

Crime Victim's Rights

Protective Services: Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, or an adult on behalf of a minor may, in addition to contacting law enforcement:

1. File a criminal complaint with the _____ County Attorney's Office; and/or
2. File a petition for a domestic violence protective order, interpersonal protective order, or stalking restraining order with the _____ County Circuit Clerk's Office

Social Services:

1. Women's Crisis Center – Victims of rape, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence that are in need of emergency shelter, counseling, victim advocacy or children's services: National Sexual Assault/Rape and Incest Hotline (800) 656-HOPE or National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-SAFE www.wccky.org
2. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-8255
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org Text HOME to 741-741
3. Veteran Crisis Line: (800) 273-8255
4. Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Service – Department for Community Based Services (DCBS): For reports of child or adult abuse; or need assistance with:
 - Counseling, legal protection, preventative assistance, safe/protective shelter, health/mental health care, victim advocacy
 - (800) 752-6200 www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs

Medical Services are Available Through:

1. Name of Medical Center, address, phone website
2. Name of Behavioral Health, phone, website
3. Name of Health Department, phone, website
4. Name of Family Care, phone, website

Victim and Witness Participation in Court

When a criminal case is prosecuted, a victim and/or witness may be required to participate in that process. The participation may include providing written or recorded statements, interviews by law enforcement and/or attorneys for the Commonwealth, and possibly attending and testifying at the accused's in-court proceedings.

Participation in a hearing, trial or other in-court proceeding may necessitate that a witness or victim miss all or part of a scheduled workday. Law enforcement and the attorney for the Commonwealth will assist to the extent possible in informing your employer of the need for this absence from your employment.

In addition, KRS 524.040 prohibits a person from intimidating a participant, or his/her immediate family member, involved in a legal process. Furthermore, KRS 524.055 prohibits a person from retaliating against a participant, or his/her immediate family, in a legal process. This includes engaging or threatening to engage in conduct that causes or intends to cause bodily injury or damage to tangible property. These violations are Class D felonies. If you reasonably believe that you have been, or are being intimidated and/or retaliated against, you should immediately contact law enforcement and the attorney for the Commonwealth.

Offender Release from Prison, Jail, Juvenile Detention, or Psychiatric Facility if Involuntarily Hospitalized for a Person Charged or Convicted of a Violent Crime

To register for information and notifications on an offender in jail or prison in Kentucky:

1. Victim Identification and Notification Everyday (VINE) www.vinelink.com or www.corrections.ky.gov or (800) 511-1670
2. Kentucky Online Offender Lookup (KOOL) <http://kool.corrections.ky.gov/>
3. VINE Protective Order (866) 803-5858
4. Notifications for offender's court event status change: VINE – (800) 511-1670 www.kycourts.gov/pages/VINE.aspx
5. Updated information on released sex offenders: Kentucky State Police (866) 564-5652 <http://kspsor.state.ky.us/>
6. Notifications of upcoming parole hearings, victim impact statements, or other parole related questions: Kentucky Parole Victim Services (800) 221-5991 or (502) 564-3620 <https://justice.ky.gov/Boards-Commissions/paroleboard/Pages/victimservices.aspx>

Arrest of the Accused: Inmates Website

Financial Assistance – For assistance with medical expenses, mental health counseling, loss of earnings or loss of financial support resulting from a crime:

1. Kentucky Crime Victim's Compensation Fund: (502) 782-8255 or (800) 469-2020
<https://kycc.ky.gov/>
2. Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) 49.310