

GLOSSARY of COMMON TERMS

- INDICTMENT– Formal Charging Document Issued by a Grand Jury
- INFORMATION– Formal Charging Document Issued by a Justice of the Peace
- FELONY– Serious Criminal Offense - Minimum 1+ Years -State Prison
- MISDEMEANOR– Criminal Offense—up to 6 months in County Jail
- EXCULPATORY EVIDENCE– Evidence That Suggests Innocence
- INCULPATORY EVIDENCE- Evidence That Suggests Guilt
- PROBABLE Cause– A Legal Burden of Proof = More Likely than Not
- SUMMONS– Court Order Requiring a Person to Voluntarily Appear at a Proceeding
- WARRANT- Court Order Authorizing An Arrest
- PATHOLOGIST – Medical Dr Who Determines Cause of Death/Injury