

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CITIZENS

1. Do not ask of the Minister of Justice to solve all your personal justice-related problems. The fact that he is the Minister of Justice does not mean that he himself administers justice. It means that he, generally and impersonally, sees to the smooth operation of courts. Justice, for each individual case, is administered solely by the courts.

The Minister may not interfere with the work of judges.

Our Constitution stipulates that Justice is an independent function of the state and no interference is allowed, not even by the political leadership that exercises the executive functions of the state.

Anyone who believes that a wrong has been done to them by someone violating the law and who wish not to appeal to the courts and to peacefully settle the difference, may address the competent district attorney so that the latter may proceed to a warning himself or through police officers.

Every day, in every Prosecution Office, there is one «District Attorney on Duty» to whom citizens may apply. In particular at the Prosecution Office of the Athens Court of First Instance such District Attorney is called «Hearing District Attorney».

Furthermore, the district attorney to the Athens Court of First Instance may order departments of the state, public entities, public utility organizations and all enterprises of the public sector in general, to deliver documents or copies thereof whenever so requested by legal entities or individuals having a right or interest under the law, except for documents of those mentioned in article 261 of the Penal Procedure Code.

2. At the Central Service of the Ministry of Justice, as with all other ministries, there is a department concerned with the relations between the state and the citizens. This department may hear you and inform you on matters that are of concern to you in your relations with the Ministry of Justice services.

3. At the Ministry of Justice website, under «Communication» (Επικοινωνία), you may find the mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the services that come under the competence of the Ministry of Justice.