

## *The 'ASAP'-procedure:*



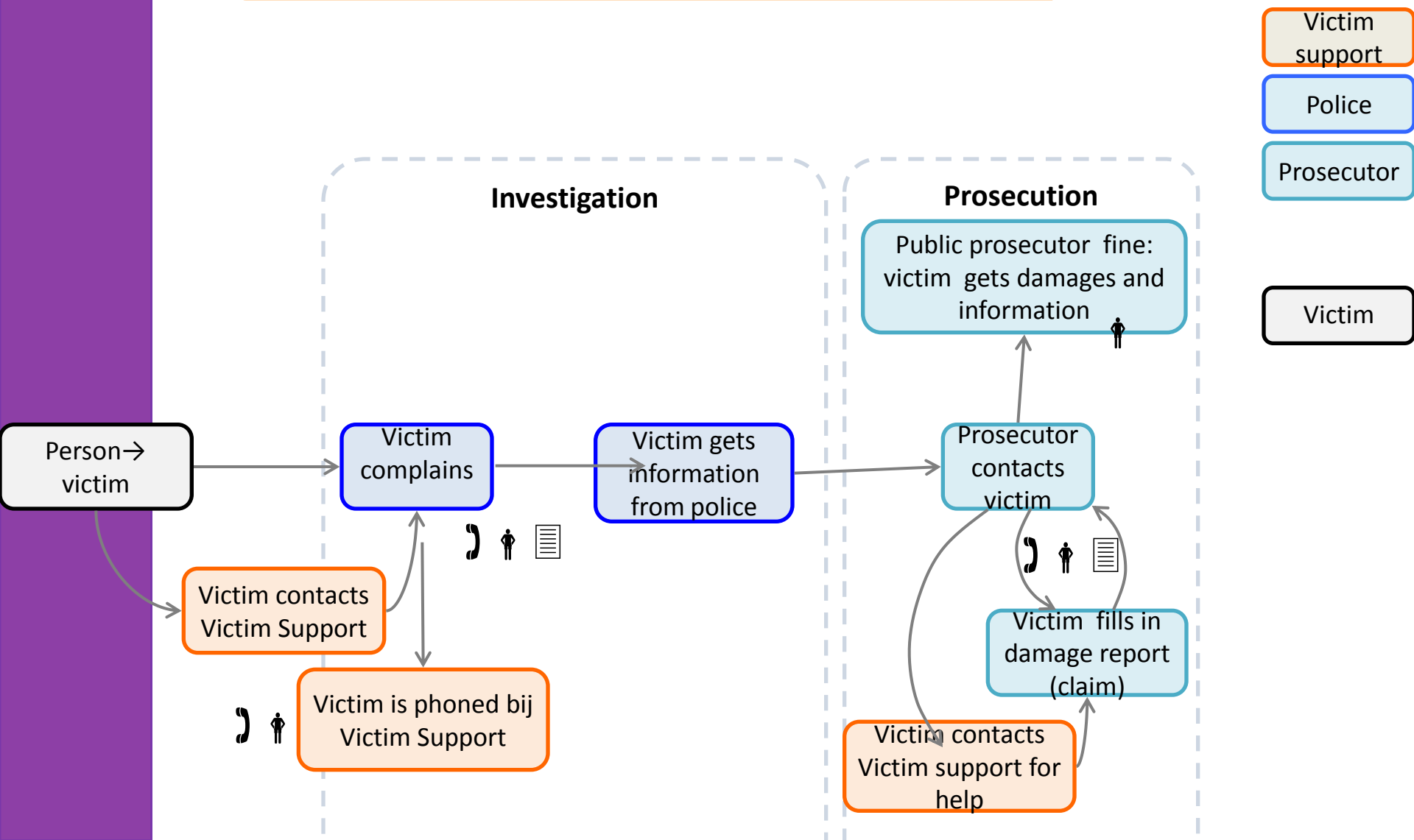
**Short criminal justice procedure  
for common and simple crimes  
with a voice for the victim**

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**Victim Support NL**

# Regular procedure



# *What is the ASAP-procedure?*



## **Procedure:**

- Shortened criminal justice procedure for common and simple crimes

## **Experiment:**

- Cooperation of five organisations in the criminal justice system
- They work parallel and together rather than sequential and apart

## **Features (in short):**

- Fast (within 72 hours): light cases handled fast
- Public prosecutor at the front (less cases sent to court)
- Victim involved en approached, even incase of simple/ common crimes
- Public prosecution, police, probation officer, child protection agency and victim support literally sitting around the table.

A decision, taken bij the prosecutor is based on the advice of the police, probation, child protection agency and Victim Support NL.

# ***ASAP- procedure When?***



**The 'S' in ASAP stands for:**

**Soon, Smart, Selective, Simple, Simultaneously  
Society-oriented**

**ASAP file has some characteristics:**

- **Common and simple crimes (vandalism, theft)**
- **There is an accused**
- **Damage is easy to estimate**
- **The accused agrees and is willing to cooperate to this ASAP-procedure**

***Logistical improvement & better service to offender and victim***

## *Benefits for the victim*

- Clear and fast information
- Victim is involved en informed  
( even in case of simple/ common crime)
- Damages fast awarded (often within a week)
- Active approach (by Victim support)
- Mental, practical and juridical support offered
- Opening of the current 'black box', social confidence

*Strong position for the victim: Victim Support NL is the organisation that guards the rights of victim*

## *How does the support of victims takes place?*



**Victims of crime are actively approached in this ASAP-procedure  
(based on a selection process):**

- 1. Victim Support NL checks all the files to see if there is a victim**
  - 2. Victim Support NL approaches this victim**
  - 3. Victims are often called the day after the crime**
  - 4. Victim support gives advice to the public prosecutor**
- 
- **The victim can be supported  
with practical, psychosocial and legal support**
  - **Victim Support NL is fully involved from the beginning of the process**

***Victim Support NL guards the rights of victims and aims at...***



- 1) Positioning the victim in the case**
- 2) Getting insight in the consequences to the victim**
- 3) Making an inventory of the wishes of the victim**
- 4) Taking stock of the damage, so the public prosecutor can take this into account in determining the penalty**

## *What are the preconditions?*



- Victim Support NL needs *access to information systems of the partners* in the criminal justice system
- The ASAP procedure needs to *be connected to the regular criminal justice procedure*

(New) law makes it possible for the public prosecutor in the Netherlands to handle a case without going to court (in case of common and simple crimes), when the accused agrees



# Results I

## Inflow in 2012

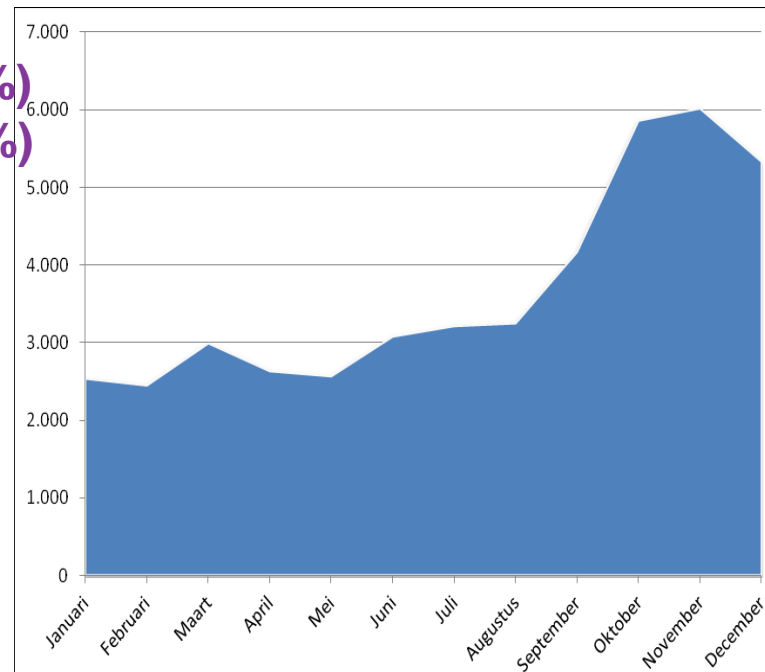
Public Prosecutor: 250.000

Inflow regular directly : 188.500 (75%)

Inflow ASAP : 61.500 (25%)

Growth in 2012 ASAP

- Assesed in ASAP : 44.000 (72%)
- Redirected regular : 17.500 (28%)



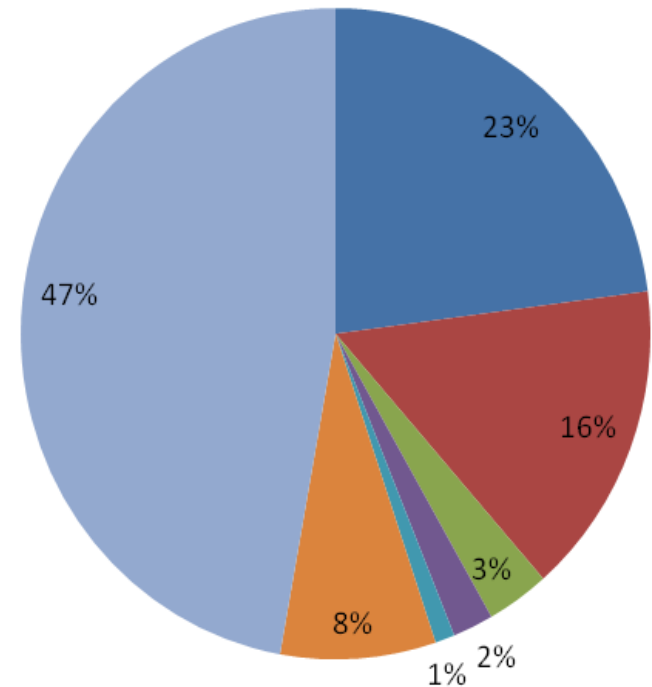
## Results II

### Decision

47% regular (court)  
23% Fine Public Prosecutor  
16% outside criminal  
14% other

### Time

42% within 1 day  
78% within 7 days  
85% within 1 month



## Results III

Type of case with a victim with/ without material or immaterial damage, handled by Victim Support:

- Abuse: 55%
- Vandalism: 32,5%
- Violence: 7,5%
- Insult: 2,5%
- Domestic violence: 2,5%

Cases Victim Support NL is not involved:

- Drugs, fraud, large companies

## *Employee of Victim Support NL:*



*"We now see how victims benefit from fast and effective action. They are no longer passively awaiting for months to hear what happens to their file report and damage claim. That gives peace in the chaos in which someone has got."*

*"I am convinced that ASAP can contribute to victims regaining confidence in society & the legal system."*