

Victim's Rights Act



Adams County Sheriff's Office

Victim Services Unit

**4201 E. 72nd Avenue, Suite C
Commerce City, CO 80022**

720-322-1240
720-322-1242
720-322-1243

Ask for an Advocate...

If you are asked if you would like to speak with a victim advocate...

...we welcome the opportunity to speak with you in person or by phone.

We would like to assist you, and your family, with any of the following:

- Assisting you, and your family, with concerns about safety and security immediately following a criminal incident.
- Answering questions about the criminal justice process and what will likely happen next.
- How to seek financial compensation and the eligibility requirements for expenses incurred because of a crime defined in the Victims' Rights Act.
- To help contact family, friends, employers on your behalf when the words are too difficult to say.
- Explaining the emotional burden, you may experience because of the incident.
- Assisting you with a long-term safety plan that could help you and/or your family remain safe.
- Determining which local resources will ensure that your household remains functional.
- Leaving informational material to help answer questions that may develop along the way.
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

...We're Open 24/7!!

Phone Notifications >>

The Adams County Detention Facility will attempt to contact you by phone if there has been a change in the status of the offender listed in your case. It is very IMPORTANT that you update us with a working phone number and current address so that we can make these safety notifications. You can also register for automated notifications by visiting [VINE](#) online. Please feel free to contact the detention facility at: 303-655-3495 with any questions.

...Restraining Orders

In some criminal cases, a restraining/protection order will automatically be activated. This type of order will expire. To obtain a permanent order of protection, you will need to go to the court in the county where the originating incident occurred or in any county where one of the parties resides or is employed. Instructions and necessary forms can also be found online at [Colorado Courts](#)

...Victim's Compensation

You may be eligible for financial assistance through the Victim Compensation Program. In some cases, individuals have been reimbursed for: medical bills, mental health counseling, lost wages, replacement doors/locks/windows, burial expenses and more. For information, contact the Victim Compensation office at 303-835-5690 or the Victim Services Unit.

Do you know your rights?

Visit [Division of Criminal Justice](#) or ask an Advocate of more information regarding your rights.

- Treated with fairness, dignity, and respect
- To be free from intimidation, harassment, or abuse, and to be informed about what steps can be taken if there is any intimidation or harassment by a person accused or convicted of a crime, or anyone acting on the person's behalf.
- To be informed of and/or present for critical stages of the criminal justice process.
- The right to receive a free copy of the initial report at the discretion of the investigating agency.
- To be informed, upon written request of the victim, when a person accused or convicted of a crime against a victim is released from custody, is paroled, escapes or flees from probation or parole.
- The right to be informed and heard at of any request for progression from the state mental health hospital on behalf the person in custody.
- To be heard at any court proceeding and/or by phone or similar technology when a victim can't appear in court. (See full statute for details),
- To consult with the District Attorney prior to any disposition of the case or before case goes to trial and to be informed of the final disposition of the case.
- To be informed, by law enforcement prior to the filing of charges and by the District Attorney's Office after charges are filed, of the status of any case if known in advance.
- To receive a of the Victim Impact Statement from the district attorney, as well as be present at sentencing to speak about the personal impact of the crime.
- To have the court determine restitution or be informed of the right to pursue a civil judgment against the person convicted of the crime
- To the release of property after the case is settled and it is no longer needed as evidence.
- To be informed of the availability of financial assistance and community services.
- The right to be provided with appropriate employer intercession services regarding court appearances and meetings with criminal justice officials.
- To be assured that prosecutors and law enforcement will take appropriate action to achieve a swift and fair resolution.
- Whenever practicable, to have a safe, secure waiting area during court proceedings.
- Upon request, to be informed when a person who is accused or convicted of a crime is released, discharged, or permanently transferred from the custody of the county jail.
- The right to be informed of the results of a probation or parole revocation hearing.
- To be informed of any rights which the victim has pursuant to the constitution of the United States or the State of Colorado.
- To be informed on how to enforce compliance.

- The right to be informed of results of STD testing.
- To prevent any party at any court proceeding from compelling testimony regarding a victim's address, phone number, place of work, or other information.
- To have criminal justice representatives make all reasonable efforts to exclude or redact the victim's social security number.
- To be informed of the process the district attorney can use to request protection of the victim's address.
- To be informed about the existence of a criminal protection order and how to request modification of such order.
- The right to be informed of the decision by the Governor to pardon person convicted of a crime before publicly disclosed.
- A victim may request notification of any future critical states, regarding a crime committed before 1993, if the offender who committed the crime is currently serving a sentence for the crime, or if the crime remains unsolved.

Crimes Included in the Victim's Rights Act

Constitution of the State of Colorado [Section 24-4.1-302(1) C.R.S] guarantees certain rights to victims of the following criminal acts:

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| • Arson (1st Degree) | • Invasion of Privacy |
| • Assault (Vehicular, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Degree) | • Kidnapping (1st & 2nd Degree) |
| • A Bias Motivated Crime | • Menacing |
| • Burglary (1st Degree) and (2nd Degree Dwelling) | • Murder, Manslaughter, or Homicide (Including Vehicular and Criminally Negligent) |
| • Careless Driving Resulting in Death | • Posting a Private Image for Harassment or Pecuniary Gain |
| • Child Abuse | • Retaliation Against a Judge, Juror, or Elected Official |
| • Child Prostitution (Includes Solicitation, Pimping, Inducement, or Patronizing) | • Retaliation, Tampering, or Intimidation of a Victim/Witness (Including Aggravated) |
| • Crimes Against At-Risk/ Elder Abuse | • Robbery (Including Aggravated) |
| • Failure to Stop at the Scene of an Accident Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury/Death | • Sexual Assault, Adult and Child (1st, 2nd & 3rd Degree) |
| • Harassment, Ethnic Intimidation | • Sexual Exploitation of a Child or Procurement of a Child for Such Crime |
| • Human Trafficking or Coercion of Involuntary Servitude | • Stalking |
| • Incest (Including Aggravated) | • Unlawful Sexual Contact |
| • Indecent Exposure | • Violation of a Protection Order Issued in a Case of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking. |
| | • Any Crime Related to Domestic Violence |
| | • Any criminal attempt, conspiracy, criminal solicitation, or accessory involving any of the crimes specified above |

If a victim is deceased or incapacitated, rights may be exercised by a spouse, parent, legal guardian, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, significant other, or other lawful representative.

What Happens Next...

The process for handling each investigation varies case by case. We have included some general guidelines you could expect.

Reports: After a deputy leaves the scene of an incident, he/she will most likely complete a report describing the details of the situation. Reports then go through an approval process by Supervisors and the Records Division to ensure quality and accuracy. Reports cannot be released to the public until it has reached the final approval stage. This process may take several days. In on-going/active investigations, reports will most likely NOT be available until the investigation is complete.

Detectives: Not all cases are assigned to the Detectives Division!! If your case is assigned to a Detective, you should receive a call from someone to advise that they will be working on your case. This process may take at least a week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Victim Services Unit.

Arrests/Warrants: Arrests are not always made at the time of an incident. If an arrest warrant must be written, it takes time to research and write before it is submitted to the District Attorney's office for review, and then to a judge for final approval.

Protection Orders: When an offender has been arrested in a crime involving Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault, a protection order is automatically activated. However, the offender must appear in front of a judge to be informed of the restrictions listed in the protection order before it becomes fully active. If one is not automatically granted, you are welcome to go to the county court to apply for a Civil Protection Order.

DA Victim/Witness Unit: If an offender has been arrested or charges have been filed against the offender, please contact the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Unit at 303-659-7735 so they can assist you with any upcoming court proceedings.

Adam County Sheriff's Office Phone Numbers

Adams County Communications Center

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Dispatch	303-288-1535
<u>Victim Services Unit</u>	720-322-1240
	720-322-1242
	720-322-1243
<u>Adams County Government Center</u>	303-654-1850
<u>Adams County Coroner</u>	303-659-1027
<u>Adams Youth Services Center</u>	303-659-4450
<u>Records Division</u>	720-322-1313
<u>Civil Division</u>	303-655-3272
<u>Detective Division</u>	720-322-1202
<u>Adams Detection Facility</u>	303-655-3495

17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURTS

<u>District Attorney's Office</u>	303-659-7720
<u>DA Victim/Witness Unit</u>	303-659-7735
<u>Victim Compensation Program</u>	303-835-5690

HELPFUL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

<u>Human Services</u>	720-523-2000
<u>Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence</u>	303-831-9632
<u>Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault</u>	303-839-9999
<u>Community Reach Center (Mental Health)</u>	303-853-3500
<u>United Way - 211</u>	211
<u>Servicios de la Raza</u>	303-458-5851
<u>Suicide Prevention Hotline</u>	988 or 1-800-273-8255

ENSURING YOUR RIGHTS

<u>Colorado Department of Public Safety -Division of Criminal Justice</u>	303-239-4497
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