

HELP FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES

Many victims of violent crime suffer physical and emotional harm and financial loss as a result of the crime. Other victims may face retaliation or intimidation and may be confused by the criminal justice system. Becoming a victim of a violent crime can have a devastating impact on a person. Many victims may feel that they have few options. Others may feel unable to avoid further victimization.

Assistance is available for victims of violent crimes through the County of Sacramento District Attorney's Victim Witness Assistance Program. Trained and experienced Victim Advocates provide crisis counseling, direct assistance, information about the criminal justice system, and community referrals.

For further information please contact:

**Victim Witness Assistance
Program
901 G Street
Sacramento, CA 95814**

(916) 874-5701

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Sacramento Police Department	264-5471
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department	874-5115
Folsom Police Department	985-7551
Citrus Heights Police Department	568-5115
WEAVE (Domestic Violence and rape crisis) Crisis Line Counseling Center	448-2321
Homicide Support Group	874-5701
MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers)	921-6233
VIVA (Volunteers in Victim Assistance)	489-3333
Legal Services of Northern California	444-6760
Suicide Prevention	368-3111
VINE (Victim Infor- mation Notification Everyday)	1-800-491-3064

VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



**Office of the District Attorney
County of Sacramento
Jan Scully
District Attorney**

**Victim Witness Assistance
Program
901 G Street
Sacramento, CA 95814**

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VICTIM SERVICES

As a victim of a crime, you or your family may have experienced many disruptions in your life. Being victimized can be frightening, traumatic and difficult. You may have experienced physical injury, emotional trauma, or damage to your property.

The Sacramento County District Attorney's Office is dedicated to helping victims of crime by prosecuting the perpetrators and by providing services to victims. Victim advocates in the Victim/Witness Assistance Program are available to provide services to you and your family to help you cope with the aftermath of crime.

Please call to speak to a victim advocate. My office is committed to providing services for victims and advocating for victims' rights.

Sincerely,

*Jan Scully
District Attorney*

- Crisis intervention and short-term counseling, court accompaniment, emotional support and information during the court process
- Resource and referral counseling
- Advocacy for victims within the criminal justice system
- Assistance in applying to the California Victim Compensation Board for reimbursement of crime related expenses (medical/dental, mental health counseling, wage/income loss, support loss for dependents of a deceased or disabled victim, and funeral/burial expenses)
- Assistance in obtaining emergency services (such as food, clothing and shelter)
- Assistance in preparing victim impact statement for sentencing
- Information about victims' rights
- Temporary Restraining Order assistance (workshop held daily 9:00 a.m., William Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road)
- Homicide Survivors Support Group (meets first Wednesday of each month)

WITNESS SERVICES

- Arrange transportation and lodging for out of town witnesses
- Notify witnesses of time and place of judgment and sentencing upon request

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

After all other sources of reimbursement are used, victims may receive assistance with the following expenses:

Medical/Dental
Mental Health Counseling
Wage/Income loss
Funeral Burial

Personal property losses (including cash) and compensation for "pain and suffering" are not covered losses.

Losses not covered may be recoverable either through court-ordered restitution or a civil lawsuit.

ELIGIBLE PERSONS

A victim who has been physically or emotionally injured

A victim's spouse, child, parent or sibling
A person who was living in the household of the victim or had lived with the victim for at least two years in a relationship similar to a parent, sibling, spouse, or child of the victim

The primary caretaker of a minor victim
The person who pays for the medical and/or funeral/burial expenses of a deceased victim

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The crime must have occurred in California
The crime must have been reported to law enforcement

The victim must cooperate with law enforcement agencies and representatives of the Victim Compensation Board
No involvement in the crime or contribution leading to the crime