

## **Sentencing**

If you plead guilty or no contest, or are found guilty after trial, you will be sentenced. There are many reasons for the parts of a sentence. These include protecting the public, discouraging poor behavior, repairing those injured, and others. Fines are most commonly used in sentencing. In order to ensure uniformity, fines are determined, in most cases, by the Uniform Fine and Bail Schedule that is published by the State of Utah.

In addition to a fine, you may be put on probation. This may include several components, including proving you are free of controlled substances, treatment, community service, restrictions on your use of alcohol or a vehicle, and many other items.

For all misdemeanor crimes, you could be sentenced to a term in the county jail. The maximum jail times are 180 days for a Class B misdemeanor and 90 days for a Class C misdemeanor. You may not be sentenced to jail for an infraction. Jail time is generally within the discretion of the judge. The possibility of jail time increases with the severity of the charge, your prior history, and your refusal to follow the court's orders.