

## **Resources**

The following organizations may provide information regarding victims' rights and services.

### **Children:**

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline:  
1800-4-A-CHILD: [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org)

National Child Advocacy Center:  
[www.nationalcac.org](http://www.nationalcac.org)

National Center for Missing and Exploited  
Children: Toll Free: 1-800-843-5678;  
[www.missingkids.org](http://www.missingkids.org)

Report Child Sexual Exploitation:  
Cybertipline: 1-800-843-5678

National Organization of Parents of Murdered  
Children: 888-818-7662. [www.pomc.com](http://www.pomc.com)

National Runaway Safeline – 1-800-RUNAWAY  
or 1-800-786-2929: [www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org)

Stop Bullying: [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)

### **Domestic Violence, Rape & Sexual Assault:**

National Domestic Violence Hotline:  
1-800-799-SAFE (7233); 1-800-787-3224 (TTY);  
[www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org), [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

National Teen Dating Violence Hotline: 1-866-  
331-9474; 1-866-331-8453 (TTY);  
[www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network  
(RAINN): 1-800-656-HOPE, [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org).

### **Elder Abuse:**

National Center on Elder Abuse, Administration  
on Aging: 1-800-677-1116; [www.ncea.aoa.gov](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov)

### **General:**

Crime Victims: [www.crimevictims.gov](http://www.crimevictims.gov)

National Association of Crime Victim  
Compensation Boards: [www.nacvcb.org](http://www.nacvcb.org)

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC):  
1-800-394-2255: [www.ncvc.org](http://www.ncvc.org)

Office for Victims of Crime: [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

VictimLaw: [www.victimlaw.org](http://www.victimlaw.org)

### **Human Trafficking:**

National Human Trafficking Resource Center  
1-888-373-7888: [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)

### **Identity Theft:**

Federal Trade Commission Identity Theft Hotline  
Toll Free: 1-877-ID-THEFT; [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)

### **International:**

Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis  
Center: 866-879-6636

International Centre for Missing and Exploited  
Children: [www.icmec.org](http://www.icmec.org)

International Terrorism Victim Expense  
Reimbursement Program: [www.ovc.gov/intdir/itverp](http://www.ovc.gov/intdir/itverp)

U.S. State Department, Help for American  
Victims of Crime Overseas: <http://travel.state.gov>

### **Substance Use Helpline:**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
Administration (SAMHSA): National Helpline  
1-800-662-HELP (4357); 1-800-487-4889  
(TDD); <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov>

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## U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

### Victim Witness Assistance Program



### Websites:

[www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)

[www.campusdrugprevention.gov](http://www.campusdrugprevention.gov)  
(For higher education)

[www.justthinktwice.gov](http://www.justthinktwice.gov)  
(For teens)

[www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov](http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov)  
(For parents, caregivers & educators)

[www.operationprevention.com](http://www.operationprevention.com)  
(Online tools that support drug prevention)

## Overview

*Illicit drug trafficking, possession, manufacturing, cultivation, diversion and use – DEA’s mission is to enforce the laws related to these crimes. In doing so, our responsibilities include responding to the victims identified in these crimes.*



The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Victim Witness Assistance Program (DEA-VWAP) is responsible for ensuring compliance of crime victims’ rights laws and victims of crimes investigated by the DEA are provided the opportunity to receive services as required by federal law and the *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim Witness Assistance*.

The Headquarters’ DEA-VWAP manages the day to day operation of VWAP; provides guidance and training to domestic and international offices; collaborates with federal, state and local law enforcement and coordinates with national, state and local victim organizations.

There are collateral duty Victim Witness Coordinators (VWC) in DEA Field Division offices. As appropriate, the VWC may assist federal crime victims identified in DEA investigations; coordinate with local victim specialists, child/adult protective services and victim service providers; provide support community victim advocacy organizations. To learn more about DEA, visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov).

## Who is a Victim?

The *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim Witness Assistance* defines a federal crime victim as a “person directly and proximately harmed as a result of the commission of a Federal offense or any offense in the District of Columbia (18

U.S.C. § 3771(e)) if the offense is charged in federal district court...

If a victim is under 18 years of age, incompetent, incapacitated, or deceased, a family member or legal guardian of the victim, a representative of the victim’s estate, or any other person so appointed by the court may exercise the victim’s rights, but in no event shall the accused serve as a guardian or representative for this purpose. (18 U.S.C. § 3771(e))... A victim may be a corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, society, or joint stock company. (*See* 1 U.S.C. §1 (2006)).”

## Services

Upon request, a federal crime victim may receive information specific to the investigation, such as when charges are filed, arrest, upcoming trial date or logistics. A federal crime victim may also request information and/or referral for available services according to a specific need. This referral may include, but not be limited to, counseling, medical assistance, emergency shelter, transportation, relocation, or information about State Crime Compensation.

## State Crime Compensation Programs

State crime victim compensation programs exist in every state in the country, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Victims of most violent or personal crimes, including assault, rape, child abuse, and domestic violence, as well as family members of murder victims, are eligible. Property crime, such as theft and burglary, are generally not compensable by state compensation programs. Crime victim compensation programs pay for medical care, mental health counseling, lost wages and support,

and funerals. For more information, visit the National Crime Victim Assistance Board website at [www.ncvab.org](http://www.ncvab.org).



## Crime Victims’ Rights

Under Title 18, U.S.C., Section 3771(a), a crime victim has the following rights:

1. The right to be reasonably protected from the accused.
2. The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding, or any parole proceeding, involving the crime or of any release or escape of the accused.
3. The right not to be excluded from any such public court proceedings, unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at that proceeding.
4. The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding.
5. The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case.
6. The right to full and timely restitution as provided in law.
7. The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay.
8. The right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim’s dignity and privacy.

Source: Department of Justice, *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim Witness Assistance*, 2011 Edition, Rev. May 2012.