

JAMES B. MARTIN
District Attorney



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
LEHIGH COUNTY COURTHOUSE
455 WEST HAMILTON STREET
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18101-1614
PHONE (610) 782-3100 FAX (610) 820-3323

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CONTACT: Debbie Garlicki
Executive Aide
(610) 782-3230

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY JAMES B. MARTIN ANNOUNCES
COUNTY TO START PUBLIC FINGERPRINTING SERVICE**

Beginning May 4, 2009, the Lehigh County Regional Central Booking Center will offer a fingerprinting service to the public in the Lehigh County Prison in Allentown.

People who need fingerprints to get various licenses and to meet job requirements for some government, insurance, security, nursing and teaching positions can go to the prison at 38 N. Fourth St., Allentown, Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The charge for fingerprinting is \$25 and can be paid by cash or money order. Customers will be given copies of the prints of both hands that will be taken by a digital Live Scan machine that does not use ink. The fees will go in the general county fund and will help to defray the cost of the Regional Central Booking Center in the prison, said Lehigh County District Attorney James B. Martin.

“We already were fingerprinting suspects at the center so we decided to use the capabilities to offer a valuable public service with flexible hours,” Martin said.

Personnel of the Central Booking Center will do the fingerprinting in a room off the waiting area of the prison. People who need prints should go to the main entrance of the prison on Fourth Street and tell a corrections officer at the front desk that they are there for prints.

Suspects who are charged with misdemeanors or felonies are processed through the Central Booking Center, where they are photographed and fingerprinted. Preliminary arraignments before the county’s district judges are done via videotape at the center.

The center, which opened in November 2007, also has a room where motorists suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol are interviewed and perform field sobriety tests. The center, whose staff is supervised by Michael Rooney and Michael Crone, averages 28 bookings a day.

Allentown

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