

## The Ohio Attorney General Office's Victims' Rights Pamphlet

https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Publications-Files/Publications-for-Victims/Picking-Up-the-Pieces-A-Guide-to-Helping-Crime-Vic

### Marion Victim Assistance Program

The Marion Victim Assistance Program provides countywide services to victims of any crime. the purpose of the program is to help minimize the effects of crime on the lives of crime victims while at the same time enhancing prosecutorial effectiveness through their work with those individuals. The service that the victim advocates provide include emergency assistance, crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy and support, claims assistance, court orientation and advocacy, child support group, elderly support group, community referral and community education. The program also provides services to victims and families of DUI accidents and survivors of a homicide. Victim Assistance program is operated under the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

For assistance call: (740) 387-4401.

## **Turning Point**

Turning Point has the social responsibility to respond to the needs of domestic violence victims by providing shelter, counseling, advocacy and general support services and to identify and confront the causes of domestic violence.

For Turning Point assistance, call (740) 382-8988.

For information about the case, call the Marion Police Department at (740) 387-2525.

#### Guide to Court Orders

Protection Orders are granted by a Judge and orders the defendant to stay away from you. If the subject of a valid protection order violates the terms, they could be charged and arrested. Valid protection orders are enforceable statewide.

Although the Judge may grant the protection order, it does not guarantee your safety. It's important for you to be careful and take steps to ensure your safety as much as possible.

Additional information on Temporary Protection Orders (TPO), Civil Protection Orders (CPO), Civil Stalking (CSPO) or Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Orders (SOOPO), and Stay Away and Restraining Orders can be found in the Ohio Attorney General Office's Victims' Rights Pamphlet.

## VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)

VINE is free, anonymous, and easy to use. It makes vital information on the custody status of inmates accessible to the people who need it most: victims, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, probation and parole officers, advocates, neighbors, family members, and the general public.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office administers VINE in partnership with the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, and the Ohio Department of Youth Services. If you are concerned about the custody status of an inmate in an Ohio state prison, county jail, or juvenile facility, call VINE at 800-770-0192 or visit <a href="https://www.VINELink.com">www.VINELink.com</a>.

Additional information can be found in the Ohio Attorney General Office's Victims' Rights Pamphlet.

#### **Victim Compensation**

The Attorney General's Crime Victim Services Section serves victims of crime throughout Ohio. They offer a variety of services, including crime victim compensation, outreach, and training. If you are a victim of crime and need assistance, they will make every effort to assist you in the compensation process and to connect you with resources available in your community. If you have questions, concerns, or need assistance in completing an application, please call 800-582-2877.

Additional information can be found in the Ohio Attorney General Office's Victims' Rights Pamphlet.

#### **Identity Theft Resources for Victims**

If you are a victim of identity theft, you are encouraged to contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which is responsible for receiving and processing complaints under the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act. It is also encouraged to place a security freeze on your consumer report, as allowed by law.

FTC online at <a href="http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menus/consumer/data/idt.shtm">http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menus/consumer/data/idt.shtm</a> or by telephone at 877-ID Theft (877-438-4338).

Ohio Attorney General information on laws that protect consumers can be found at <a href="http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/consumerlaws">http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/consumerlaws</a>.

Additional information may be found at the U.S. Department of Justice website, <a href="http://www.usdoj.gov">http://www.usdoj.gov</a>, or the FBI at <a href="http://cincinnati.fbi.gov">http://cincinnati.fbi.gov</a> and <a href="http://cleveland.fbi.gov">http://cleveland.fbi.gov</a>.

## **Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Forensic Medical Exams**

For information on the out-of-pocket costs for forensic medical exams and more, visit <a href="https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Sexual-Assault-Forensic-Examination-(SAFE)-Program">https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Sexual-Assault-Forensic-Examination-(SAFE)-Program</a>.

# U-Visa and T-Visa Application Processes

The U-Visa is set aside for victims of certain crimes who have suffered mental or physical abuse and are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity. For information on U-Visa, visit <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-human-trafficking-other-crimes/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status.">https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-human-trafficking-other-crimes/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status.</a>

T-Visa is a temporary immigration benefit that enables certain victims of a severe form of human trafficking to remain in the United States for up to 4 years if they have assisted law enforcement in an investigation or prosecution of human trafficking. For information on T-Visa, visit

https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-human-trafficking-other-crimes/victims-human-trafficking-t-nonimmigrant-status.

## Confidentiality Program – Ohio Secretary of State

The Safe at Home address confidentiality program was created by Substitute House Bill 359 (131st General Assembly) to assist victims of domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, rape, or sexual battery by shielding their personal information from public record and providing them with a safe and secure way to participate in our democratic process. Program participants are assigned a substitute address designated by the Secretary of State's Office to serve as their address.

For more information, visit <a href="https://www.sos.state.oh.us/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/">https://www.sos.state.oh.us/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/</a>.

## Victim's Constitutional Rights in Ohio

Article I, Section 10a, Ohio Constitution

Rights of victims of crime

- (A) To secure for victims justice and due process throughout the criminal and juvenile justice systems, a victim shall have the following rights, which shall be protected in a manner no less vigorous than the rights afforded to the accused:
  - (1) to be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's safety, dignity and privacy;
  - (2) upon request, to reasonable and timely notice of all public proceedings involving the criminal offense or delinquent act against the victim, and to be present at all such proceedings;
  - (3) to be heard in any public proceeding involving release, plea, sentencing, disposition, or parole, or in any public proceeding in which a right of the victim is implicated;
  - (4) to reasonable protection from the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused;
  - (5) upon request, to reasonable notice of any release or escape of the accused;
  - (6) except as authorized by section 10 of Article I of this constitution, to refuse an interview, deposition, or other discovery request made by the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused;
  - (7) to full and timely restitution from the person who committed the criminal offense or delinquent act against the victim;
  - (8) to proceedings free from unreasonable delay and a prompt conclusion of the case;
  - (9) upon request, to confer with the attorney for the government; and
  - (10) to be informed, in writing, of all rights enumerated in this section.
- (B) The victim, the attorney for the government upon request of the victim, or the victim's other lawful representative, in any proceeding involving the criminal offense or delinquent act against the victim or in which the victim's rights are implicated, may assert the rights enumerated in this section and any

other right afforded to the victim by law. If the relief sought is denied, the victim or the victim's lawful representative may petition the court of appeals for the applicable district, which shall promptly consider and decide the petition.

- (C) This section does not create any cause of action for damages or compensation against the state, any political subdivision of the state, any officer, employee, or agent of the state or of any political subdivision, or any officer of the court.
- (D) As used in this section, "victim" means a person against whom the criminal offense or delinquent act is committed or who is directly and proximately harmed by the commission of the offense or act. The term "victim" does not include the accused or a person whom the court finds would not act in the best interests of a deceased, incompetent, minor, or incapacitated victim.