

HELP FOR CRIME VICTIMS

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Contact us immediately if you change your address and phone number. Give us an alternative address and phone number where you may be reached during vacations, leave of absence, etc.

Inform the agency dealing with your case (law enforcement, jail, solicitor, etc.) if you would like to be notified about your case.

Notify the solicitor if you wish to receive restitution when the offender is sentenced.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

As a crime victim, you may be eligible to receive financial compensation from the SC Department of Crime Victim Compensation for the following losses that are not covered by insurance or other sources.

- Medical expenses
- Loss of income
- Counseling expenses
- Funeral expenses

To be eligible to receive victim compensation, the applicant must:

- File a claim within 180 days of the date of the crime.
- Fully cooperate with all law enforcement agencies and with the Division of Victim Assistance.

RESOURCES

Crime Victims Ombudsman.....(803)734-0357

Family Justice Center (Conway).....(843)915-5085

Family Justice Center (Georgetown)...(843)546-3926

Family Justice Center DV Shelter
Hotline(844)208-0161

Family Court(843)915-5081

Solicitor's Victim Assistance(843)915-5464

J. Ruben Long Detention Center
Victim Advocate(843)915-6915

Rape Crisis Center (Hotline)(843)448-7273

SC Department of Crime Victim
Compensation.....(803)734-1900

South Carolina Victim Assistance
Network Legal Dept.....(803)509-6552

SC Department of Probation,
Parole and Pardon Victim Services.....(888)551-4118

SC Department of Corrections.....(803)896-8500

SC Department of Corrections
Victim Services.....(803)896-1733

SC Department of Juvenile Justice
Victim Services.....(888)224-6165

**Horry County Police Department
Victim Services
2560 North Main Street, Suite 7
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 915-8348**

HORRY COUNTY POLICE Victim Services



In an effort to assist victims of a crime, the Horry County Police Department has established a Victim/Witness Assistance Program. This program offers valuable information and assistance to victims/ witnesses concerning their rights under South Carolina law.

Victim's Legal Rights

As a victim of crime, you have the right to:

- be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment, or abuse, throughout the criminal and juvenile justice process, and informed of the victim's constitutional rights;
- be reasonably informed when the accused or convicted person is arrested, released from custody, or has escaped;
- be informed of and present at any criminal proceedings which are dispositive of the charges where the defendant has the right to be present;
- be reasonably informed of and be allowed to submit either a written or oral statement at all hearings affecting bond or bail;
- be heard at any proceeding involving a post-arrest decision, a plea, or sentencing;
- be reasonably protected from the accused or persons acting on his behalf throughout the criminal justice process;
- confer with the prosecution, after the crime against the victim has been charged, before the trial or before any disposition and informed of the disposition;
- have reasonable access after the conclusion of the criminal investigation to all documents relating to the crime against the victim before trial;
- receive prompt and full restitution from the person or persons convicted of the criminal conduct that caused the victim's loss or injury, including both adult and juvenile offenders;
- be informed of any proceeding when any post-conviction action is being considered, and be present at any post-conviction hearing involving a post-conviction release decision;
- a reasonable disposition and prompt and final conclusion of the case;
- have all rules governing criminal procedure and the admissibility of evidence in all criminal proceedings protect the victims' rights.

Services We Provide

Incident reports: We provide victims a free copy of the incident report relating to their case.

Information: We explain programs and services provided by various agencies for victims/witnesses of crime, to include restitution.

Referrals: We recommend or help obtain assistance from other sources that are not provided directly by the program.

Personal Advocacy: We provide moral support and help victims access assistance from the social service agencies and the Criminal Justice System.

Employment/School Intervention: We help victims to explain time off from work/school due to court appearances and conferences with law enforcement personnel.

Landlord/Creditors: We intervene with landlords and creditors when victims have trouble paying debts after incurring serious injuries from crimes.

Restitution/Compensation: We assist victims of violent crimes in completing the appropriate forms for compensations from the State Office of Victim Assistance.

Who is Eligible for Services?

A victim: A person who suffers direct or threatened physical, psychological, or financial harm as a result of a criminal act.

Includes: The person's spouse, parent, child or a representative of a victim who is deceased; a minor; incapable; or physically or psychologically disabled.

A witness: A person who has been expected to be summoned to testify.

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