

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The City of Surprise Prosecutor's Office Victim Services Program exists to support and empower victims as they regain financial and emotional stability in the aftermath of their victimization.

A "victim" is defined by Arizona law as a person against whom a criminal offense is committed. If that person is killed, incapacitated, or a juvenile, the person's spouse, parent, child or other lawful representative may become the victim's representative, so long as that person is not in custody for an offense or is the person who caused the victimization.

Services available to crime victims include the following:

- ◇ Explanation of Victim's Rights
- ◇ Escort to court proceedings
- ◇ Liaison between victim and prosecutor
- ◇ Assistance with restitution and compensation forms
- ◇ Assistance filing for a protective order
- ◇ Information and referrals



Arizona Victim's Bill of Rights (Condensed)

1. To be treated with fairness, respect and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment or abuse, throughout the criminal justice process.
2. To be informed, upon request, when the accused or convicted person is released from custody or has escaped.
3. To be present at and, upon request, to be informed of all criminal proceedings when the defendant has the right to be present.
4. To be heard at any proceeding involving a post-arrest release decision, a negotiated plea and sentencing.
5. To refuse an interview, deposition or other discovery request by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or other person acting on behalf of the defendant.
6. To confer with the prosecution, after the crime against the victim has been charged, before trial or before any disposition of the case and to be informed of the disposition.
7. To read pre sentence reports relating to the crime against the victim when they are available to the defendant.
8. To receive prompt restitution from the person(s) convicted of the criminal conduct that caused the victim's loss or injury.
9. To be heard at any proceeding when any post-conviction release from confinement is being considered.
10. To a speedy trial or disposition and prompt and final conclusion of the case after the conviction and sentence.
11. To have all rules governing criminal procedure and the admissibility of evidence in all criminal proceedings protect victims' rights and to have these rules be subject to amendment or repeal by the legislature to ensure the protection of these rights.
12. To be informed of victims' constitutional rights.
If there is any conflict of interest or disagreement between a victim and the prosecutor, a victim has the right to be:
 1. Directed to the appropriate legal assistance;
 2. Represented by an attorney at their own expense.

Contact us for a complete explanation of Arizona's Crime Victims' Rights or find them online at <https://www.azag.gov/document/arizona-crime-victims%E2%80%99-rights-laws>

RESTITUTION & COMPENSATION

If you have been the victim of a crime, you may apply for financial assistance for out of pocket expenses incurred as a direct result of the crime committed against you.

Restitution is one form of financial assistance. It is a judgment against the offender for allowable expenses incurred by the victim. A victim can request that a judge order restitution in a criminal case and/or that a prosecutor seek restitution as part of a plea agreement. If restitution is awarded to you by the court, you have the right, pursuant to A.R.S. §13-806(C)(2), to request that the court impose a restitution lien against the defendant.

The State of Arizona also provides financial assistance to victims of crime through the Compensation Fund. The Compensation fund may assist with:

- ◇ Medical Expenses
- ◇ Mental Health Counseling
- ◇ Loss of Wages
- ◇ Crime Scene Cleanup

For additional details, contact us or visit <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/victim/VictComp.aspx>

Additional Resources:

Eve's Place

www.evesplace.org

(623) 537-5380

Legal Advocacy Hotline

www.acesdv.org

(800) 782-6400

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

www.madd.org

(602) 240-6500 or (877) MADD-HELP

Benevilla

www.benevilla.org

(623) 584-4999

Child Help

www.childhelp.org

1-800-4-A-CHILD (422-4453)

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

<http://www.madd.org/local-offices/az>

(602) 287-0545

Surprise Resource Center

(623) 222-1600



MISSION STATEMENT

The Victim Services Program advocates for victims of crime by providing support in the aftermath of victimization, education regarding their victims' rights, notification of case progression during the criminal justice process, and empowering victims to discover pathways to safety and healing.

ANTIDISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

The Victim Services Program exists to provide services to all victims of crime and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or age. Accommodations can be made for non-English speaking victims.

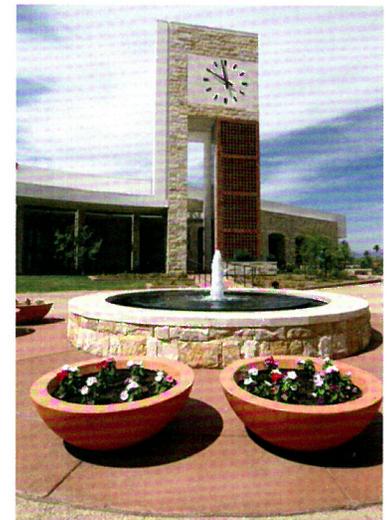
If you have any concerns or complaints, please do not hesitate to contact any of the following agencies: City Prosecutor's Office at 623-222-1140; U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division at www.justice.gov/crt; Arizona Department of Public Safety Civil Rights Compliance www.azdps.gov; Arizona Attorney General's Office/ Civil Rights Division www.azag.gov/civil-rights.

CONTACT US

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www.surpriseaz.gov