RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS

As defined in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 56, Subchapter A, Crime Victims' Rights, 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) or (3) is the guardian of a victim. As a victim of violent crime, you have the following rights:

- The right to receive adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts.
- The right to have the magistrate take your safety and that of your family into consideration when bail is being considered.
- The right, if you so request, to be informed of relevant court proceedings and of those court proceedings that have been canceled or rescheduled and to be informed of appellate proceedings.
- The right, if you so request, to information on procedures in the criminal investigation of your case by law enforcement officials and about general procedures in the criminal justice system including plea bargaining, restitution, appeals, and parole from the prosecutor's office.
- The right to receive information about the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation fund that provides financial assistance to victims of violent crimes and, if you so request, referral to available social service agencies that may provide additional help.
- The right to provide information to a probation department conducting a pre-sentence investigation on the impact of the crime.
- The right to have a medical health provider pay for medical examinations and medical expenses for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence and on request, the right to counseling regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for sexual assault victims.
- If you so request, the right to be notified of parole proceedings by the Victim Services Section of the Pardons and Paroles Division. The right to participate in the parole process by submitting extra information or a Victim Impact Statement detailing the emotional, physical, and financial impact the crime has had on you and your family for consideration by the judge prior to sentencing and/or entry of a plea bargain and by the parole board prior to taking any parole action. The right to be notified of the inmate's release.
- The right to be present at all public court proceedings if the presiding judge permits.
- The right to request a pseudonym for confidentiality.
- The right to a safe waiting area before and during court proceedings.
- The right to prompt return of any property that is no longer required as evidence.
- If you so request, the right to have the prosecutor notify your employer that the need for your testimony may involve your absence from work.
- The right of a tenant who is a victim of family violence, sexual assault and other sex offenses to vacate a dwelling and terminate a residential lease.

NOTICE TO ADULT VICTIMS OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

https://www.houstontx.gov/police/pdfs/Notice_to_Adult_Victims_of_Family_Violence.pdf

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NEXT?

- Request an **Emergency Protective Order (EPO)**: This order can be requested through the District Attorney's Office Protective Order Section, at 713-274-0212 or email filepo@dao.hctx.net. If an arrest was not made, call the investigator assigned to the case. An EPO can be valid for a minimum of 61-121 days, depending on the crime.
- Register through **IVSS** by calling 1-866-268-8959 or https://ivss-counties.tdcj.texas.gov/ (refer to ***IVSS*** section)
- Apply for a **Protective Order** (PO) if necessary. A PO must be issued directly to the offender. It orders him/her to stop committing violence against you, to stay away from you and your family, to stop any communication, direct or through others, that is threatening or harassing. Can be valid for up to 2 years or longer and obtained at 1200 Congress 2nd Floor or call 713-274-0212 for more information.
- Call the **Houston Police Department Family Violence Division** at 713-308-1100 for Investigations (Scan ***FV QR Code*** above).
- Call the **Houston Police Department Victim Services Division** at 713-308-0080 for legal referrals, crisis counseling, U Visa information and questions regarding Crime Victim's Compensation.
- Make a Safety Plan.

TEXAS INTEGRATED VICTIM SERVICES SYSTEM COUNTIES (IVSS)

Call IVSS 24 hours a day for information on county jail status and court events. Make IVSS part of your safety plan. The suspect/offender will not know you have registered with IVSS. However, do not depend on IVSS, or any single program, for your protection. Please call toll free 1-866-268-8959. **For more information visit:**

HTTPS://IVSS-COUNTIES.TDCJ.TEXAS.GOV/

WHAT IS A PSEUDONYM?

A pseudonym allows victims of Family Violence, Stalking, Human Trafficking, Sexual Assault or other Sex Offenses to use an alias name (pseudonym) instead of their real name in public records related only to the offense. It is the responsibility of the victim to complete the form and return it to HPD. Follow the link below to obtain more detailed instructions.

https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/files/divisions/crime-victims/CVS-Pseudonym-Form-Instructions.pdf

https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/files/divisions/crime-victims/pseudonym/CVS-Pseudonym-Form-general_0925.pdf

SAFETY PLAN

- PREPARE FOR FUTURE INCIDENTS: Plan an escape route out of your home & teach it to your children
- Have a code word for children & family/friends to call police
- Tell children not to get in the middle of violence
- Talk with professionals about technology safety (computers, cell phones, etc.)
- Always keep a phone with you and know your location
- Find a safe place to stay (family/friend's house)

NOTICE TO SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

https://www.houstontx.gov/police/victim_services/Notice_to_Victims_of_Sexual_Assault.pdf

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Hotlines (24 Hours)

Emergency	**911**
Adult & Child Protective Services	800-252-5400
Bay Area Turning Point (South)	281-286-2525
Brazoria Shelter – Women, C & SC	800-243-5788
Brazoria Shelter – Women, North	281-585-0902
FamilyTime/The Door	281-446-2615
Houston Area Women's Center	713-528-2121
HAWC Rape Crisis Line	713-528-7273
Human Trafficking Resource Ctr	888-373-7888
Katy Christian Ministries	281-693-7273
Montgomery Co. Women's Center	936-441-4044
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	877-623-3435
National Domestic Violence	800-799-7233
TTY	800-787-3224
Star of Hope Mission (Family)	713-222-2220
The Bridge Over Troubled Waters	713-473-2801
TX Forensic Nurse Examiners Ctr	281-306-6893

General

HPD Non-Emergency	**713-884-3131**
Children's Assessment Center	713-986-3300
Casa Juan Diego (Immigrants)	713-869-7376
Covenant House (Age 18-24)	713-523-2231
Catholic Charities	713-526-4611
DAYA	713-981-7645
Family Services of Houston	713-861-4849
Harris Ctr for Mental Health & IDD	713-970-7000
HPD Victim Services Division	713-308-0080
Mental Health of America	713-523-8963
Montrose Center (LGBT) (Main)	713-529-0037
NW Assistance Ministries	281-885-4555
TDCJ-Parole Division	713-685-7100
Immigrant Resource Referrals	833-468-4664

Legal Resources

Attorney General Child Support	800-252-8014
Victim Compensation	800-983-9933
Harris County Domestic Violence	713-274-0212
HC Victim Asst. Coordinators	713-274-0250
Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse	713-224-9911
Houston Volunteer Lawyers	713-228-0735
Lone Star Legal Aid	713-652-0077

NO ONE DESERVES TO BE HURT!

CRIME VICTIMS' COMPENSATION

Crime Victims' Compensation is a division of the **Attorney General's Office**. The program reimburses innocent victims of violent crime for some out-of-pocket expenses they suffer as a result of the crime.

Crime Victims' Compensation is available to pay the amount of expense reasonably and necessarily incurred for:

- Medical, counseling, prescription, and rehabilitative services.
- Partial loss of earnings because of a disability resulting from personal injury.
- Childcare for minor children to enable a victim or spouse of a deceased victim to continue employment.
- Funeral and burial expenses.
- Reasonable costs associated with crime scene cleanup.
- Reasonable replacement costs for clothing, bedding or other property taken as evidence or rendered unusable as a result of the criminal investigation.
- Loss of wages and travel reimbursement due to participation in or attendance at the investigation, prosecutorial and judicial process.
- Relocation expenses for certain victims of family violence and sexual assault.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE OR LOSS IS NOT AN ELIGIBLE EXPENSE.

To submit a claim, a victim or family member must send a Crime Victim's Compensation application to the Texas Attorney General's Office via electronic submission or U.S. Postal Service. Victims or family members needing an application can access the application via the internet at:
https://texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/crime-victims-compensation
Mail application to:
Office of the Attorney General
Crime Victims' Compensation Division
P.O. Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548
Claims Division: 1-800-983-9933

VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

The **Victim Services Division** is dedicated to positively affecting the quality of life for the citizens of Houston and exists to provide assistance to crime victims and their families. We will assist the victim with applying for Crime Victims' Compensation and their chosen service providers to help them obtain benefits and services. The Victim Services Division works closely with various social service providers, legal agencies within the City of Houston and Harris County and is familiar with a wide variety of available resources.

CRIME VICTIM NOTICE

U Visa Information
You may be eligible for legal status
& a work permit with a U Visa

- You **must cooperate with police** and update your personal contact information
- Must be one of the below crimes to ***qualify*** for a U Visa:
  Family Violence, Sexual Assault, Murder, Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Kidnapping, Prostitution, Human Trafficking, and other serious violent crimes.
- Must be within the specific crimes' **statute of limitations** in the state of Texas.

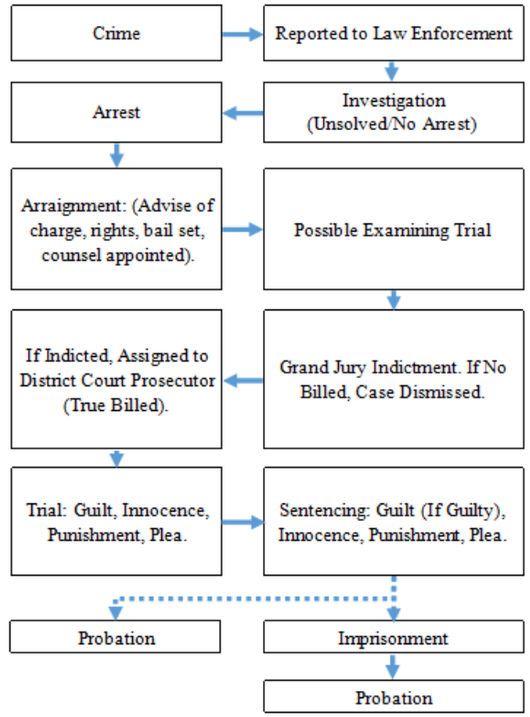
Your Immigration Status is of
No Concern to Police.
We are here to help.

HPD VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION IS HERE TO ASSIST WITH:

- Explaining Criminal Justice System
- Crime Victims' Compensation
- Property Return
- Protective Order Information
- U Visa Law Enforcement Certification
- Referrals to Shelters, Social Services and Legal Resources

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.



PLEASE CALL 713-308-0080 OR EMAIL US AT VICTIM.SERVICES@HOUSTONTX.GOV TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY VICTIM SERVICES STAFF.

(6/2026) VSD-0002

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

1200 TRAVIS, HOUSTON, 77002
www.houstontx.gov/police

VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

713-308-0080

FAMILY VIOLENCE DIVISION	**713-308-1100**
MAJOR ASSAULTS DIVISION	**713-308-8800**
HOMICIDE DIVISION	**713 308-3600**
ROBBERY DIVISION	**713-308-0700**
ADULT SEX CRIMES	**713-308-1180**
VEHICULAR CRIMES DIVISION	**713-247-4072**
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN UNIT	**713-830-3256**
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	**713-247-5900**

Incident#: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

HPD BLUE FORM FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME INCLUDING: ASSAULT, AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, AGGRAVATED ROBBERY, BODILY INJURY, DEATH, FAMILY VIOLENCE, KIDNAPPING, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CRIMINAL VEHICULAR OFFENSES.

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