

RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS

The Wisconsin Constitution provides crime victims with the following rights:

- To be treated with dignity, respect, courtesy, sensitivity and fairness.
- To privacy*.
- To proceedings free from unreasonable delay.
- To timely disposition of the case, free from unreasonable delay.
- Upon request, to attend all proceedings involving the case.
- To reasonable protection from the accused throughout the criminal and juvenile court process.
- Upon request, to reasonable and timely notification of proceedings.
- Upon request, to confer with the district attorney handling this case.
- Upon request, to be heard in any proceeding during which your victim rights are implicated, including release, plea, sentencing, disposition, parole, revocation, expungement, or pardon.
- To have information pertaining to the economic, physical, and psychological effect upon you submitted to the judge and to have that information considered by the judge.
- Upon request, to timely notice of any release or escape of the accused or death of the accused if the accused is in custody or on supervision at the time of death.
- To refuse an interview, deposition, or other discovery request made by the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused.
- To full restitution and to be provided with assistance collecting restitution.
- To compensation as provided by law.
- Upon request, to reasonable and timely information about the status of the investigation and the outcome of the case.
- To timely notice about all rights under this section and all other rights, privileges, or protections of the victim provided by law, including how such rights, privileges, or protections are enforced.
- To ask a Circuit Court Judge or Court Commissioner to promptly review your case if you believe your victim rights have been violated. You may also file an appeal with the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court asking for a review of the Circuit Court Judge or Court Commissioner's decision if you believe the decision does not protect your crime victim rights.

Additionally, Wisconsin Statutes afford crime victims additional rights

Including, but not limited to:

- Attend court proceedings, subject to any sequestration order. The court may require victims to exercise this right by telephone or other available means, if the victim is incarcerated, under arrest, or committed to a treatment facility, and the victim does not have a representative.
- Be accompanied to court by a service representative, in certain cases.
- Have your interests considered when the court is deciding whether to grant a continuance of any hearing in the case.
- Be provided a waiting area in the courthouse.
- Be provided with appropriate intercession services to ensure that your employer will cooperate with the criminal court process in order to minimize loss of income or benefits resulting from court appearances.
- Request an order for and to be given the results of testing to determine the presence of sexually transmitted disease or of any strain of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in certain cases.
- Have the pre-sentence investigation writer, in cases in which a presentence investigation is ordered, make a reasonable attempt to contact the victim.
- Have any stolen or other personal property expeditiously returned by law enforcement agencies when no longer needed as evidence.
- Complain to the Department of Justice concerning the way you were treated and to request review by the Crime Victim's Rights Board of the complaint.

*The Calumet County District Attorney's Office values your privacy rights and safety as a crime victim and will make every effort to treat your case with sensitivity. However, this should not be interpreted as absolute privacy and we think it's important for you to be aware of these limitations. Therefore, please know police reports and other materials that relate to this incident will have to be shared with the defendant/juvenile and their attorney per Wisconsin Statute § 971.23. Additionally, criminal proceedings are open to the public and will include filings that contain information about this incident. Finally, as part of the investigatory and prosecution process, information concerning this incident may be shared with assisting outside agencies and trial experts. If you would like more information about these practices and/or have questions or concerns about your privacy or safety please contact the Victim/Witness Assistance Program at 920-849-1438 to discuss how we can best serve your interests.