



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

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ATTORNEY GENERAL

### STATEMENT OF CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS

*If you are the victim of a violent crime, the Illinois Constitution and Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act give you the following rights:*

1. The right to be treated with fairness and respect for your dignity and privacy and to be free from harassment, intimidation, and abuse throughout the criminal justice process.
2. The right to notice and to a hearing before a court ruling on a request for access to any of the victim's records, information, or communications which are privileged or confidential by law.
3. The right to timely notification of all court proceedings.
4. The right to communicate with the prosecution.
5. The right to be heard at any post-arraignment court proceeding in which a right of the victim is at issue and any court proceeding involving a post-arraignment release decision, plea, or sentencing.
6. The right to be notified of information about the conviction, sentence, imprisonment, and release of the accused.
7. The right to timely disposition of the case following the arrest of the accused.
8. The right to be reasonably protected from the accused throughout the criminal justice process.
9. The right to have the safety of the victim and the victim's family considered in denying or fixing the amount of bail, determining whether to release the defendant, and setting conditions of release after arrest and conviction.
10. The right to be present at the trial and all other court proceedings on the same basis as the accused, unless the victim is to testify and the court determines that the victim's testimony would be materially affected if the victim hears other testimony at the trial.
11. The right to have present at all court proceedings, subject to the rules of evidence, an advocate and other support person of the victim's choice.
12. The right to restitution.

While police are investigating the crime, you can ask them for information about the status of the investigation. You may also request a copy of the police report, which must then be provided to you no later than five business days from the request.

The office of the state's attorney shall timely notify the crime victim of a decision not to charge an offense and shall meet with the victim if the victim agrees. The victim has a right to have an advocate and other support person attend this meeting with the victims

At any point, the victim has the right to retain a victim's attorney who may be present during all stages of any interview, investigation, or other interaction with representatives of the criminal justice system

For more information about your rights after criminal charges are filed, call the **Attorney General's Crime Victims Assistance Line at 1-800-228-3368 (TTY: 1-877-398-1130)** or contact your local **State's Attorney's Office**.

#### Financial Assistance

You may be eligible for financial assistance for your out-of-pocket expenses under the Illinois Crime Victims Compensation Act. For information and applications, contact the **Attorney General's toll-free Crime Victims Assistance Line** at 1-800-228-3368 (TTY: 1-877-398-1130) or visit the Attorney General's website at [www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvc.html](http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/victims/cvc.html).

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RIGHTS

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_