

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

As a crime victim, you may be experiencing both distress caused by the criminal act and uncertainty about the criminal process. Victim assistance is an effort to help you through this difficult time.

Our Services Include:

- Providing information and aid in filing for Michigan Crime Victim Compensation.
- Making referrals to other community agencies for emergency services and additional help.
- Explaining the criminal justice system and court procedures.
- Accompanying a victim to court, upon their request.
- Helping solve difficulties with employers created by necessary court attendance.
- Assisting with return of personal property.
- Providing information about restitution.

If you, as the victim of a crime, are threatened or intimidated by the defendant or any other person in relation to court case, **CONTACT THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY**. Be sure to explain that you are a crime victim and that you have been threatened in relation to the crime.

BARBARA J. HABER-GRINNELL

Victim Rights Coordinator
SHIAWASSEE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
201 N. Shiawassee Street
Surbeck Building, 2nd Floor
Corunna, MI 48817
989-743-2468

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission provides financial help to crime victims who are hurt or lose earnings or support because of the crime. Applications are available by calling the Crime Victim Rights Coordinator of the Prosecutor's Office at (989) 743-2468 or by calling the Crime Victim Services Commission at (517) 373-7373.

Eligibility for compensation

In order to receive victim compensation:

1. The crime must have happened in the State of Michigan.
2. The crime must be reported to the police within 48 hours, and the victim must cooperate with the investigation.
3. The victim must have a \$200 out-of-pocket medical expense and/or loss of two continuous weeks of earnings or support.
4. The claim must be filed within one year of the occurrence of the crime.
5. In the case of death, a claim may be filed by a family member.
6. The losses represent a financial hardship for the victim or the victim's family.

Neither property lost nor expenses or losses which are covered by your personal insurance, or expenses which can be paid by another source, are covered under the Michigan Crime Victim Compensation Fund.

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Crime Victim Assistance

The Juvenile Justice System



Victim Rights Notice: *The Crime Victim Rights Act requires that the court notify you of your rights as a crime victim. This notice is intended to fulfill these requirements.*

989.743.2373

Victim Rights Office: 989.743.2468
SCOTT A. KOERNER, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

201 N. SHIAWASSEE STREET
SURBECK BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR
CORUNNA, MI 48817

THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

The juvenile justice system is designed to receive petitions and dispose of cases involving delinquent activity by persons under the age of 18. Juvenile delinquency cases are heard by the Family Division of the Circuit Court. Proceedings in this court are **not** criminal proceedings. The purpose of the proceedings is stated in law, as follows:

This chapter shall be liberally construed so that each juvenile coming within the court's jurisdiction receives the care, guidance, and control, preferably in his or her own home, conducive to the juvenile's welfare and the best interests of the state. If a juvenile is removed from the control of his or her parents, the juvenile shall be placed in care as nearly as possible equivalent to the care that should have been given to the juvenile by his or her parents.

The usual process of a case in the juvenile justice system is as follows:

1. A crime is committed by someone less than 18 years of age.
2. The police are notified and begin their investigation.
3. The police may give the victim a "Crime Victim Rights Card."
4. Upon completion of their investigation, the police either:
 - a. Reprimand the juvenile and release to his or her parents.
 - b. Refer the juvenile for voluntary counseling, or
 - c. Seek approval of the county prosecutor to file a petition in Family Court charging the juvenile with committing a crime.
5. If a petition is filed, the Family Court then either:
 - a. Warns the juvenile and dismisses the petition,
 - b. Refers the juvenile for voluntary counseling,
 - c. Places the juvenile on informal probation, or
 - d. Sets the case for the formal court calendar.
6. If the case is set for the formal court calendar and the juvenile does not plead guilty, either:
 - a. There will be a preliminary hearing, a trial by judge or jury, and if the juvenile is found

- guilty, an investigation to determine why the juvenile committed the crime and what can be done to help assure the juvenile does not commit any more crimes, and then there will be disposition hearing (sentencing), or
 - b. Under certain circumstances the Family Court can transfer some juveniles to stand trial as an adult.
7. If the juvenile is kept in the juvenile system, the Family Court can:
- a. Place the juvenile on probation in his or own home, in a relative's home, or in a foster home;
 - b. Send the juvenile to an institution for the treatment of juvenile offenders; and/or
 - c. Order the juvenile to participate in such programs as counseling, education, drug or alcohol treatment, restitution to the victim and unpaid community service work.

Normally, juveniles are subject to the orders of the Family Court up to their 19th birthday, although some juveniles can be kept until their 21st birthday, at which time they must be dismissed from Family Court jurisdiction.

YOUR RIGHTS DURING PROSECUTION

Under the Crime Victim Rights Act, you have the right to:

1. Prompt return of your property.
2. Be present during the entire trial, unless you are called as a witness.
3. Be free from threats or acts of discharge from your employment because you are subpoenaed or requested by the court to testify in court.
4. Be provided with a waiting area separate from the defendant, the defendant's relatives, and defense witnesses, if practical.
5. Give your views about the disposition of the crime.
6. Receive the name of the person to contact within the legal system for information about your case.
7. Ask the court not to require you or anyone else to give your address, place of employment, or other personal identification in court without your consent.

8. Receive notice of any scheduled court proceedings and any changes in that schedule.
9. Receive notice if the juvenile escapes custody while awaiting trial.
10. Receive notice of the address and the telephone number of the probation department which is to prepare the predisposition investigation report.
11. Have your written impact statement included in the predisposition report
12. Make an oral impact statement to the predisposition investigator.
13. Make an oral impact statement at the time of disposition in court.
14. Be notified of the location where the juvenile is detained.
15. Be notified of the release of the juvenile from a secure facility to a community residential program if the community residential program is located in your county of residence.
16. Be notified of the dismissal of the juvenile from the court's jurisdiction.
17. Be notified promptly of an escape by the juvenile from a secure (locked) facility.
18. Receive written notice of the court's disposition.

You can expect to receive notifications pertaining to your rights throughout the pendency of the case. In order for us to assist you in exercising your rights under the Michigan Crime Victim Rights Act, you must keep the court and the Prosecutor's Office Victim Rights Coordinator informed of your current address and telephone number.

