# 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](http://uscourts.gov) Educational Resources.

### General Factors Considered in Sentencing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Rehabilitation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal History</td>
<td>Just Sentence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nature of the Offense</td>
<td>Restitution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Likelihood of Repeat Offense</td>
<td>Deterrence – Individual/General</td>
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</table>

### 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

### Punishment
- Just Deserts

### Rehabilitation
- Likelihood of change

### 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

Source: [uscourts.gov](http://uscourts.gov) EducationalResources