

## Notice to Adult Victims of Family Violence

It is a crime for any person to cause you any physical injury or harm even if that person is a member of or former member of your family or household.

Please tell the investigating peace officer 1) if you, your child or any other household resident has been injured, or 2) if you feel you are going to be in danger when the officer leaves

You have the right to 1) ASK the local prosecutor to file a criminal complaint against the person committing family violence and 2) APPLY to a court for an order to protect you (consult a legal aid office, a prosecuting attorney or a private attorney). For example, the court can enter an order that:

- The abuser not commit further acts of violence;
- The abuser not threaten, harass, or contact you;
- Directs the abuser to leave your household; and
- Establishes temporary custody of the children and directs the abuser not to interfere with the children or any property

A violation of certain provisions of court-related protection may be a felony. You cannot be charged a fee by a court in connection with filing, serving, or entering a protective order.

If a family or household member assaults you and is arrested, you may:

- Request that a magistrate order for emergency protection be issued;
- Inform the investigating officer if you want an order for emergency protection; and
- You need not be present when the order is issued

Contact the following shelters or social organizations if you need protection:

**The Family Place**.....214-941-1991 (24 hrs)  
**Genesis Women's Shelter**.....214-942-2998 (24 hrs)  
**Dallas County DA (Protective Orders)**.....214-653-3528  
**Legal Aid of North West Texas**.....214-748-1234  
**Metro Care Services**.....214-743-1299

## What is a Protective Order?

A protective order is a legal remedy for the use and protection of victims of family violence, sexual assault and stalking. Family Violence means the intentional use or threat of physical force by a member of a family or household against another member of the family or household. Family includes individuals related by blood or marriage, i.e. spouses, ex-spouses, aunts, uncles, cousins, brothers, sisters, parents, children, etc. Household means a unit composed of persons living together in the same dwelling, whether or not they are related to each other.

## How do I obtain a Protective Order?

Protective Orders may be obtained through the local District Attorney's Office. These orders are for family violence, sexual assault and stalking and are valid for two years. Protective Orders prohibit a suspect from committing violence, making threats, and from going to a victim's home or place of work. Protective Orders obtained through the District Attorney's Office are free. These Protective Orders may also be obtained through a private attorney or a Legal Aid service.

You may be able to obtain an Emergency Protective Order if the abuser is arrested. At the time of arraignment, the magistrate may grant a Temporary Protective Order at the request of a peace officer or a victim, provided the abuser is still in custody. The Order is good for 30 to 90 days. If you want to apply for an Emergency Protective Order, let the arresting officer know and he/she will explain to you how to obtain the Order.

## Will a Protective Order prevent

### Violence?

A Protective Order can deter violence and provide the police and courts additional authority to intervene in family violence, sexual assault and stalking cases; and to punish those who commit family violence, but it is not a shield that truly stops the next violent act from occurring.

Most violent relationships become more dangerous and more violent over time, not less violent. If you feel you are in danger, please contact one of the resources listed in this brochure for further information about your options.

**NO ONE DESERVES TO BE HURTI!**

## Resources

AIDS Resource Center	214-819-1980 (24hrs)
Brighter Tomorrows	972-262-8383
Child/Elder Abuse Hotline	1-800-252-5400
Information and Referral	211
<del>Continuing Care Programs</del>	<del>972-983-9933</del>
Dallas Community Services & Correction Department	214-653-5331
Dallas County Juvenile Department	214-698-2200
Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center	972-641-7273 (24hrs)
Family Place (Family Violence & Child Sexual Abuse)	214-941-1991 (24hrs)
Genesis Women's Shelter	214-942-2998
MADD	1-877-623-3435
New Beginning Center	972-267-0057
Parkland	
- Rape Crisis & Sexual Abuse Center	214-590-0430 (24hrs)
- Violence Intervention Program	214-590-2926
Resource Centers of Dallas (Gay and Lesbian)	214-540-4455
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
Suicide and Crisis Center	214-828-1000
Texas Crime Victims Clearinghouse	1-800-848-4284
Texas Crime Victims Compensation	1-800-983-9933
Texas Department of Criminal Justice	
Victim Services	
- Inmate Information	1-800-848-4284
Texas Health/Human Services Commission	1-877-236-6500
Texas Muslim Women's Foundation	972-880-4192
Texas Youth Commission	512-424-6073
Trauma Support Services North Texas	972-709-4904
Turning Point (Sexual Assault)	972-985-0951
Victim Relief Ministry	972-234-3999

**"Justice is not served until victims are served"**

# DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT



## VICTIM SERVICES

Crimes Against Persons Division  
 1400 South Lamar Street  
 5th Floor  
 Dallas, Texas 75215

Victim Services Coordinator 214-671-3587  
 Victim Advocate 214-671-3588  
 Victim Advocate 214-671-3669

## Offense Report Number

# \_\_\_\_\_

For offense reports call 214-671-3345

## VICTIM INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

Call VINE 24 hours a day for information on county jail status and court events. Make Texas VINE part of your safety plan. The suspect/offender will not know you are registered with Texas VINE. However, do not depend only on Texas VINE, or any single program, for your protection. Toll free 877-894-8463.

For more information go to [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)

## RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS

As defined in Article 56, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, a victim of a violent crime is someone who: (1) has suffered bodily injury or death as a result of criminally injurious conduct, or who has been the victim of a crime involving sexual assault, kidnapping, or aggravated robbery; (2) is the close relative (spouse, parent, brother, sister, or adult child) of a deceased victim, or (3) is the guardian of a victim. As a victim of a violent crime, you have the following rights:

- Receive adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts;
- Have their safety considered by the magistrate setting bail.
- Receive information, on request, of relevant court proceedings, including appellate proceedings, cancellations or rescheduling prior to the event, and appellate court decisions after the decisions are entered but before they are made public;
- Be informed, when requested, by a peace officer about the defendant's right to bail and criminal investigation procedures, and from the prosecutor's office about general procedures in the criminal justice system, including plea agreements, restitution, appeals, and parole;
- Provide pertinent information concerning the impact of the crime to the probation department prior to sentencing;
- Information about the Texas Crime Victims Compensation Fund and payment for medical examination for a victim of sexual assault, and, on request, referral to social service agencies that provide additional assistance;
- Information, on request, about parole procedures; notification of parole proceedings; and of the inmate's release; and the right to participate in the parole process by submitting written information to the Board of Pardons and Paroles for inclusion in the defendant's file for consideration by the Board prior to parole;
- A separate or secure waiting area at all public court proceedings;
- Prompt return of any property that is no longer needed as evidence;
- Have the prosecutor notify, upon request, an employer that the need for the victim's testimony may involve the victim's absence from work;
- On request, the right to counseling and testing regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for victims of sexual assault.

- Request victim-offender mediation coordinated by the Victim Services Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
- Be informed of the use and purpose of a victim impact statement, to complete a victim impact statement and to have the statement considered before sentencing and acceptance of a plea bargain and before an inmate is released on parole.

A victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a deceased victim is entitled to be present at all public court proceedings, with the consent of the presiding judge.

As a victim of sexual assault you have the following rights:

- The right to a forensic medical examination if the sexual assault is reported to a law enforcement agency within 96 hours of the assault. All medical examinations of sexual assault victims will be provided at no cost.
- Have an advocate or representative present during the forensic medical examination.
- To choose a pseudonym (a set of initials or a fictitious name to be used instead of a victim's name to designate the victim in all public files and records).

## Crime Victims Compensation

Code of Criminal Procedure, Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Act, chapter 56, Subchapter B

**Purpose:** To compensate residents of the United States who suffer personal injury or death as the result of a violent crime, including DWI, Failure to Stop and Render Aid, and certain other vehicular crime.

**Administered by:** The Attorney General's Office, Crime Victims Compensation Division, Austin, Texas.

## Eligibility for Compensation

- Victims who suffer bodily injury, emotional harm, or death as a result of a violent crime.
- U.S. residents who become victims of crime in a state or country without comparable compensation.
- Family members of those victims and people who voluntarily assume expenses related to the crime.

To be eligible, victims and claimant cannot share responsibility for the crime, and must report the crime and cooperate with law enforcement agencies in the investigation and prosecution of the crime.

## How to Apply

Applications must be filed within three years of the crime. This time may be extended for good cause, and does not apply if the victim is a child. Child victims have until they are 21 to submit an application.

Applications may be obtained by calling the Dallas Police Department's Victim Services Coordinator at 214-671-3587 or the Victim Advocates Offices at 214-671-3588 or 214-671-3669.

The Victim Services of the Dallas Police Department will assist you in applying for benefits from Crime Victims' Compensation. Upon request, we will provide you with the claim form, will send the claim form and required documentation to Texas CVC, and will notify service providers that a claim has been applied for and is pending. Please allow us to assist you in obtaining these benefits.

## Victim Services

The Crimes Against Persons Division of the Dallas Police Department has a Victim Services Coordinator to offer assistance to victims of violent crimes and their families. Services provided include:

- Crisis counseling/short term to victims and their families
- Personal advocacy and coordination between victims of violent crimes, their families, the detectives and social and support services within and outside the department
- Court accompaniment
- Information and referral to local social service providers
- Notification and assistance in filing for Crime Victims Compensation
- Training to police officers, community groups and other agencies
- Services in English and Spanish

Victim Services holds active memberships with the following organizations:

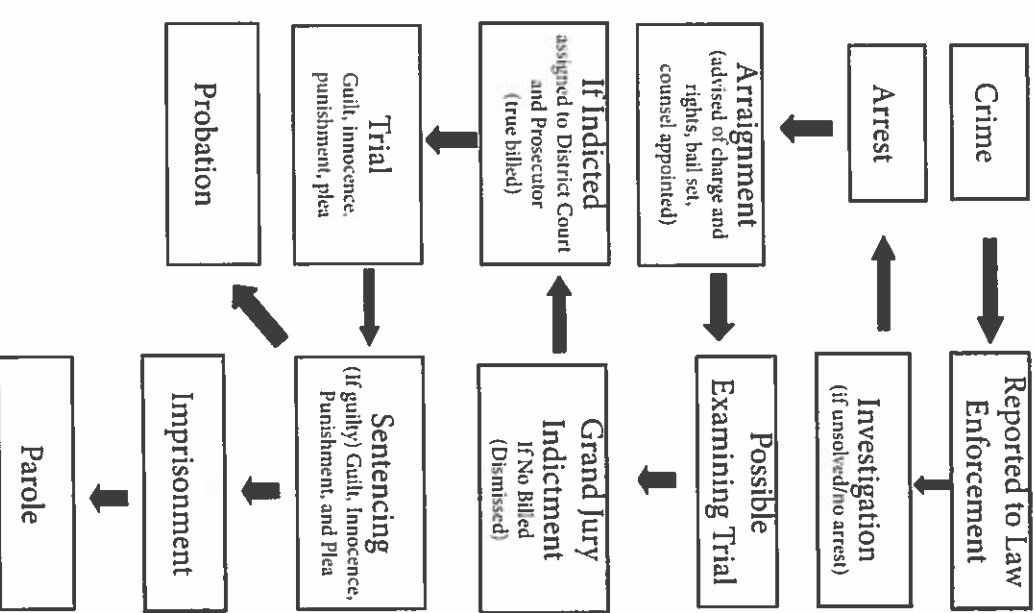
- Law Enforcement Victims Assistance Coalition
- Texas Victim Services Association
- Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
- Crime Victims Council of Dallas County

### Crimes Against Persons Division

1400 South Lamar Street  
5th Floor  
Dallas, Texas 75215  
Victim Services Coordinator 214-671-3587  
Victim Advocate 214-671-3588  
Victim Advocate 214-671-3669

## Criminal Justice Process

This process can take from six months to a year or more. You may call the law enforcement agency's telephone number for the status of the case and information about victim's rights.



Victim/Witness Division  
Frank Crowley Courts Building  
133 North Riverfront Blvd, Lock Box 19  
Dallas, Texas 75207-4313  
214-761-1358  
214-653-3838