

As a victim of a crime:

You may feel isolated and powerless. Common reactions include fear, anxiety, anger and confusion.

In an effort to assist victims, the State of California enacted legislation to develop programs that have made services available for victims of crimes.

The Victim/Witness Assistance Center has been in existence since 1975 and is funded through State Legislation to provide direct services for victims of crime.

Whom Do We Serve?

Any person who is hurt and/or experiences a loss or injury as a result of someone else's act that is a crime under federal, state, or local law.

Victim / Witness Provides:

Crisis Intervention

Victim/Witness staff is trained to provide crisis counseling and arrange emergency services such as transportation, food, shelter and referrals for victims of crime and their families.

Court Support

Victim/Witness staff will accompany victims, witnesses and family members to criminal court hearings.

Victim Compensation Claims

Victims of crimes and their families may be eligible for reimbursement by the state for out-of-pocket expenses resulting from a violent crime. Reimbursement expenses may include: medical and dental expenses, counseling, lost income, loss of support income, funeral and burial, crime scene cleanup (homicide only); home and vehicle modification for crime victims who become disabled, home security, moving or relocation expenses, job retraining.

Case Status/Disposition

Current information on court cases may be obtained through the Victim/Witness Center. The dates of specific hearings and the final disposition are available to victims and their families.

Criminal Justice Information

Dealing with the criminal justice system can be a confusing, frustrating and intimidating experience. Victim/Witness staff is available to explain your role as a victim/witness and provide information about the criminal justice system.

Referral Services

Victim/Witness staff is familiar with numerous local, state and national resources and can provide the information necessary to obtain the specific help you need.

Witness Waiting Room

The Victim/Witness Center maintains a witness waiting room near the courthouse which allows the witness comfort, safety and privacy while waiting to appear in court to testify.

Employer Intervention

Victim/Witness staff can intercede with your employer and explain why you must miss work for court and other related reasons. We can also help your employer understand the emotional stress you may be experiencing as a crime victim.

Creditor Intervention

As a victim, your injuries may affect your earnings. Victim/Witness staff can intervene with creditors to explain your situation and encourage them to work with you.

Restitution Assistance

Victim/Witness staff can refer victims to the appropriate resources.

Property Return

In some criminal cases, personal property is held by law enforcement or by the court as evidence. Assistance can be provided in obtaining the return of your property to you when it is no longer needed as evidence.

Important Phone Numbers:

Fresno County Sheriff 488-3111
(non-emergency)

Fresno Police Department 621-7000
(non-emergency)

District Attorney's Office 488-3141

Child Protective Services 255-8320

Adult Protective Services 255-3383

Marjaree Mason Center237-4706

Rape Counseling Service..... 222-7273

Crime Victims' Bill of Rights

As a victim of crime you have the right...

- ◆ To be free from fear, threats and intimidation.
- ◆ To be treated with dignity and compassion.
- ◆ To be informed of social services and resources available in your community.
- ◆ To know the status of the case against your offender.
- ◆ To receive assistance in dealing with the criminal justice system and to be accompanied to court for support.
- ◆ To have your opinions considered at the case disposition.
- ◆ To be compensated for injuries, wage loss and funeral expenses.

**"Justice isn't served until
Victims are served."**

Clients Victimized by Juvenile Offenders:

Juvenile Probation Department
890 South Tenth Street
Fresno, CA 93702
(559) 455-5310
(559) 455-5106

Clients who are Seniors (65 yrs. or older) and/or Dependant Adults:

Senior Resource Center
2025 East Dakota #201
Fresno, CA 93726
453-6488 / 453-6684

The Goal:

Restorative Justice

All services are free
and strictly confidential.

Hearing impaired and foreign language
services can be arranged as needed.



Fresno County
Probation Department

Crime Victim Assistance Center

2233 Kern Street
Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 488-3425
Fax (559) 488-3826

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
8:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 5:00