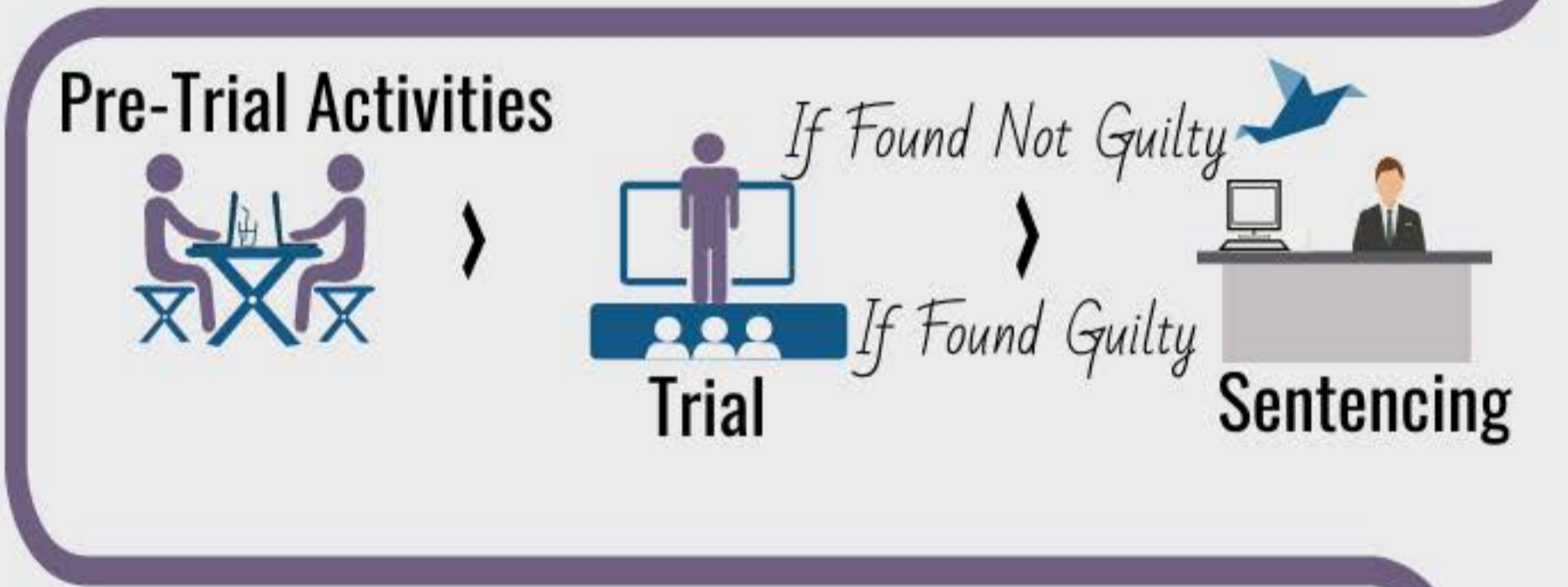


How a Criminal Case Moves Through the Courts

Simplified



Penitentiary or Probation



This is a teaching tool that simplifies key points for students. Find more resources and activities in the educational outreach section of uscourts.gov

For more information, contact Rebecca Fanning, national educational outreach manager for the federal courts, at rebecca_fanning@ao.uscourts.gov

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Federal Courts

Steps in a Criminal Trial

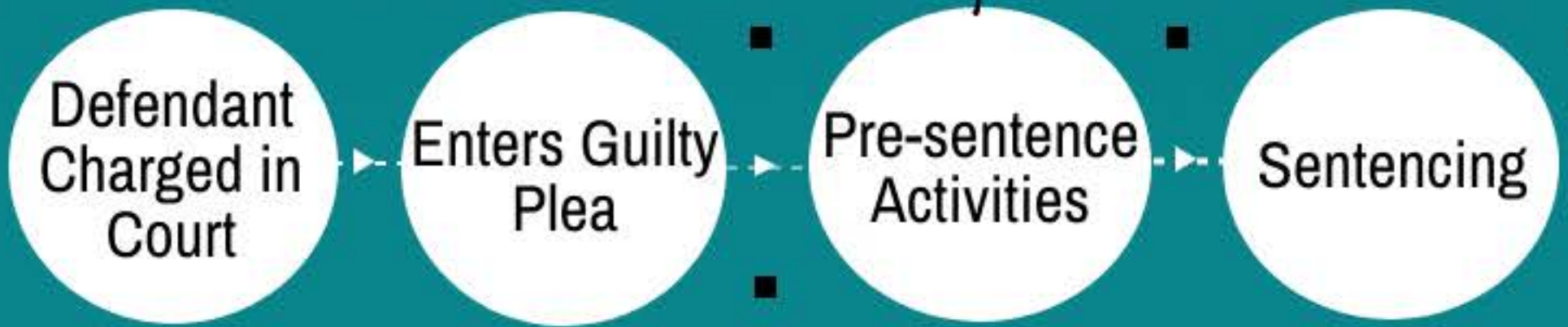
This is a teaching tool that simplifies key concepts for students.
Find more information at uscourts.gov in the educational resources section.

Sixth Amendment

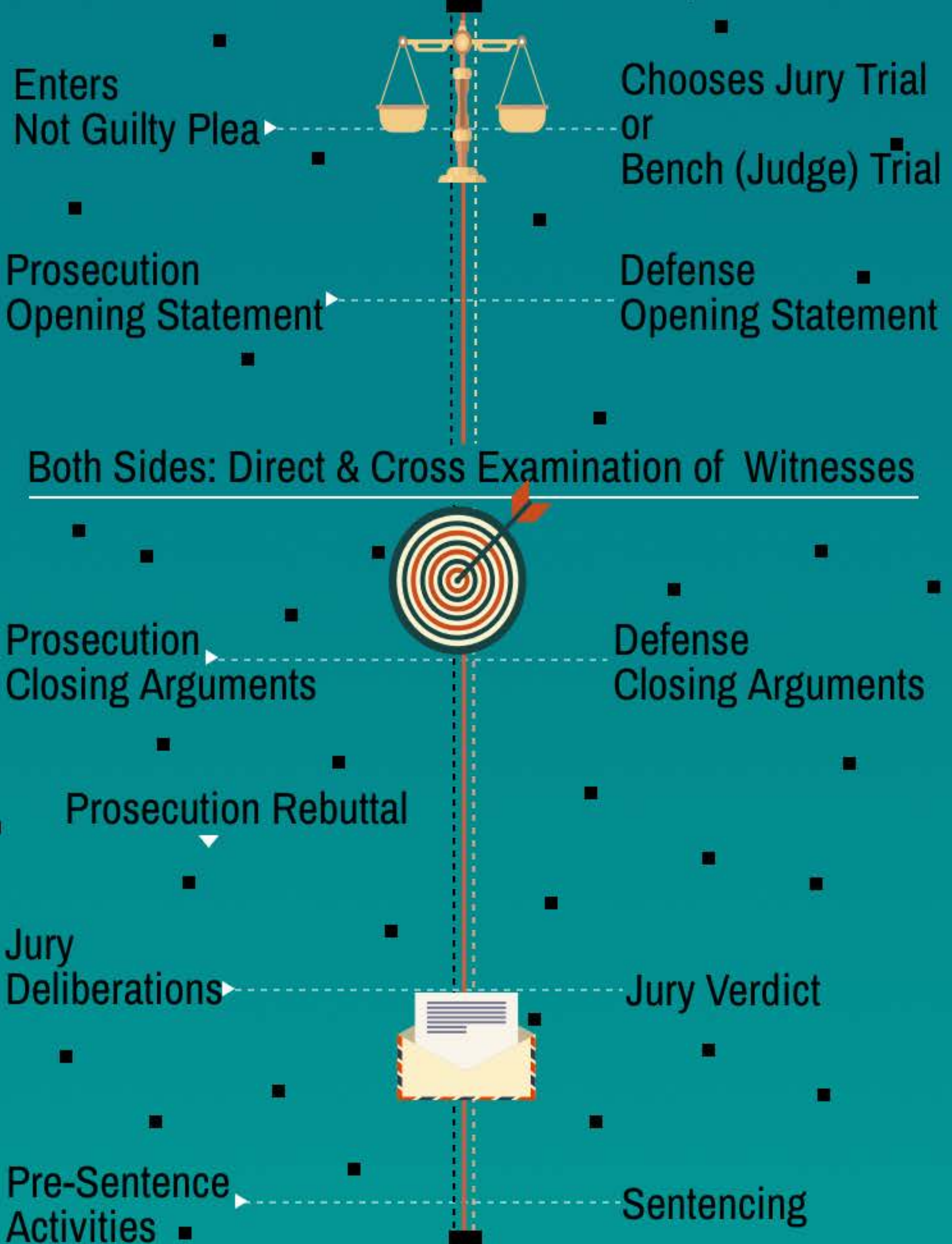
Simplified

Right to a speedy and public trial by a jury of your peers

When the Defendant Pleads Guilty



When the Defendant Pleads Not Guilty



Contact the national educational outreach manager for the federal courts Rebecca Fanning at rebecca_fanning@ao.uscourts.gov

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Grand Juries v. Trial Juries

In the Federal Court System



Simplified

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Find more information in the educational resources section of uscourts.gov

Grand Jury

Trial Jury

16-23 Jurors

Jury Size

6-12 Jurors

Decide if the Prosecutor Has Enough Evidence to Bring Charges



Question

Find Guilty/Not Guilty (Criminal Cases)
or
Find Liable/Not Liable (Civil Cases)

The Government Presents Evidence in Closed Hearing



What Happens

Prosecution and Defense Present Evidence in Open Court

Only U.S. Attorneys (Prosecutors)



Who Presents Evidence

Attorneys for Both Sides: Prosecution and Defense

One Day a Month for Several Months



Duration of Service

One Trial
Average: 2-3 Days

Contact the educational outreach manager for the federal courts at Rebecca Fanning at rebecca_fanning@ao.uscourts.gov

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 **PIKTOCHART**

You Be the Judge

Factors Considered in Sentencing

This is a teaching tool that simplifies key points for students. Find more information at uscourts.gov Education Resources.



General Factors Considered in Sentencing

Character

Personal History

Nature of the Offense

Likelihood of Repeat Offense

Punishment

Rehabilitation

Just Sentence

Restitution

Deterrence – Individual/General

Public Safety



Character

- As evidenced by actions at scene

Personal History

- Age
- Family
- Education/Intellectual Capacity
- Medical/Psychological Health



Nature of the Offense

- Characteristics of the Crime
- Intention
- Premeditation



Likelihood of Repeat Offense

- One-time incident
- Pattern
- Remorse



Rehabilitation

- Likelihood of change

Punishment

- Just Deserts



Just Sentence

- Proportionate to the severity of the crime
- Most appropriate option of the available alternatives



Restitution

- Attempt to remedy/make whole



Deterrence

- For the individual and the public

Public Safety

- Taking a dangerous person off the streets
- Preventing future crimes

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