

## 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

Ramada 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



Ted Strickland  
Governor  
Terry J. Collins  
Director

## 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 – casual clothing that is as comfortable as possible.

## Where Is the Inmate?

Inmates on Death Row are housed at the Ohio State Penitentiary 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.

## 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?

No. Victim witnesses are under no obligation to speak with the press. However, if they would like to make a statement, it may be beneficial to prepare a statement in advance. Witnesses are also reminded that while the media representatives in the execution viewing room cannot speak to them, they may hear conversations or observe behaviors of the witnesses.

## 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 or cigarettes, 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 their belongings.

## NOT PERMITTED:

- 📷 Cameras or other recording devices
- 🍷 Drugs or alcohol
- 🔫 Weapons
- 📱 Cell phones & pagers