

How Do I Get To Lucasville?

(The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is in Lucasville, Ohio)

From Columbus: Take I-71 South to I-270 East to State Route 23 South. Follow SR 23 through Waverly to SR 728. Turn East (left) on SR 728. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is on the right side of the road at the top of the hill.

From Cleveland: Take I-71 South to I-270 East (Columbus) to State Route 23 South. Follow SR 23 through Waverly to SR 728. Turn East (left) on SR 728. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is on the right side of the road at the top of the hill.

From Cincinnati: Take State Route 52 East to SR 23 South. Follow SR 23 to SR 728. Turn East (left) on SR 728. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is on the right side of the road at the top of the hill.

From Toledo/Dayton: Take I-75 South to Exit 52B (US 35). Merge left onto US 35 East. Exit onto 23 South. Turn East (left) on SR 728. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is on the right side of the road at the top of the hill.

From Akron/Canton/Youngstown: Take I-76 West to I-71 South (Columbus). Take I-270 East to State Route 23 South. Follow SR 23 through Waverly to SR 728. Turn East (left) on SR 728. The Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is on the right side of the road at the top of the hill.

Lucasville Area Hotels

Holiday Inn Express
(740) 353-3232

The Portsmouth River Inn
(740) 354-7711

Days Inn
(740) 354-2851

Super 8 Motel
(740) 353-8880

Comfort Inn
(740) 574-1046

Shawnee State Park Lodge
(740) 858-6621

Questions or Concerns?

Ohio Department of
Rehabilitation and Correction
Office of Victim Services
770 W. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43222

Victim Line (888) 842-8464
Office (614) 728-9947
Fax (614) 728-1980

DRC.Victim.Services@odrc.state.oh.us
www.drc.ohio.gov

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Ohio Department of
Rehabilitation and Correction



Office of Victim Services

Witnessing Executions In Ohio

A Guide for Victim Families



John R. Kasich
Governor

Gary C. Mohr
Director

Who Can Witness An Execution?

Attendance at an execution is governed by Administrative Regulation 5120-9-54 and DRC Policy. Three (3) persons designated by the victim's family may witness the execution, subject to approval of the Warden or Acting Warden.

What Can I Bring?

Witnesses must bring a photo ID card, such as a driver's license or school identification.

Witnesses are encouraged to leave personal items in their car. If you require medications, you must let the Office of Victim Services know prior to the day of execution to gain approval for these items. If it is suspected that a visitor is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, entrance into the institution may be refused. All visitors will be required to pass through a metal detector. Please note that Correction Officers are authorized to physically search (frisk) anyone who comes to the prison and search his or her belongings.

NOT PERMITTED:

- Ⓢ Cameras or other recording devices
- Ⓢ Drugs or alcohol
- Ⓢ Weapons
- Ⓢ Cell phones & pagers
- Ⓢ Tobacco Products

What Time Should I Arrive?

All victim witnesses and other family members or support persons should arrive at the designated meeting place, as coordinated with the Office of Victim Services, two (2) hours prior to the scheduled execution.

Approximately one (1) hour prior to the execution, victim witnesses will be escorted to the institution as a group. Upon arrival, they will be checked into the institution and escorted to the victim witness waiting area.

Just prior to the execution, the three (3) victim witnesses will be accompanied to the death house by staff from the Office of Victim Services to witness the execution. Other family members and support persons will remain in the waiting area until the witnesses return. Following the execution, staff will again escort victim witnesses back to the family waiting room. If witnesses wish to make a statement to the media, they will be escorted to the media room at this time.

Do I Have to Talk to the Media?

The DRC Communications Chief may speak with you briefly prior to the execution to discuss media procedures. Victim witnesses are under no obligation to speak with the media. While there are media representatives in the execution viewing area, they are not permitted to speak with the witnesses. If you would like to make a statement to the media, the opportunity will be provided in the Media Center. In this case, it may be beneficial to prepare a written statement in advance.

Who Will Be There for Support?

Staff from the Office of Victim Services are available throughout the execution process. If you would like additional support from a local county victim assistance program or other victim advocacy program on the day of the execution, you must notify the Office of Victim Services as soon as possible.

Can I Change My Mind?

Not every family member of victims wants to witness an execution. It is important to know that it is your choice.

Victim witnesses may decide not to witness the execution right up until the last minute. If witnesses do change their mind prior to arrival at the prison, they are asked to contact the Office of Victim Services as soon as possible.

What Should I Wear?

Witnesses should dress comfortably and conservatively. Cut-off jeans, shorts, tank tops and see-through fabrics are not appropriate and may result in admission to the prison being denied. We recommend dress or casual clothing that is as comfortable as possible.

Where Is the Inmate?

Inmates on Death Row are housed at either the Ohio State Penitentiary, the Mansfield Correctional Institution or the Ohio Reformatory for Women until just before the scheduled execution. At that time, they are moved to the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville, Ohio, where the execution will take place.