

“HOPE IS A
WAKING
DREAM.”
— ARISTOTLE

GENERAL RESOURCES

General Crime Victims Hotline
1-866-385-2699

Crime Victim Reparations
(651) 201-7300

Ramsey County Jail
(651) 266-9350

Ramsey County Probation
(651) 266-2300

VINE (Inmate Release Notification)
1-877-664-8463

Orders For Protection
(651) 266-5130

St. Paul Intervention Project
(Advocacy and Support Group)
(651) 645-2824

REPORT ABUSE

If you feel your rights as a victim have been violated, call the Crime Victim Justice Unit at 651-201-7300, 1-800-247-0390, ext. 4, or TTY 651-205-4827.



The Most Livable
City in America

CONTACT US

OFFICE OF
THE SAINT PAUL
CITY ATTORNEY

15 Kellogg Blvd. West

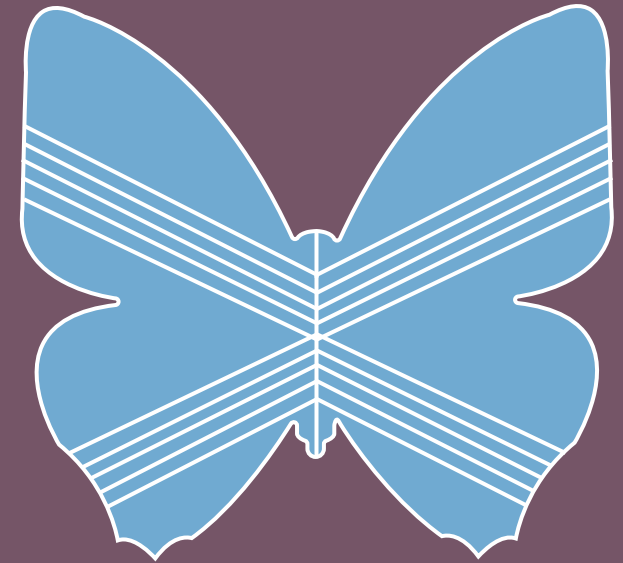
500 City Hall

Saint Paul, MN 55102

(651) 266-8740

TTY 711 (Minnesota Relay)

Office Of The Saint Paul
City Attorney



CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS

Information & Resources

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Upon a conviction, victims of crime have the right to communicate orally or in writing directly to the court. Although this is not a requirement, it is an opportunity to communicate the impact the crime has had on you and give input on the sentence. Victim Impact Statements are shared with defense and judge before sentencing.

F.A.Q.

WHAT HAPPENS AT ARRAIGNMENT?

After a person has been charged with a crime the first court appearance is called an Arraignment. If the defendant is in custody (jail), the judge may set bail or release the defendant under certain conditions which may include but are not limited to; no contact orders with the alleged victim, no use of drugs or alcohol, remain law abiding etc. Sometimes a case can be resolved at arraignment, but typically it is not and a pretrial hearing is scheduled.

Prior to the arraignment, you may be contacted by a Victim Witness Coordinator to get your input regarding any plea agreements.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A PRETRIAL CONFERENCE?

Prior to the pretrial conference, you will be contacted by a Victim Witness Coordinator, so that you can provide your input regarding the outcome of the case. This information will be given to the prosecutor prior to the pretrial hearing. The prosecutor will consider your input, but will make the final decision on plea negotiations.

At the pretrial conference, the defendant, the prosecutor, and the defense attorney attempt to resolve the case. Possible resolutions include pleading guilty to the charged offense, pleading guilty to a lesser charge, or dismissal. If the case does not resolve at this point, it may be set for trial.

F.A.Q. CONTINUED

WHAT HAPPENS AT A TRIAL?

The state has the burden of proving to a jury or a judge that the defendant is guilty of committing the crime beyond a reasonable doubt. The state may subpoena witnesses to come to court to testify about the incident.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CONTACT INFO CHANGES?

If your address or phone number changes, please contact your Victim Witness Coordinator. If you don't know who that is, it is listed on your letter or call 651-266-8740. Let them know if you prefer email communication.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I RECEIVE A SUBPOENA?

Before the trial, you will likely receive a subpoena to appear in court in order to provide testimony. The subpoena will list the time and location of the trial and contact information for your Victim Witness Coordinator. Please contact the Victim Witness Coordinator listed on the subpoena as soon as possible. Remember that a subpoena is a court order. You must comply with subpoena instructions.

CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS

- The right to apply for financial assistance (reparations) for economic losses resulting from a violent crime. Assistance does not cover property losses. For application information call 651-201-7300, ext 1.
- The right to a secure waiting area, separate from the defendant, during court.
- The right, if you are required to testify in court, to notice of changes in the schedule of court proceedings.
- The right to request law enforcement to withhold public access to reports revealing your identity.
- The right to be notified of the content of any plea agreement or recommendation. >

- The right to object to a plea agreement or proposed disposition, orally or in writing, or have the prosecuting attorney do so on your behalf at the sentence hearing.
- The right to not give your home or work address, date of birth, or telephone numbers in open court unless the judge finds that this is necessary.
- The right to request a speedy trial.
- The right to have input in a pre-trial diversion program.
- The right to be notified of the final disposition of the case.
- The right to take time off from work to testify without your employer disciplining you.
- The right to attend the offender's sentencing hearings. You, or the prosecutor on your behalf, can submit a victim impact statement orally or in writing at the hearing.
- The right to request the court to order the defendant to pay for the actual loss you suffered as a result of the crime (restitution), including medical and therapy costs and replacement of wages. You have a right to ask the offender's probation officer to request a probation review hearing if the offender fails to pay the restitution as ordered.
- The right, in sexual assault cases, to know the result of blood tests performed on a defendant to determine the presence of HIV.
- The right to know when the offender is released from custody or transferred to a minimum security setting. You must request this in writing and send the request to the Commissioner of Corrections or to the head of the facility where the offender is confined.
- The right to information regarding the defendant's appeal, including the right to attend the oral argument or hearing and final disposition.
- The right to be notified if a defendant is seeking an expungement for the offense. [CONT. ON BACK >](#)