

YOUR RIGHTS AS A VICTIM OF CRIME THE VICTIM RIGHTS ACT

- To be treated with fairness, respect and dignity;
- To be informed of all “critical stages” of the criminal justice process (victims of crime must request notification, in writing, for post-sentencing critical stages);
- To be present at specified critical stages in the criminal justice process;
- To be free from intimidation, harassment, or abuse;
- To be informed about what steps can be taken if there is any intimidation or harassment by a person accused or convicted of a crime or anyone acting on that person's behalf;
- To be present and heard regarding bond reduction or modification, acceptance of a plea agreement, sentencing or modification of a sentence;
- To consult with the district attorney prior to any disposition of the case or before the case goes to trial and to be informed of the final disposition of the case;
- To be informed of the status of the case and any scheduling changes or cancellations, if known in advance;
- To prepare a victim impact statement and to be present and/or heard at the sentencing hearing;
- To have the court determine restitution and to be informed of the right to pursue a civil judgment against the person convicted of the crime;
- To prevent any party at any court proceeding from compelling testimony regarding a victim's address, telephone number, place of employment or other locating information;
- To receive a prompt return of property when it is no longer needed as evidence;
- To be provided with appropriate employer intercession services regarding court appearances and meetings with criminal justice officials;
- To be assured that in any criminal proceeding the court, the prosecutor, and other law enforcement officials will take appropriate action to achieve a swift and fair resolution of the proceedings;

- To be informed of the availability of financial assistance and community services;
- Whenever practicable, to have a safe, secure waiting area during court proceedings;
- To be notified of the referral of an offender to community corrections and to provide a written victim impact statement to the community corrections board and, if permitted by the board, to provide an oral victim impact statement;
- Upon written request, to be informed when a person accused or convicted of a crime is released from custody other than the county jail, is paroled, escapes or absconds from probation or parole;
- The right to be informed of the filing of a petition to cease sex offender registration;
- Upon request, to be informed when a person who is accused or convicted of a crime is released from the custody of the county jail;
- Upon written request, to be informed of and heard regarding any reconsideration of sentence, parole or commutation of sentence hearing;
- Upon written request, to be informed when a person convicted of a crime against the victim is placed in or transferred to a less secure correctional facility or program or is permanently or conditionally transferred or released from any state hospital;
- The right, at the discretion of the district attorney, to view all or a portion of the pre sentence report of the probation department;
- To be informed of the results of any court ordered HIV testing;
- To be informed of any rights which the victim has pursuant to the Constitution of the United States or the State of Colorado; and
- To be informed of the process for enforcing compliance with the Victim Rights Act.

Additional rights and services are provided to child victims of crime. Law enforcement officials, prosecutors and judges are encouraged to designate one or more individuals to try to ensure that the child and his/her family understand the legal proceedings and have support and assistance to deal with the emotional impact of the crime and the subsequent criminal proceedings.

LITTLETON VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If you or a loved one has been the victim of a crime in the City of Littleton, the Littleton Police Department Victim Assistance Program is here to help you. We provide crisis intervention, support, assistance, referrals, and help in understanding the criminal justice process.

At the request of a victim, a victim's family member, or a police officer, a Victim Advocate can respond to assist victims 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Advocates will provide you with accurate procedural and factual information concerning the accident or crime and act as liaisons with law enforcement and other community agencies.

Depending upon the circumstances, you may qualify for financial assistance from the Victim Compensation Fund. For more information, contact the Littleton Police Department Victim Assistance Program at 303-795-3703.

Date: _____

Case Number: _____

Officer: _____

Detective: _____

Advocate: _____



Littleton

2255 West Berry Avenue
Littleton, Colorado 80120
www.littletongov.org



Victim Rights

Victim
Assistance
Program
303-795-3703



If you are the victim of any of the crimes listed, your right to be informed and to participate in all critical stages of the criminal justice process related to that crime is guaranteed by the Colorado Constitution. This brochure was developed to help you understand and exercise your rights

-Chief Douglas Stephens

COVERED CRIMES

- Murder- 1st and 2nd degree;
- Manslaughter;
- Criminally negligent homicide;
- Assault - 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree;
- Menacing;
- Kidnapping;
- Sexual Assault-or sexual assault on a child, by a person in a position of trust, and on a client by a psychotherapist;
- Unlawful sexual contact;
- Robbery, aggravated robbery, aggravated robbery of a controlled substance;
- Incest and aggravated incest;
- Child abuse;
- Sexual exploitation of children;
- Crimes against at-risk adults or at-risk juveniles;
- Indecent exposure;
- Crimes for which the underlying foundation has been determined to be domestic violence;
- Careless driving that results in death of another person;
- Failure to stop at the scene of an accident that results in death of another person;
- Stalking;
- Bias-motivated crimes;
- Retaliation against a victim or witness;
- Tampering with a victim or witness;
- Intimidation or aggravated intimidation of a victim or witness;
- Human trafficking in adults and children;
- Retaliation against a judge;
- Retaliation against a juror;
- 1st degree burglary;
- Crimes involving Child Prostitution;
- Violation of a criminal protection order issued against a person charged with sexual assault or stalking;
- Invasion of privacy for sexual gratification;
- Posting a private image for harassment or pecuniary gain;
- Any criminal attempt, conspiracy, criminal solicitation, or accessory involving any of the crimes specified above.

If the victim is deceased or incapacitated, these rights are guaranteed to the victim's spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, significant other, or other lawful representative.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Law enforcement agencies have the responsibility to provide the victim with written information about:

- The rights enumerated in the Victim Rights Act;
- The availability of financial resources such as victim compensation benefits and how to apply for those benefits;
- The availability of protective court orders in order to obtain protection from the person accused of committing the crime; and
- The availability of public records related to the case.

In addition, law enforcement agencies are required to:

- Provide information about community services such as crisis intervention services, victim assistance resources, legal resources, mental health services, financial services and other support services;
- Provide information about the following services: translation services, assistance in dealing with creditors due to financial setbacks caused by the crime, and childcare to enable a crime victim to cooperate with the prosecution;
- Provide the victim of crime with the business address and telephone number of the district attorney's office, the case number, the names and the business address of officers investigating the case;
- Keep the victim of crime informed as to whether a suspect has been taken into custody and, if known, whether the suspect has been released from custody and any bond conditions imposed upon the suspect;
- Update the victim on the status of the case, prior to the filing of charges;
- Upon the request of the victim, return the victim's property within 5 working days when it is no longer needed for evidentiary reasons;
- Inform victims of crime about decisions not to file charges in misdemeanor cases;
- Inform all victims of cold cases of any change in the status of the case; and
- Provide victims of cold cases for which the crime has a statute of limitations of longer than three years with an annual update concerning the status of the case.

VICTIM RESPONSIBILITIES

- Keep criminal justice authorities informed of any changes to your name, address, and telephone number;
- Provide a written request for notification of any information regarding the post-sentencing process;
- To request notification of the release of a person accused or convicted of a crime from the county jail;
- To request notification by the court of a defendant's petition to stop sex offender registration; and
- To request that correctional officials keep their address, telephone, place of employment and other personal information confidential.

HOW TO ENSURE YOUR VICTIM RIGHTS

What to do if you feel your rights have not been provided to you:

- If possible, first attempt to seek compliance at the local level. This may include, but is not limited to:
- Contacting the person whom you feel has not provided you with your rights and explaining specifically what has not been done;
- Seeking assistance from your victim advocate, or other supportive persons such as a counselor; and
- Seeking assistance from the elected official or the head of the agency you feel is not providing you with your rights.

If you feel you are unable to address your concerns at the local level or efforts to resolve your concerns have been unsuccessful, you may request assistance from the Coordinating Committee by contacting the Victim Rights Act Specialist at:

Colorado Department of Public Safety
Division of Criminal Justice
700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215-5865
303-239-4442
1-888-282-1080 Toll Free

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

Littleton Police Department
Non-emergency: 303-794-1551
Victim Services Unit: 303-795-3703
2255 West Berry Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120

Arapahoe County Courts
District Attorney: 720-874-8500
Victim Witness Unit: 720-874-8618
DV Fast Track: 720-874-8496
6450 South Revere Parkway
Centennial, CO 80111

Douglas County Courts
District Attorney: 720-733-4500
Victim Witness Unit: 720-733-4531
DV Fast Track: 720-733-4508
4000 Justice Way
Castle Rock, CO 80109

Arapahoe and Douglas County Victim Compensation
720-874-8787

Jefferson County Courts
District Attorney: 303-271-6800
Victim Witness Unit: 303-271-6550
500 Jefferson County Parkway
Golden, CO 80401

Jefferson County Victim Compensation
303-271-6846

