

Lake County Juvenile Court

Judge Karen Lawson

Work Detail Program

The Lake County Juvenile Court initiated a restitution program many years ago. The program is bifurcated in its objective, first to insure that the victims are compensated for their loss and second, to hold juveniles accountable for their delinquent action. The Court assists the victims in completing the victim impact statement, investigates claims, monitors payments to victims, answers pertinent questions as they relate to restitution, and mediates conflicts between the juvenile's family and the victim's family to affect an equitable resolution. Juveniles are expected to pay restitution to victims in a timely and responsible manner. This will reflect on their sincerity toward making amends, and is their opportunity to demonstrate good qualities. In this regard, restitution is the ultimate resolve to apologize.

The Court created a Restitution Work Detail in February, 2010 in order to assist victims in gaining their restitution in a timely manner. The program was designed for younger offenders who are not employable based on age or other factors. The juvenile reports to the Painesville YMCA on Saturday mornings and is supervised by a Court staff. They are required to work while at the YMCA completing maintenance tasks assigned. Each youth can earn up to \$500.00 if they successfully complete up to 12 Saturdays. Upon completion of the assigned programs, the Court then directs payment to the victim in the case.