CHECKLIST

Sentencing Hearing Checklist

- [ ] Gather character references, medical reports and evidence of rehabilitation before your hearing
- [ ] Instruct your solicitor to present all mitigating factors clearly to the judge
- [ ] Enter a guilty plea at the earliest opportunity if the evidence against you is strong
- [ ] Ask your solicitor to request a pre-sentence report if custody is a possibility
- [ ] Understand which sentencing guideline applies to your offence and the category range you face
- [ ] Prepare to address the court respectfully if invited to speak before sentence is passed
- [ ] Note the reasons the judge gives aloud for the sentence in case you need to appeal
- [ ] Arrange practical matters such as childcare or employment if immediate custody is likely