

# Services for Victims and Witnesses

*The staff of the Victim Services Program* encourage you, as victims and witnesses, to cooperate in the investigation of your case and the prosecution of the offender. To help, we can provide these important services to you.

## **Crisis and Emergency Services**

Our staff offer crime-related crisis counseling and, when necessary, emergency services: food, shelter, clothing, medical care and transportation.

## **Court Information**

Dealing with the criminal justice system can be intimidating, confusing, and frustrating. Our personnel can explain your rights as a victim or witness and provide information about the process of the criminal justice system.

## **Court Support**

Appearing in court can be intimidating and inconvenient. Our staff can help coordinate your scheduled appearance and let you know just what to expect. When needed, Victim Services Advocates accompany victims, witnesses, and family members to court proceedings for support.

## **Referral Counseling**

Our personnel are familiar with local, state, and national resources. We can provide specific information so you can get the help you need.

## **Property Return**

In some criminal cases, personal property is held as evidence by law enforcement or by the court. We can help you get your property back after the case is concluded.

## **Employer Intervention**

We can help your employer understand the emotional stress you may be experiencing as a crime victim, and we may intercede with him or her to explain why you must miss work for court and/or for other related reasons.

## **Restitution Assistance**

If you have suffered a financial or property loss as a direct result of a crime, we can help you try to recover your loss by filing a Victim Impact Statement on your behalf with the court.

## **Credit Intervention**

As a victim, your injuries or court appearances may affect your earnings. Our staff can intervene with creditors to explain your situation and encourage them to work with you.

## **Victim Compensation Claims**

Victims, or their families, may be eligible for reimbursement through California's Victim of Crime Program for out-of-pocket expenses resulting from a crime. Funds may be available for medical and hospital expenses, lost wages or support, funeral expenses, mental health counseling, and physical therapy. We will advise you on your eligibility for the program and help prepare and submit a claim to the State on your behalf.



## **As a victim of crime, You have the right to**

- *Be treated with dignity and compassion*
- *Be protected from intimidation and harm*
- *Be informed about the criminal justice system and the status of your case*
- *Be informed of social services and resources available in the community*
- *Have help in dealing with the system and be accompanied to court for support*
- *Have your opinions considered at the sentencing and parole phases of a criminal case*
- *Be compensated for injuries, wage loss, and funeral expenses*

**San Bernardino**  
316 N. Mt. View Ave.

**Rancho Cucamonga**  
8303 Haven Ave.

**San Bernardino  
Juvenile**  
900 E. Gilbert St.

**Fontana**  
17830 Arrow Hwy.

**San Bernardino  
Police Department**  
710 N. D St.

**Morongo**  
6527 White Feather Rd.

**Victorville**  
14455 Civic Dr.

**Ontario Police  
Department**  
2500 Archibald Ave.

**Barstow**  
235 E. Mt. View Ave.

**Colton Police  
Department**  
650 N. La Cadena Dr.

## **What Every Victim and Witness of Crime Should Know**



**County of San Bernardino  
Victim Services Program**

**Michael A. Ramos  
District Attorney**