

# Victim's Bill of Rights:

# Prosecutor's Roles and Responsibilities

## Crime Victims have the right to be:

- \* Informed on emergency assistance, compensation, and how the criminal justice system works.
- \* Notified when the accused is arrested.
- \* Informed on how to be notified when the accused is released from jail.
- \* Informed about protection from harassment, intimidation and retaliation.
- \* Notified of important changes in their case to include consultation on any plea agreement.
- \* Assistance in contacting employers when court takes the individual away from work.
- \* See that all property taken for evidence is returned as soon as possible.
- \* Heard before sentencing of a defendant by means of a Victim Impact Statement.
- \* Notified if a conviction is appealed.

Attorneys for the commonwealth shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that victims and witnesses are notified of scheduling changes that affect their appearance in court.

If possible, they will also provide notification of:

- \* Judicial proceedings relating to the case.
- \* Defendants release on bond & special conditions of release
- \* Charges filed against defendant
- \* Defendant pleading to the charges
- \* Changes in custody of the defendant
- \* Changes in the trial date.
- \* Trial verdict
- \* Right to submit a victim impact statement to court prior to sentencing
- \* Sentencing date
- \* Parole board hearing



# VICTIM ADVOCACY



Victims shall be consulted by the Commonwealth Attorney on case disposition including:

- \* Case dismissal
- \* Release of defendant/conditions of release
- \* Negotiated plea
- \* Defendant's entry into pre-trial diversion program.



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## Who is a Victim Advocate?



A victim advocate is a person who assists crime victims through the legal process and assists them to all available resources needed. Because we are not paralegals or attorneys, we cannot give legal advice, but can offer assistance and support through the legal system.

## How much does this service cost?

The services provided by Silverleaf are free to all victims and non-offending family members of any age.



## What does a Victim Advocate do?

- Accompany victims through the court process and answer any questions about the criminal process.
- Notify victims of upcoming court dates.
- Accompany victims to meetings with other professionals involved in the case.
- Provide crisis counseling and additional support.
- Make referrals to counseling and other resources available.
- Assist victims in completing the Victim Impact Statement, Crime Victim Compensation form, as well other documents.
- Familiarize the victim with the court procedures and the courtroom.
- To increase the accountability of the criminal justice and human services systems.
- To serve as an additional voice for human victimization and help victims gain back control of their lives.

## Where do I contact my nearest Victim Advocate?

**Silverleaf**  
751 S. Provident Way  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
270-234-9236  
1-877-672-2124 Phone

**COUNTIES SERVED**  
Hardin, Larue, Nelson, Breckinridge,  
Grayson, Meade, Marion, Washington

**IMPORTANT RESOURCES**  
KY PAROLE BOARD  
800-221-5991  
  
VINE NOTIFICATION  
800-511-1670 or [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)

KY STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
800-222-5555

KY COURT RECORDS  
<http://apps.kycourts.net>

KY SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY  
& PAROLE INFORMATION  
[www.kspso.state.ky.us](http://www.kspso.state.ky.us)  
[www.corrections.ky.gov/kool/htm](http://www.corrections.ky.gov/kool/htm)  
<http://justice.ky.gov/parolebd/>

CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION  
800-469-2120  
[www.cvcb.ky.gov](http://www.cvcb.ky.gov)

## Who would benefit from this service?

Any victim or non-offending family member of sexual abuse. Services and unconditional support are provided throughout each phase of the process. This includes contact with the police department, county and commonwealth attorneys and those involved in the court process.



*Silverleaf*  
sexual trauma recovery services