



Maryland State
**Board of
Victim Services**

The Maryland State Board of Victim Services was created by the Maryland General Assembly to address the unique needs of crime victims and to make recommendations for improving state and local crime victim services. To learn more about the State Board go to www.goccp.maryland.gov.

This pamphlet, published by the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, is designed to provide an overview of crime victims' rights and services. For information specific to your case, contact your local law enforcement agency or State's Attorney's Office. For information on services that may be available to help you as you recover from the crime, please refer to the National/Statewide Crime Victim Resources listed on the back of this pamphlet.

Please keep this pamphlet as a reference.



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M A R Y L A N D

CRIME VICTIMS



AND WITNESSES: Your Rights and Services

MARYLAND

Complaint/Incident # _____

Officer _____

Badge # _____

Contact Phone # _____

To obtain a written copy of the incident report, please contact the Records Department of your responding law enforcement agency. Costs may vary. Victims of domestic violence are entitled to a copy of the incident report without charge.

As a victim of crime, Maryland law provides you with specific rights. Know your rights.

Know where to receive help.

Introduction

Victims of crime have certain rights under Maryland law. This pamphlet provides general information about rights and services available to assist you through the aftermath of the crime and through the often complex criminal justice process.

In addition to personal losses suffered as a result of a criminal act committed against you, the experience may have created stress, fear and confusion. Victim/ witness assistance programs and other local victim assistance programs may provide information, support and assistance to victims outside the formal criminal justice process.

Help Throughout the Criminal Justice Process

Throughout the criminal justice process, and even after its completion, you may experience physical, emotional or psychological distress as a result of your victimization. This is a normal reaction, and help is available in your community. Please refer to the *National/Statewide Crime Victim Resources* section on the reverse side of this pamphlet.

General Victims' Rights

A crime victim is generally defined under Maryland Annotated Code §11-1001(e) of the Criminal Procedure Article as a person who suffers direct or threatened physical, emotional, or financial harm as a result of a crime.

The definition of a victim may vary depending on the right afforded to that person and the type of crime committed.

Maryland Crime Victims' Rights

Under the Maryland Constitution and under State laws and guidelines, victims of crime must be:

- Treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity
- Informed of their rights
- Notified of crisis intervention and counseling services
- Notified of domestic violence programs and support groups
- Notified of criminal injuries compensation and other social services available
- Informed on how to apply for services
- Told of protection available to them and how to obtain protection
- Informed by the police or the State's Attorney of the arrest of a suspect and closing of the case
- Notified of court hearings and offender custody status
- Permitted to be present and heard at criminal justice proceedings
- Permitted to seek restitution from their offender(s)

If you are a victim of crime in Maryland, and need more information about your rights visit, www.goccp.maryland.gov.

STATE CRIME VICTIM SERVICES

VINE

“Victim Information and Notification Everyday” (VINE) is a free, anonymous, automated telephone service that provides victims of crime with two important services: information and notification. VINE will provide you with vital court case, custody, parole and probation information for an offender currently involved in the criminal justice system in Maryland.

Toll Free..... 1-866-634-8463
Websitewww.vinelink.com

MD Criminal Injuries Compensation Board

The Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (MCICB) was established to provide financial assistance to Maryland crime victims. Under certain conditions, crime victims or surviving family members of deceased victims may be eligible to be reimbursed for their medical, mental health, and/or funeral expenses and/or lost income resulting from a crime. For further information and assistance in filing, please call the Maryland Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

Toll Free..... 1-888-679-9347
Websitewww.dpscs.state.md.us

Peace and Protective Orders

Peace and protective orders are civil orders issued by a judge or court commissioner to prevent one person from committing certain acts against others. The personal relationship between the respondent and the victim determines which order should be filed. Protective orders generally apply to people in domestic relationships. Peace orders apply to other relationships (dating, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, (strangers.)

A petition for protection from domestic violence may be filed in any District Court or Circuit Court in Maryland. If the clerk’s office is open, you must file with the clerk. If the clerk’s office is closed, file with a District Court Commissioner. To locate a court, look at www.courts.state.md.us or the government pages of your phone book. Some courthouses have on-site programs to assist victims with safety plans and filing for protection. Find your local domestic violence program by contacting the clerk’s office or www.mnadv.org. For other help, call 911 or your local law enforcement agency.

NATIONAL /STATEWIDE CRIME VICTIM RESOURCES

◆ Information ◆ Referrals ◆ Legal Assistance ◆ Counseling ◆ Support Groups

GENERAL VICTIM SERVICES/REFERRALS AND NOTIFICATION

MD Crime Victims’ Resource Center, Inc.
(301) 952-0063
Toll Free 1-877-VICTIM1
Website www.mdcrimevictims.org
National Center for Victims of Crime
Helpline 1-800-FYI-CALL
Website www.ncvc.org
Pro Bono Counseling Project..... (410) 323-5800
Toll Free 1-877-323-5800
Website www.probonocounseling.org
First Call for Help or 211 MD (410) 685-0525
Toll Free 1-800-492-0618
TTY (410) 685-2159
MD Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (MCICB)
(410) 585-3010
Toll Free 1-888-679-9347
Website www.dpscs.state.md.us
Department of Juvenile Services..... 1-888-639-7499
Website www.djs.state.md.us
Office of the Attorney General..... (410) 576-6405
Website www.oag.state.md.us
MD Department of Human Resources
Toll Free 1-800-332-6347
Website www.dhr.state.md.us
MD Community Services Locator (MDCSL)
Website www.mdcsl.org

CHILD ABUSE SERVICES

Childhelp
Toll Free 1-800-4-A-CHILD
Website www.childhelp.org

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE
TTY For the Hearing Impaired 1-800-787-3224
MD Network Against Domestic Violence
(301) 352-4574
Toll Free 1-800-MD-HELPS
Website www.mnadv.org
Maryland Judiciary Family Law Forms
Petitions for Protection
Website <http://www.courts.state.md.us/family/forms/protectorder.html>

DRUNK DRIVING SERVICES

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)(410) 964-5757
Toll Free 1-800-446-6233
Website www.madd.org/md

HOMICIDE SURVIVORS SERVICES & LEGAL ADVOCACY SERVICES

National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children and Other Survivors of Homicide Victims
Toll Free 1-888-818-POMC
Website www.pomc.org
MD Crime Victims’ Resource Center, Inc.
Toll Free 1-877-VICTIM1
Website www.mdcrimevictims.org

JUVENILE/SCHOOL VIOLENCE RESOURCES

Department of Juvenile Services
Toll Free 1-888-639-7499
Website www.djs.state.md.us
National School Safety Center
Toll Free 1-805-373-9977
Website www.schoolsafety.us

LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc (410) 951-7777
Toll Free 1-800-999-8904
Website www.mdlab.org
MD Volunteer Lawyers Service (410) 547-6537
Toll Free 1-800-510-0050
Website www.mvlslaw.org
MD Crime Victims’ Resource Center, Inc
Toll Free 1-877-VICTIM1
Website www.mdcrimevictims.org

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

MD Coalition Against Sexual Assault (410) 974-4507
Toll Free 1-800-983-7273
Website www.mcasa.org
Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI) (301) 565-2277
Toll Free 1-877-496-SALI
Website www.mcasa.org
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network
(RAINN) Hotline..... 1-800-656-HOPE
Website www.rainn.org

STATE CORRECTIONS VICTIM NOTIFICATION

MD Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services
Website www.dpscs.state.md.us
Division of Correction (410) 585-3331
Toll Free 1-866-606-7789
MD Parole Commission..... (410)-585-3213
Toll Free 1-877-241-5428
MD Division of Parole & Probation (410) 585-3517
Toll Free 1-877-227-8031
MD Sex Offender Registry
Website www.socem.info

STATE’S ATTORNEYS’ OFFICES IN MARYLAND www.mdsaa.org

Allegany County (301) 777-5962
Anne Arundel County (410) 222-1740
Baltimore City (410) 396-4000
Baltimore County (410) 887-6600
Calvert County (410) 535-1600
Ext. 2369
Caroline County (410) 479-0255
Carroll County (410) 386-2671
Cecil County (410) 996-5335
Charles County (301) 932-3350
Dorchester County (410) 228-3611
Frederick County (301) 600-1523
Garrett County (301) 334-1974
Harford County (410) 638-3500
Howard County (410) 313-2108
Kent County (410) 778-7450
Montgomery County (240) 777-7300
Prince George’s County (301) 952-3500
Queen Anne’s County..... (410) 758-2264
St. Mary’s County (301)-475-7844
Ext. 4500
Somerset County (410) 651-3333
Talbot County (410) 770-8060
Washington County (240) 313-2000
Wicomico County (410) 548-4880
Worcester County (410) 632-2166