



Guide to Victims' Rights in the Juvenile Justice System

As a victim of a crime that happened in Oregon and involves an alleged youth offender who is under the age of 18, you have certain rights within the juvenile justice system. These rights help protect you and ensure you're treated fairly, and they also apply to you if your child is the crime victim.

Often, you must request rights. One way to do this is to contact your District Attorney's Office or Juvenile Department.

What rights do I have as a victim of crime?

For any case in which you're the victim or the legal guardian of the victim, you have the rights to do these things:

- Attend open court proceedings.
- Have a support person with you.
- Receive **restitution** (payment from the adjudicated youth for losses caused by the crime) for eligible crime-related expenses.
- Request a transcript or recording of open court proceedings.
- Protect information that could identify you or your home, such as your address, phone number, and Social Security number.

Your attorney can also exercise these rights for you. If you don't wish to speak at a hearing (when that right is available), you can have someone speak on your behalf.

Your rights once a youth is in custody

If a youth is taken into custody (arrested and charged with a crime), you have the rights to do the following:

- Have the judge consider your safety at any hearings on releasing the alleged youth offender.
- Ask for notification about whether the case will be handled informally instead of through the court.
- Refuse to speak to the alleged youth offender's attorney or private investigator.

Your rights in court proceedings

If your case goes to court, you have the rights to do the following:

- Have the court consider your schedule when setting dates for the trial and required hearings.
- Attend and speak at the waiver hearing, which is when the court determines whether the case should proceed in adult court.
- Know the outcome of your case.



Your rights after disposition (sentencing)

If hearings occur on any of the following topics as part of your case, you have the right to speak at those hearings:

- Setting aside or dismissing the case.
- Removing the charge from the youth's criminal record.
- Determining whether the youth must register as a sex offender.
- Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) hearings.

What other rights can I request?

For any case in which you're the victim or the legal guardian of the victim, you can ask to:

- Limit the sharing of crime-related information that is sexually explicit.
- Notify you of certain open court proceedings.
- Give you certain information on the criminal history about the youth.
- Test for HIV or other diseases if the youth is found guilty and if diseases may have been transmitted.

Rights once a youth is in custody

If a youth is taken into custody for the crime, you can request:

- To be notified about certain upcoming court proceedings.
- To be consulted about the plea in a violent felony case.
- To be notified about an upcoming release hearing.
- To hold a hearing to reconsider a release decision if you weren't involved in that decision initially.

Rights in court proceedings

If your case goes to court, you can request to speak at hearings on the following topics:

- Placing the youth in a detention, shelter, or other facility.
- Release from detention.
- Disposition (sentencing).

Rights after disposition (sentencing)

In sex offense cases, you have a right not to be contacted by the **adjudicated** (convicted) youth. For all criminal cases, depending on the sentence the youth receives, you can request certain rights.

Outcome of the case	What you can request
Committed to the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification when the adjudicated youth is released from an OYA correctional facility.
Sentenced to probation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification about any hearings, including those on revoking probation.



Outcome of the case	What you can request
Placed under the jurisdiction of the PSRB Juvenile Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certain information about the case.• Notification about PSRB hearings.

How do I request rights?

Contact your local District Attorney's Office or Victim Assistance Program or the Juvenile Department to request rights or get more information.

Rights for certain victims

If you are a victim of **abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking**, you may have the right to:

- Take time off work to attend court or medical appointments.
- End a rental agreement early.
- Not be disqualified from unemployment benefits.
- Have your locks changed.
- Get special arrangements for public housing.
- Set up a payment plan with your phone company.

If you are a **victim of family or sexual abuse, stalking, or abuse against a disabled person or elder**, you can request a protective order (an order instructing a person to stop abusing or harassing you).

If you are a **victim of sexual assault**, you have the right to receive emergency contraception from a hospital.

If you are a **victim of domestic violence**, you may be able to get financial help through the Oregon Temporary Assistance to Domestic Violence Survivors fund.

If you are an **immigrant**, you may have additional legal options. Your immigration status doesn't affect your rights as a victim of crime.

If you are the **victim of a crime that involved physical injury or death**, you may be able to get financial help for costs related to counseling, medical care, and funeral expenses. Contact the Crime Victims' Compensation program for more information.

What if my case is appealed?

If your case is being appealed (if the court is asked to reverse the decision), you may have additional rights. Contact the Oregon Department of Justice Appellate Advocacy Program for more information.



Oregon Department of Justice
Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division
Every victim, every crime, every right, every time.

How can I make sure my rights are protected?

Make sure the District Attorney's Office or Juvenile Department has your current contact information.

If you believe your constitutional rights are not being honored, you can file a claim of violation within a certain timeframe. For more information, visit doj.state.or.us/victims-rights-enforcement.

Can I request additional copies of this brochure?

Yes. Please call us using the contact information below. This brochure is also available in:

- Korean
- Russian
- Simplified Chinese
- Spanish
- Vietnamese

Exercising any of these rights does not prevent a crime victim from filing a civil suit.

Victim Services Contact Information

Appellate Advocacy Program
503-378-4284

Call to Safety: Statewide Referral to Local Crisis Programs
1-888-235-5333

Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services
503-542-2855

Crime Victims' Compensation Program
1-800-503-7983

Disability Rights Oregon, Crime Survivor Project
503-243-2081 x243

Immigration Counseling Service
503-221-1689

Oregon Crime Victims Law Center
503-208-8160

Oregon State Bar
1-800-452-8260
osbar.org/public



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Oregon State Police Sex Offender Registry
503-934-1258

Oregon Youth Authority
503-373-7205

Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB)
503-229-5596

Statewide Legal Aid Information
oregonlawhelp.org

Victim Information System in ORegon (VISOR)
888-749-8080
visor.oregon.gov

Contact us

Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division
Oregon Department of Justice
1162 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Phone: 503-378-5348 or 1-800-503-7983

Fax: 503-378-5738

Website: doj.state.or.us/victims
Email: cvssd@doj.oregon.gov

Accessible Materials

To learn about other ways to access this information and CVSSD programs, contact us.

Email: cvssd@doj.oregon.gov

Call: 503-378-5348 or 1-800-503-7983