgbw.landbw.de



Baden-Württemberg

BEWÄHRUNGS- UND GERICHTSHILFE

 The Bewährungs- und Gerichtshilfe Baden-Württemberg (BGBW) is a state-run institution under public law. The BGBW's tasks comprise probation assistance, court assistance and victim-offender mediation. It has its headquarters in Stuttgart. There are nine facilities across the state, as well as other outposts and communication stations. This ensures that clients receive support close to home.

Around 480 full-time and 600 volunteer employees currently work for the BGBW throughout the state. Through their daily work, they contribute to reintegrating people who have committed crimes into society. This makes the BGBW an important pillar of crime prevention and active victim protection.

As of the reporting date of 31.12.2022, the BGBW was looking after around 16,800 people on probation. Around 9,900 court assistance reports are drawn up each year, of which around 6,100 are in the context of avoiding alternative custodial sentences and BGBW mediators mediate in around 1,600 cases of offender-victim mediation. The underlying quality standards of our work are constantly being developed further. The BGBW is in close contact with courts, public prosecutors and cooperation partners.





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• **WHAT WE BUILD ON**

- Our actions are based on treating all clients with respect.
 - We stand for resocialization in the case of crime and
 - promote the assumption of responsibility in order to
 - enable clients to lead a crime-free life.
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Further information and contact details can also be found on our website: www.bgbw.landbw.de



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ON PROBATION · UNDER SUPERVISION OF CONDUCT

If the court suspends a prison sentence with probation, the convicted person can be placed on probation for the duration of the probation period. In certain cases, supervision of conduct occurs. A probation officer must then be appointed. This person takes on the tasks of supporting and supervising.

The main aim of probation assistance's work is to encourage clients to lead a crime-free life. It supports clients in finding solutions to social and/or economic problems. It also encourages the victim to come to terms with the crime and its consequences.

Probation assistance ensures compliance with court conditions and instructions and reports regularly to the competent authority on the progress of probation and supervision.

Probation assistance is obliged to maintain confidentiality towards third parties. Exceptions to this are the obligation to report to the court and access to files or information in certain cases due to legal requirements.

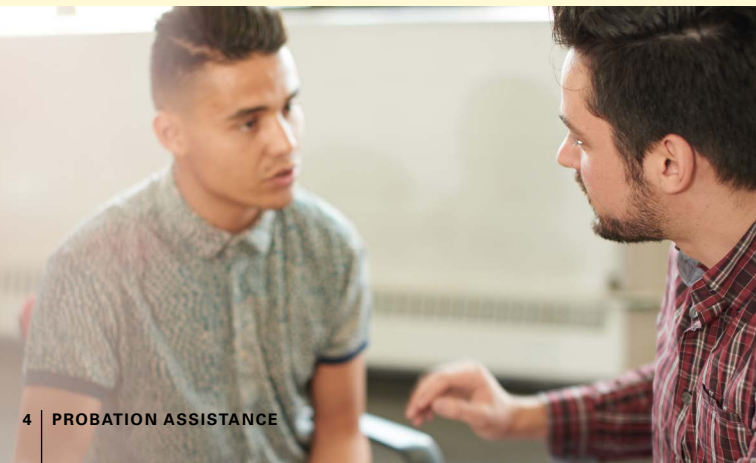


COURT ASSISTANCE CREATES AN OVERVIEW

Court assistance can act on behalf of the court and/or public prosecutor's office at any time during criminal proceedings. Through conversations, court assistants learn about the personality, development and life situation of adult defendants and convicted persons. This gives those persons the opportunity to disclose their social situation and the reasons for their delinquency to the court. The court assistant prepares a report for the respective client and, if necessary, also incorporates suggestions for measures that appear suitable from a social work perspective. All factors must be considered equally in the final opinion. This supports clients in their decision-making process.

Injured parties have the opportunity to tell the court assistant about how a crime impacted their lives. This information is documented in the report in an unbiased manner. The report becomes part of the criminal file and may be included in the main hearing. Cooperation with court assistance is voluntary for the injured parties as well as for the accused and convicted, and there is no disadvantage for refusing.

The legal basis for court assistance can be found in Section 160 III and Section 463d of the Code of Criminal Procedure (StPO) and in Section 16 III of the Baden-Württemberg Clemency Code (GnO).



CO-DETERMINATION IN VICTIM-OFFENDER MEDIATION

Victim-offender mediation provides the opportunity to settle a conflict out of court as part of criminal proceedings. The aim of victim-offender mediation is to work out a fair and viable solution to the conflict with all parties involved. Depending on the type and extent of the offence, this can range from an apology to compensation payments.

In principle, victim-offender mediation can be used for any type of offence. It only takes place if all parties to the conflict participate voluntarily. The public prosecutor's office or the court can order victim-offender mediation at any stage of the criminal proceedings.

As a rule, a mediator holds individual conversations with all parties involved to prepare the mediation. The mediator assumes the role of an impartial third party.

Both the victim as well as the accused and convicted person can have a person they trust join the preliminary meeting. The aim of the mediation meeting is to agree on an appropriate form of compensation, both in emotional and material terms. If an agreement is reached, the agreements made can be recorded in writing.



VOLUNTARY PROBATION ASSISTANCE NEEDS PERSONALITY

Voluntary probation assistance makes a valuable contribution to reintegrating people who have committed crimes into our society. It brings the topic of “delinquency and resocialization” into the public eye. This enables an unprejudiced view of people who have committed crimes.

Volunteers in probation assistance have the same tasks as their full-time colleagues. They receive a thorough induction. In regular team meetings, which are led by experienced, full-time probation officers, they exchange ideas and receive support with questions.

Volunteer probation officers are only assigned to cases that match their skills and competencies.

