

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

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JAMES L. PFEIFFER
County Prosecutor
ANTHONY J. ROBINSON
First Assistant Prosecutor
MICHAEL C. DEVLIN
Chief of Detectives

County of Warren

How can we help?

Sexual Assault is considered a serious crime in the State of New Jersey and there is help available. The Warren County Office of Victim Witness Advocacy provides assistance to victims to help lessen the loss, and inconvenience suffered as a result of this crime.

The Office of Victim Witness Advocacy can help you apply for reimbursement of medical expenses and/or loss of earnings through the New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO). Our advocates can also act as a liaison, assisting with counseling and social service agencies.

If you feel that you are in need of immediate support or counseling services please contact the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Warren County. They provide free and confidential services on their 24 hour helpline at **866-6BE-SAFE** or **908-453-4181**.

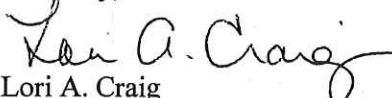
Our office can also provide guidance on no contact orders in cases that are criminally prosecuted or information on where to apply for a Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act (S.A.S.P.A.) restraining order, in cases without criminal charges. If you'd like to file for a Sexual Assault Survivors Protection Act (S.A.S.P.A) restraining order, please contact the Warren County Family Court Division at 908-750-8100 Extension 13940, and a member of the Family Division staff will contact you regarding the application.

For statewide information on additional resources you can visit, <https://njcasa.org/our-work/resources/>

If you have questions about the status of the criminal investigation or prosecution, please contact your Victim Advocate **Kassandra Gray** at **908-475-6050**. Ms. Gray can answer questions you may have and she can schedule a time for you to meet with the Assistant Prosecutor assigned to your case.

If you would like further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Victim Witness Advocacy in the strictest of confidence, at 908-475-6284.

Sincerely,


Lori A. Craig
Victim Witness Coordinator

Adult ^{SA} Packet

know your rights as a survivor of sexual violence

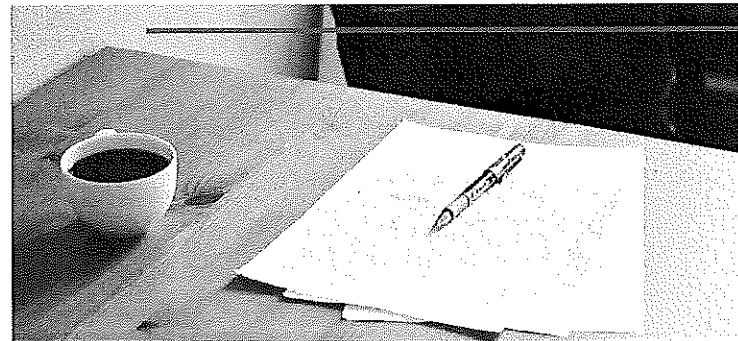


The **Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights** was enacted in 2019 to outline basic protections and fundamental rights for survivors. As a survivor of sexual violence, the time immediately following an assault can seem confusing and overwhelming. Next steps in the aftermath of an assault should be led by the survivor.

No matter what a survivor chooses to do in the aftermath of an assault, they should know their rights are guaranteed, even if the assault is not reported to law enforcement. The Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights declares all survivors of sexual violence have the right to be treated with dignity and compassion and the right to be free from blame. The Bill of Rights also affirms that the survivor should be free from any suggestion that they contributed to the risk of being assaulted. *Sexual violence is never the fault of the survivor.*

SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Choose whether to report to law enforcement.
- Be free from any suggestion that they must report the crime to have their rights guaranteed.
- Be free from any suggestion that victims should refrain from reporting crimes in order to avoid unwanted personal publicity.
- Have their report of sexual assault treated seriously.



SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF AND ACCESS:

- Existing medical, counseling, mental health, or other services available for victims of sexual assault, whether or not the crime is reported to law enforcement.
- Treatment and interviews provided in a language in which the victim is fluent.
- Assistive devices to accommodate disabilities that the victim may have.
- Testing for HIV or any other sexually transmitted infections and assistance with compelling and disclosing the results of testing for a communicable disease from the person who caused harm.

SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF AND ACCESS:

- **Evidence collection and preservation.** Evidence collection is time sensitive and should occur within five days of the assault. Survivors can choose to have evidence collected whether or not they pursue a criminal case. All forensic evidence is retained for a minimum of five years. If the survivor chooses to report to police, either at the time of collection or later, they can request information on the status of the evidence.
- **Financial compensation.** The Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) offers assistance with accessing compensation for expenses that occurred as a result of an assault, including the cost of mental health counseling, medical bills, relocation, and loss of earnings. Survivors can reach the VCCO at (877) 658-2221 or www.NJVictims.org.
- **A civil protective order.** Under the Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015, survivors can seek a civil protective order against the person who caused them harm if there is risk of further harm.
- **The no-cost services of a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), if the survivor is over the age of 13.** A SART is comprised of a Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (CSVA), a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO), and a Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE).
 - The **CSVA** is a confidential resource who can support the survivor through the SART process. The CSVA provides emotional support and can help the survivor explore their rights, options, and available resources.
 - The **LEO** can provide thorough and objective assistance in responding to and conducting a criminal investigation of sexual assault.
 - If the assault occurred within the last five days, the **FNE** can tend to the medical needs of the survivor and perform a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Kit to collect forensic evidence. **The survivor can choose to work with one, two, or all three of the SART members.**

The support of a **Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate** is always available, **24 hours a day**. To learn more about survivors' rights and options or to speak with an advocate, contact your **local sexual violence service provider**.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.njcasa.org
24-hour Statewide Hotline:
(800) 601-7200



REFERENCES

¹ Attorney General Standards for Providing Services to Victims of Sexual Assault. (2018, November). Retrieved from <https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases18/AG-SART-Standards.pdf>

² N.J. Ct. R. 5:7B. Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2018/Bills/PL19/103_.PDF

© New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault 2020.

The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA) is the statewide organization representing 21 county-based rape crisis centers and Rutgers University's Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance. NJCASA elevates the voice of survivors and service providers through advocacy, training, and support for efforts to create safer communities for all people.

nj coalition
against sexual assault

Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights

N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-60.1 et seq.

In New Jersey, victims of sexual violence are afforded the following rights:

- (1) To have any allegation of sexual assault treated seriously; to be treated with dignity and compassion; and to be notified of existing medical, counseling, mental health, or other services available for victims of sexual assault, whether or not the crime is reported to law enforcement;
- (2) To be free, to the extent consistent with the New Jersey or United States Constitution, from any suggestion that victims are responsible for the commission of crimes against them or any suggestion that victims were contributorily negligent or assumed the risk of being assaulted;
- (3) To be free from any suggestion that victims are to report the crimes to be assured of any other guaranteed right and that victims should refrain from reporting crimes in order to avoid unwanted personal publicity;
- (4) When applicable, to no-cost access to the services of a sexual assault response team comprised of: a certified forensic nurse examiner, a confidential sexual violence advocate, and a law enforcement official as provided in accordance with the Attorney General's Standards for Providing Services to Victims of Sexual Assault, and the choice to opt into or out of any of the team's services;
- (5) To be informed of, and assisted in exercising, the right to be confidentially or anonymously tested for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or any other related virus identified as a probable causative agent of AIDS; and to be informed of, and assisted in exercising, any rights that may be provided by law to compel and disclose the results of testing of a sexual assault suspect for communicable diseases;
- (6) To have forensic medical evidence, if collected, retained for a minimum of five years, and to receive information about the status of the evidence upon request;
- (7) To choose whether to participate in any investigation of the assault;
- (8) To reasonable efforts to provide treatment and interviews in a language in which the victim is fluent and the right to be given access to appropriate assistive devices to accommodate disabilities that the victim may have, whether temporary or long term;
- (9) To information and assistance in accessing specialized mental health services; protection from further violence; other appropriate community or governmental services, including services provided by the Victims of Crime Compensation Office; and all other assistance available to crime victims under current law;
- (10) To be apprised of the availability and process by which a court may order the taking of testimony from a victim via closed circuit television in accordance with section 1 of P.L.1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4); and
- (11) To be apprised of the availability and process by which to seek protections through a temporary or final protective order under the "Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015," P.L.2015, c.147 (C.2C:14-13 et seq.), if the victim believes that the victim is at risk for re-victimization or further harm by the perpetrator.

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Declaración de Derechos de La Víctima de Agresión Sexual

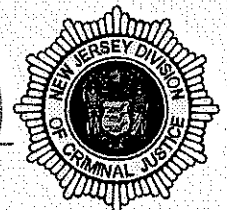
N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-60.1 et seq.

En Nueva Jersey a las víctimas de violencia sexual se les otorgan los siguientes derechos:

- (1) Que toda denuncia de agresión sexual sea tratada con seriedad; ser tratada/o con dignidad y compasión; y de ser notificada/o de servicios disponibles ya sean médicos, de consejería y asesoramiento, de salud mental, o de otros tipos disponibles para las víctimas de agresión sexual ya sea que se haya reportada el delito a las agencias del orden público o no.
- (2) De estar libres, en la medida compatible con la Constitución de Nueva Jersey o de Los Estados Unidos, de cualquier inferencia que las víctimas son las responsables por los delitos que se cometen en su contra o de alguna inferencia que las víctimas contribuyeron al delito por su negligencia o que asumido el riesgo de ser agredidas/os.
- (3) De estar libres de cualquier inferencia que las víctimas deben reportar los delitos para que se les asegure algún otro derecho garantizado y que las víctimas deben evitar reportar los delitos para evitar publicidad personal no deseada.
- (4) Cuando aplique, al acceso sin costo a los servicios de un equipo de respuesta a la agresión sexual comprendido por una enfermera examinadora forense certificada, un asesor confidencial de violencia sexual, y un oficial del orden público como lo indican los Estándares de la Oficina del Fiscal General para proveer servicios a las Víctimas de Agresión Sexual, y de tener la opción de participar o no con los servicios que provee el equipo y que usted escoja.
- (5) De que se le informe y que se le ayude a ejercer su derecho a obtener pruebas confidenciales para detectar el Síndrome de Inmunodeficiencia Adquirida (SIDA) o la infección con el Virus de Inmunodeficiencia Humana (VIH) o de cualquier otro virus relacionado e identificado como probable agente causante del SIDA; y de permanecer informada/o y recibir asistencia al ejercer cualquier derecho que le otorgue la ley para requerir y divulgar los resultados de pruebas que se le hayan hecho a un sospechoso de agresión sexual para detectar enfermedades transmisibles;
- (6) Que se guarden los resultados de las pruebas médicas forenses, si es que se han colectado, por un mínimo de cinco años, y de recibir información sobre la condición/estatus de las evidencias cuando la solicite.
- (7) Decidir si participar o no en la investigación de la agresión.
- (8) Que se hagan esfuerzos razonables para proveer tratamiento y entrevistas en el idioma en el que la víctima hable con fluidez y dar acceso a dispositivos de asistencia adecuados en relación a cualquier incapacidad que pueda tener la víctima ya sea temporal o a largo plazo;
- (9) A tener información y ayuda para poder tener acceso a servicios especializados de salud mental; a protección contra nuevos actos de violencia; a otros servicios apropiados ya sean comunitarios o gubernamentales, incluyendo los servicios proveídos por la Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen; y toda otra ayuda disponible a víctimas de delitos conforme a las leyes vigentes.
- (10) De ser informada/o de la disponibilidad y el proceso por el cual un tribunal puede ordenar testimonio de una víctima a través de circuito cerrado de televisión conforme a la sección 1 de P.L. 1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4); y
- (11) De ser informada/o sobre la disponibilidad y el proceso para solicitar protección mediante una orden de alejamiento temporal o permanente conforme a "la Ley de protección a sobrevivientes de agresiones sexuales del 2015," P.L.2015, c.147 (C.2C:14-13 et seq.), si la víctima cree que corre el riesgo de ser víctima de nuevo o de daño adicional por parte del autor.

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE



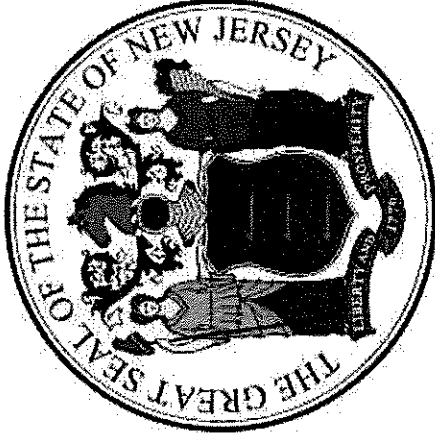
The Victims' Rights Amendment NJ Constitution Article 1, Paragraph 22 (Effective December 5, 1991)

"A victim of crime shall be treated with fairness, compassion and respect by the criminal justice system. A victim of a crime shall not be denied the right to be present at public judicial proceedings except when, prior to completing testimony, as a witness, the victim is properly sequestered in accordance with law or the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey. A victim of crime shall be entitled to those rights and remedies as may be provided by the Legislature. For the purposes of this paragraph, victim of a crime means: a). A person who has suffered physical or psychological injury or has incurred loss of or damage to personal or real property as a result of a crime or an incident involving another person operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol; and b). the spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child or sibling of the decedent in the case of a criminal homicide.

"There have lately been outrageous incidents in which crime victims and/or families have been excluded from the courtroom on the ground that their presence would generate such undue sympathy in the minds of the jurors as to prevent a fair trial for the defendant. A Public trial should mean just that. And those who have had their lives forever maimed and changed by violent acts are not only part of the public but also have a special standing to be present to observe the system at work."

Robert J. Del Tufo, New Jersey Attorney General
Testimony before
Assembly Judiciary Committee 1990

New Jersey Crime Victim's Bill of Rights



Victims' Rights Amendment New Jersey Constitution Article 1, Paragraph 22

"Although this amendment is not intended in any way to deny or infringe upon the constitutional rights of any person accused of a crime, it is designed to place victims on an equal footing by guaranteeing certain fundamental rights as a matter of State Constitutional imperative."

The Interpretive Statement to Article 1,
paragraph 22—the Victim's Rights
Constitutional Amendment

*New Jersey
Crime Victim's Bill of Rights
N.J.S.A. 52:4B—36
(Amended October 6, 2012)*

1. a. To be treated with dignity and compassion by the criminal justice system.
- b. To be informed about the criminal justice process.
- c. To be free from intimidation, harassment or abuse by any person including the defendant or any other person acting in support of or on behalf of the defendant, due to the involvement of the victim or witness in the criminal justice process.
- d. To have inconveniences associated with participation in the criminal justice process minimized.
- e. To make at least one telephone call provided the call is reasonable in length and location.
- f. To medical assistance reasonably related to the incident.
- g. To be notified in a timely manner, if practicable, if presence in court is not needed or if any scheduled court proceeding has been adjourned or cancelled.
- h. To be informed about available remedies, financial assistance and social services.
- i. To be compensated for loss sustained by the victim whenever possible.
- j. To be provided a secure, but not necessarily separate, waiting area during court proceedings.
- k. To be advised of case progress and final disposition and to confer with the prosecutor's representative so that the victim may be kept adequately informed.
- l. To the prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence.
- m. To submit a written statement, within a reasonable amount of time, about the impact of the crime to a representative of the prosecuting agency which shall be considered prior to the prosecutor's final decision concerning

whether formal criminal charges will be filed, whether the prosecutor will consent to a request by the defendant to enter into a pre-trial program, and whether the prosecutor will make or agree to a negotiated plea.

- n. To make, prior to sentencing, an in-person statement directly to the sentencing court.
- o. To have the opportunity to consult with the prosecuting authority prior to the conclusion of any plea negotiations, and to have the prosecutor advise the court of the consultation and the victim's position regarding the plea agreement, provided however that nothing herein shall be construed to alter or limit the authority or discretion of the prosecutor to enter into any plea agreement which the prosecutor deems appropriate.
- p. To be present at any judicial proceeding involving a crime or any juvenile proceeding involving a criminal offense¹ except as otherwise provided by Article I, paragraph 22 of the New Jersey Constitution.
- q. To be notified of any release or escape of the defendant.
- r. To appear in any court before which a proceeding implicating the rights of the victim is being held, with standing to file a motion or present argument on a motion filed to enforce any right conferred herein or by Article I, paragraph 22 of the New Jersey Constitution, and to receive an adjudicative decision by the court on any such motion.

2. a. A victim's survivor may, at the time of making the in-person statement to the sentencing court authorized by subsection. n. section 3 of P.L. 1985, c.249 (C.52:4B-36), display directly to the sentencing court a photograph of the victim taken before the homicide including, but not limited to, a still photograph, a computer generated presentation, or a video presentation of the victim. The time, length and content of such presentation shall be within the sound discretion of the sentencing judge.

- b. A victim's survivor may, during any judicial proceeding involving the defendant, wear a button not exceeding four inches in diameter that contains a picture of the victim, if the court determines that the wearing of such button will not deprive the defendant of his right to a fair trial under the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I of the New Jersey Constitution. Other spectators at such judicial proceedings may also wear similar buttons if the court so determines. If the victim's survivor seeks to wear the button at trial, the victim's survivor shall give notice to the defendant and to the court no less than 30 days prior to the final trial date.

*“The innocent victims of crime
have been overlooked, their
pleas for justice have
gone unheeded, and their
wounds—personal, emotional,
and financial—have gone
unattended.”*

**President Reagan's Task Force on
Victims of Crime**



How to File a New Jersey Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act (SASPA) Complaint Superior Court of New Jersey - Chancery Division - Family Part

****Please be advised this packet is intended to only be used during the COVID-19 crisis.****

Who Should Use This Packet?

This packet should only be used the **first time** you file for a Sexual Assault Survivor Protective Order.

Use this packet if you are:

A victim of nonconsensual sexual contact, sexual penetration, or lewdness, (see definitions on page 3) or any attempt at such conduct, and who does **not** meet the definition of a “domestic violence victim” in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (PDVA).

- A victim's parent or guardian may file on behalf of the victim in any case in which the victim:
 - is less than 18 years of age; or
 - has a developmental disability or a mental disease or defect that renders the victim temporarily or permanently incapable of understanding the nature of the victim’s conduct, including, but not limited to, being incapable of providing consent

Do NOT use this packet if:

- You meet the definition of a “victim” under the PDVA - N.J.S.A. 2C:25-19 (d)(a) which is as follows:
 - A person protected by the PDVA includes any person:
 - **Who** is 18 years of age or older, or who is an emancipated minor, and who has been subjected to domestic violence by:
 - ❖ Spouse
 - ❖ Former spouse
 - ❖ Any other person who is a present household member or was at any time a household member, or
 - Who, regardless of age, has been subjected to domestic violence by a person:
 - ❖ With whom the victim has a child in common, or
 - ❖ With whom the victim anticipates having a child in common, if one of the parties is pregnant, or has been subjected to domestic violence by a person with whom the victim has had a dating relationship.

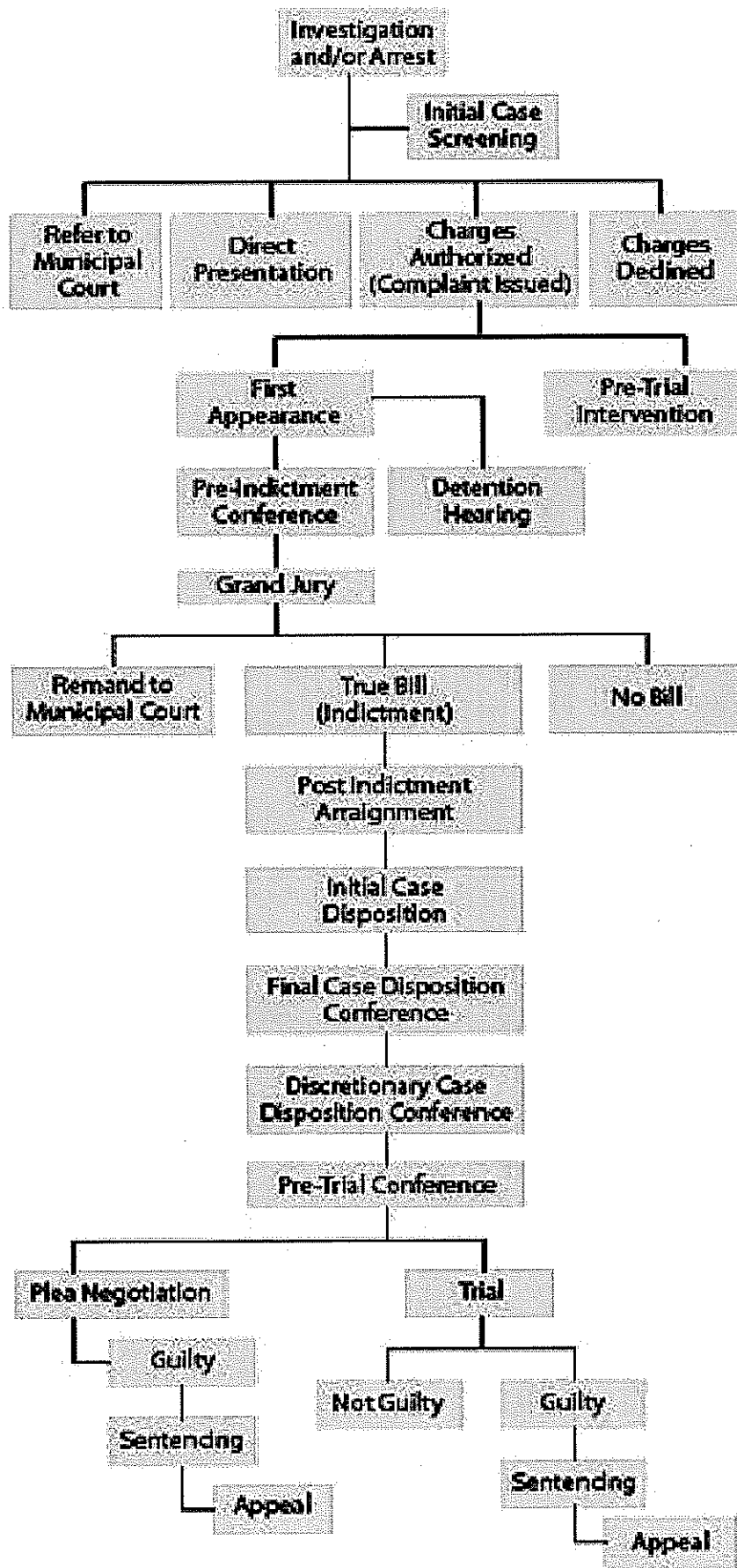
NOTE: If you are a victim of domestic violence and want to file for a domestic violence restraining order, please contact your local law enforcement agency.

- If you are filing on behalf of a minor child and the person you are filing against is a parent or guardian of the minor child, you cannot file under the Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act. You must call the Division of Permanency and Protection at: 1-877 NJ ABUSE (1-877-652-2873); TTY/TDD 1-800-835-5510

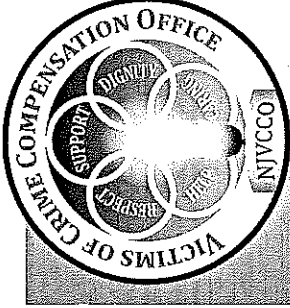
Note: These materials have been prepared by the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts for use by self-represented litigants. The guides, instructions, and forms will be periodically updated as necessary to reflect current New Jersey statutes and court rules. The most recent version of the forms will be available at the county courthouse or on the Judiciary’s Internet site njcourts.gov. However, you are ultimately responsible for the content of your court papers.

Completed forms are to be submitted to your local Family Division. A list of Family Division Offices can be found on njcourts.gov

The Criminal Case Process



We help put the pieces back together



our mission

The New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) provides compensation to innocent victims of crime for some of the expenses they incur as a result of the crime. In carrying out its mission, the VCCO is mindful of the special needs of those victimized by crime and their right to be treated with fairness, compassion and respect.

crimes covered

If you are a victim of one of the following crimes you may be eligible for compensation by the VCCO:

- Aggravated assault
- Arson
- Bias crime
- Burglary**
- Domestic violence
- Human trafficking
- Indecent acts with children
- Kidnapping
- Lewd, indecent or obscene acts
- Manslaughter
- Motor vehicle offenses**
- Murder
- Robbery
- Sexual assault
- Stalking
- Terroristic threats
- Threats to do bodily harm

**Certain conditions apply

**caring
support
dignity
help
respect**



**NEW JERSEY
VICTIMS OF CRIME
COMPENSATION OFFICE**

apply online at...

www.njvictims.org

Toll Free 877-658-2221

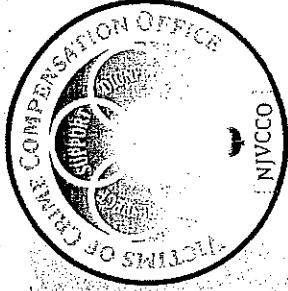
eligibility

- The crime must have occurred in New Jersey or to a New Jersey resident victimized outside of the State
- The victim must have reported the crime to police within 9 months*
- The victim must cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of the crime
- The claim must be filed within 3 years of the date of the crime*
- Must be an innocent victim of a crime

* Consideration will be taken if good cause exists for delayed filing

nuestra misión

La Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen (Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO)) de Nueva Jersey compensa a inocentes víctimas de crímenes violentos de algunos gastos incurridos como resultado del crimen. Llevando a cabo su misión la VCCO reconoce las necesidades especiales de las víctimas y el derecho de ser tratadas con justicia, compasión y respeto.



crímenes cubiertos

Si ha sido víctima de uno de los crímenes siguientes puede ser elegible para recibir compensación de la VCCO:

- Acoso
- Actos indecentes con niños
- Actos lascivos, indecentes u obscenos
- Amenazas de causar daño corporal
- Amenazas terroristas
- Asalto agravante
- Asalto sexual
- Asesinato
- Atraco
- Crimen de prejuicio
- Delitos relacionados con vehículos**
- Homicidio involuntario
- Incendio provocado
- Robo**
- Secuestro
- Tráfico humano
- Violencia doméstica

**Se aplican ciertas condiciones.

cuidado
apoyo
ayuda
dignidad
respeto



NEW JERSEY
OFICINA DE COMPENSACIÓN
PARA VÍCTIMAS DEL CRIMEN

aplique en línea en:

www.njvictims.org

Número de llamada gratuita

877-658-2221

elegibilidad

- El crimen ocurrió en Nueva Jersey o un residente de Nueva Jersey fue victimizado fuera del estado
- La víctima tiene que haber reportado el crimen a la policía en un plazo de 9 meses*
- La víctima tiene que cooperar con la investigación y con el procesamiento del crimen
- La solicitud tiene que presentarse en un plazo de 3 años dentro de la fecha del crimen*
- Tiene que ser una víctima inocente del crimen

*Se tomará en consideración el retraso de la petición si existe causa justificada.

VICTIMS OF CRIME COMPENSATION OFFICE

The Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) reimburses innocent victims of a crime for some of the expenses they incur as a result of the crime.

The expenses that can be paid include:

- Hospital, physician and medical expenses
- Mental Health Counseling
- Loss of earnings
- Funeral expenses
- Relocation expenses
- Crime scene clean up

Victim must first utilize and exhaust other resources including State benefits and insurance.

For more information or for a claim application, please contact VCCO by phone or visit their website.

Toll Free: 877-658-2221

Website: www.njvictims.org



VICTIM INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

Victim Information and Notification Everyday provides crime victims with information about custody status of offenders. Through the automated notification feature of VINE, an individual will be telephoned when an offender is arrested or released from custody. With one toll-free telephone call—the custody status of an offender housed in any of New Jersey's county jails or other county or state correctional facilities is available 24-hours a day.

TO REGISTER WITH V.I.N.E.

In NJ call: **1-877-VINE-4NJ (1-877-846-3465)**

For additional information visit website:

www.vinelink.com

NOTE: In NJ, victims of domestic violence will be registered with V.I.N.E. when offender is taken into custody at the county jail.

WITNESS GUIDELINES FOR COURTROOM TESTIMONY

- **Be Prepared.** Before you testify, try to remember the scene and what happened. Do not try to memorize your testimony, just be prepared to tell what happened in your own words.
- **Be Honest.** You will be sworn to tell the truth at all times. Do not guess or make up an answer.
- **Listen carefully** to questions. If you do not understand a question ask that it be explained or repeated.
- **Think before you speak.** Give accurate answers to the best of your ability. If you do not know the answer to the question, or if you do not remember, say so.
- **Speak clearly and loudly** enough so that all jurors can hear you.
- **Answer only the questions** asked of you. Do not volunteer information.
- **Dress neatly and appropriately for Court.** Avoid distracting mannerisms such as chewing gum while testifying. Be serious and avoid joking.
- **Stop when the judge** interrupts you or when an attorney objects to a question. Wait until the Court gives its ruling. You will be told when to continue.
- **Be Courteous,** even if the lawyer asking the questions is not. It is important **NOT TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER OR ARGUE** with either attorney. **STAY CALM** at all times while being questioned.

**Warren County Prosecutors Office
Victim Witness Unit**

**Mailing address:
413 Second Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823**

**Physical address:
199 Hardwick Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823
(Entrance located on Second Street via accessible ramp)**

**A GUIDE
FOR VICTIMS
& WITNESSES
INVOLVED IN THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**



**Warren Co Prosecutor's Office
Victim Witness Unit
199 Hardwick St.
Belvidere NJ 07823
908-475-6284**

A MESSAGE TO VICTIMS AND WITNESSES FROM THE WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Dear Citizen:

As a people, we need to remind ourselves that the first and primary constitutional right is the right to be free from criminal attack to both person and property. This is why we have police departments/agencies and county prosecutor offices.

But, law enforcement is ultimately the work of the entire community. Police personnel cannot do it alone. Criminal justice is dependent on victims/witnesses coming forward to report crime, provide statements and testify about witnessed criminal conduct.

In 1991, the citizens of New Jersey amended their State Constitution to require that a victim of crime "be treated with fairness, compassion, and respect by the criminal justice system".

This office is committed to safeguarding this right for both victims and witnesses here in Warren County.

Thank you for being a responsible citizen.

Sincerely,

THE WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

THE WARREN COUNTY VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE UNIT

In order to assist victims with the aftermath of Victimization, and to help make their participation in the criminal justice system less burdensome the following services are provided:

- Referral to social service agencies
- Information about the Criminal Justice System
- Case status information
- Transportation
- Child care to attend court proceedings or court related meetings.
- Assistance in applying for compensation from the Victims of Crime Compensation Ofc
- Compensation for financial losses through restitution request
- Assistance with the return of property
- Court accompaniment
- Employer intercession
- Separate and secure waiting area
- Assistance with Victim Impact Statements

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

PROSECUTOR FILE#: _____

ADVOCATE: _____

PHONE #: _____

ASST PROSECUTOR: _____

NOTES: _____

FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE CALL

Victim Witness.....908-475-6284
 Special Victims Unit.....908-475-6060
 Municipal Co Advocate.....908-475-6273

SERVICE AGENCIES

The following is a brief list of service agencies that may be of assistance to victims and witnesses:

- **Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center**
 908-453-4181(HOTLINE)
 908-453-4121
 www.besafewc.org
- **Catholic Charities**
 908-454-2074
 www.thewaytohelp.com
- **Family Guidance Center**
 Washington (Main) 908-689-1000
 Hacktstown 908-852-0333
 Phillipsburg 908-454-4470
 www.familyguidancecenterofwc.org
- **First Call For Help**
 908-454-4850
 www.norwescap.org
- **NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency**
 908-689-7000
To Report Child Abuse
 1-877-652-2873



OR VISIT THESE WEBSITES

- www.nj.gov
all NJ agencies
- www.njvww.org
State Office Victim/Witness Advocacy
- www.njcasa.org
NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- www.njcbw.org
NJ Coalition for Battered Women



The mission of the Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center is to support and empower those affected by Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault, and to develop a community where there is no acceptance or tolerance for either



DASACC's Services

24/7 Emergency Shelter
24/7 Helpline

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Response Teams

Individual and Group Counseling

English and Spanish Speaking Counselors

In-Person Appointments in Washington, Phillipsburg and Hackettstown

Individualized Safety Planning

Legal Advocacy

(help with restraining orders, court preparation, and/or referrals for other legal services)

Phone Appointments

(for those with transportation or disability limitations)

Community Resource Referrals

Community Outreach Workshops and Classes

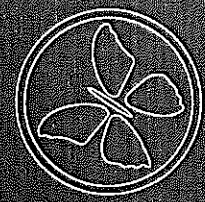
Tailored to the Needs of Your Audience

Sample Topics:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Abuse and Assault
- Media Literacy
- Children and Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence in Disasters
- Teen Dating Abuse
- Intro to Human Trafficking
- Working with Teen Victims

Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center
of Warren County

24/7 HELPLINE 908-453-4181



BE SAFE

WWW.DASACC.ORG

DASACC
29c Broad Street, Washington, NJ 07882

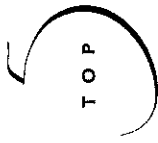
24/7 Helpline -- 908.453.4181

For those who are hearing impaired, call 711, explain you need their help communicating with our helpline, and give them the number above

Outreach Office -- 908.453.4121

Fax -- 908.223.1145

Website -- www.dasacc.org



TOP SAFETY TIPS

Domestic Violence is a pattern of violent or abusive behaviors that occur within a relationship.

Did you know that...

- The perpetrator can be a current or former boyfriend/girlfriend.
- The perpetrator can be a current or former household member.
- There does not have to be physical violence to qualify as domestic violence.

Sexual Assault and Sexual Abuse are any type of sexual contact that occur without the explicit consent of the recipient.

Did you know that...

- Children can never give consent to adult caretakers.
- Even if you say yes the first time, you have the right to say no in the future.
- You cannot consent under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Most sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone you already know.
- ... and alcohol or drugs are NEVER an excuse; they don't cause domestic violence and they don't cause sexual assault.

The Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Warren County provides services to all who identify as victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, veteran status or other protected classes under the law.

If you are thinking about leaving, below are the Top 5 safety tips we suggest, but please call our helpline for additional help and personal support.

1. **Make sure 9-1-1 is on speed dial.**
2. **Have an emergency bag with your original IDs, birth certificates and other important documents in your car (if that is safe) or at a neighbor's house. Make copies of everything to keep at home.**
3. **Have a bag with a change of clothing for you and your child(ren) in your car or at a neighbor's house.**
4. **Change your daily routine every day so that you are not predictable, in case you are being monitored or watched.**
5. **Have \$200 (or so) set aside with your original documents and your change of clothing.**

Si usted está pensando en alejarse de su relación, a continuación, se muestran los 5 mejores consejos de seguridad, pero, por favor, llame a nuestro línea de ayuda para obtener asistencia adicional y apoyo personal.

1. **Asegúrese de que pueda marcar el 9-1-1 rápidamente.**
2. **Tenga una bolsa disponible con su identificación original, certificados de nacimiento, y otros documentos importantes en su automóvil (si es seguro) o en la casa de un vecino. Haga copias de todo para que las tenga en su casa.**
3. **Tenga una bolsa con una muda de ropa para usted y su(s) hijo(s) en su automóvil o en la casa de un vecino.**
4. **Cambiar su rutina diaria cada día para que no se pueda predecir, en caso de que sea controlada o vigilada.**
5. **Tenga \$200, o una cantidad que pueda, con los documentos originales y su muda de ropa.**

Violencia Doméstica es un patrón de violencia o conductas abusivas que ocurren dentro de la relación.

¿Sabía usted que...

- El abusador puede ser un actual o ex novio/novia.
- El abusador puede ser un actual o ex miembro de la familia.
- No tiene que ser violencia física para calificar como violencia doméstica.

Agresión Sexual y el Abuso Sexual es cualquier tipo de contacto sexual que se produce sin el consentimiento expresado del destinatario.

¿Sabía usted que...

- Los niños no pueden dar su consentimiento a los adultos que los cuidan.
- Incluso, si usted dice que sí la primera vez, usted tiene el derecho a decir no en el futuro.
- Usted es incapaz de consentir bajo la influencia del alcohol o drogas.
- La mayoría de los asaltos sexuales son cometidos por alguien que usted conoce.

...y el alcohol y las drogas NUNCA son una excusa; no causan violencia doméstica y no causan asalto sexual.

El Centro de Crisis Contra la Violencia Doméstica y Asalto Sexual del Condado de Warren proporciona servicios a todos los que se identifiquen como víctimas de violencia doméstica y/o asalto sexual. No discriminamos en base a raza, color, religión, género, orientación sexual, identidad de género, origen nacional o étnico, edad, condición de veterano u otras clases protegidas bajo la ley.