**Criminal Justice unit 5 vocabulary**

**Jurisdiction:** The power given to a court by legislatures to hear a case and render a verdict

**Plea Bargaining:** Discussions between defense counsel and prosecution in which the accused agrees to plead guilty in exchange for certain considerations, such as reduced charges or a lenient sentence

**Pro Bono:** The practice by private attorneys of taking the cases of indigent offenders without fee as a service to the profession and the community

**Complaint:** A sworn written statement addressed to a court or judge by the police, prosecutor, or individual alleging that an individual has committed an offense and requesting indictment and prosecution

**Arraignment:** Initial trial court appearance, at which the accused is read the charges, advised of his or her rights and asked to enter a plea

**Bail:** The monetary amount required for pretrial release, normally set by a judge at the initial appearance; the purpose of bail is to ensure the return of the accused at subsequent proceeding

**Release on Recognizance:** a pre trail release in which a defendant with ties to the community is not required to post bail but promises to appear at all subsequent proceedings

**Avertable Recidivist:** a person whose crime would have been prevented if he or she had not been given discretionary release and instead been kept behind bars

**Presentment:** The report of a grand jury investigation, which usually includes a recommendation of indictment

**True Bill:** The action by a grand jury when it voted to indict an accused suspect

**No Bill:** The action by a grand jury when it votes not to indict an accused suspect

**Exculpatory Evidence:** includes all information that is material and favorable to the accused defendant because it casts doubt on the defendant’s guilt or on the evidence the government intends to use at trial

**Adjudication:** the determination of guilt or innocence: a judgment concerning criminal charges

**Bench Trial:** The trial of criminal matter by a judge without a jury

**Confrontation Clause:** The constitutional right of a criminal defendant to see and cross-examine all the witnesses against him

**Six-Person Jury:** according to the Supreme Court, the smallest legally acceptable jury

**Pro Se:** To present one’s own defense in a criminal trial self representation

**Venire:** The group called for jury duty from which jury panels are selected

**Voir Dire:** The Process in which a potential jury panel is questioned by the prosecution and the defense to select jurors who are unbiased and objective

**Challenge for Cause:** Dismissal of a prospective juror by either the prosecution or the defense because he or she is biased, has prior knowledge about a case, or for other reasons that demonstrate the individual’s to render a fair and impartial judgment

**Peremptory Challenge:** dismissal of a prospective juror by either the prosecution or the defense for unexplained, discretionary reasons.

**Direct Examination:** The initial questioning of one’s own (prosecution or defense) witness during a trial

**Cross-Examination:** The questioning of a prosecution witness by the defense or of a defense witness by the prosecution

**Real Evidence:** any object, such as a weapon or photograph, produced for inspection at a trial: physical evidence

**Circumstantial Evidence:** in-direct evidence from which a fact may be inferred

**Directed Verdict:** a judge’s order directing a jury to acquit a defendant because the state has not proven the elements of the crime or otherwise has not established guilt according to law

**Rebuttal Evidence:** Evidence presented by the prosecution at the conclusion of the defense case, with the permission of the court, to rebut or disprove defense evidence

**Surrebuttal Evidence:** At the end of rebuttal, the defense may be allowed to refute the evidence presented by the prosecution with its own surrebuttal evidence

**Jury Nullification:** A jury’s refusal to render a verdict according to the law and fact regardless of the evidence presented