

## Ohio Crime Victim Rights

Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 2930

Victims of all felony and violent misdemeanor crimes, whether committed by an adult or a juvenile, have legal rights specified by code.

### You have a right to be informed

- By law enforcement about victim's rights, available services, victim's compensation and the name, arrest and release of the defendant
- By prosecutors about pretrial diversion, plea negotiations, change in charges and all court proceedings, schedule changes, appeals and parole and release hearings

### You have a right to be present

- At hearings and proceedings unless the judge determines it will cause an unfair trial and have someone with you for support
- You may have someone represent you if you do not want to be in attendance
- Unwanted contact between the victim and defense will be kept to a minimum

### You have a right to be heard

- Through contact with the case prosecutor
- Through a Victim Impact Statement provided to the Court prior to sentencing

*Victims (or their representative) cannot be discharged or disciplined by an employer for participating, at the request of a prosecuting attorney, in preparation for and reasonable appearances at court hearings.*

*If the prosecuting attorney determines reasonable grounds, a motion may be filed with the Court to conceal the victim's (or representative's) address, telephone number and similar identifying information. The Court, after a hearing, will make the determination.*

## Important Phone Numbers

If you are experiencing an emergency, call  
**911**

### Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program

Toll Free: 1-877-584-2846

(1-877-5VICTIM)

### VINE

(Victim Information and Notification Everyday)

VINE is a 24-hour automated system which provides information and automatic offender release notifications. To register, please call:

1-800-770-0192

### LAW ENFORCEMENT NUMBERS

Muskingum County Sheriff's Office 740-452-3637  
Zanesville Police Department 740-455-0700

### COURT RELATED NUMBERS

Muskingum County Prosecutor 740-455-7123  
Zanesville City Law Director 740-617-4886  
Muskingum County Clerk of Courts 740-455-7104  
Adult Probation Department 740-455-7145  
Muskingum County Juvenile Court 740-453-0351  
Muskingum County Court 740-455-7138  
Zanesville Municipal Court 740-454-3269

### VICTIM SERVICES NUMBERS

United Way (Referral Services) 211  
Allwell Behavioral Health (Counseling) 740-454-9766  
Transitions Domestic Violence Shelter 740-454-3213  
Legal Aid (Legal Services) 740-454-1223  
Job and Family Services (Financial Services) 740-454-0161  
Family Health Services (Medical/Counseling) 740-453-2872  
Muskingum County Children's Services 740-455-6710  
Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation and Corrections (Victim Services Toll Free Line) 888-842-8464  
Heroes Landing (Child Advocacy) info@heroeslandingcjc.org

### [muskingumprosecutor.org](http://muskingumprosecutor.org)

*The Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability or age.*

## Muskingum County Prosecuting Attorney Ronald L. Welch

### Victim Services Division



27 N. Fifth Street  
P.O. Box 189  
Zanesville, OH

**P: 740-455-7123**  
**F: 740-455-7141**

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

## Message from Prosecutor Ronald L. Welch



The Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office provides victims with a number of services to assist them. The goal of my office is to support to all crime victims and survivors.

The services provided by our office are focused on promoting safety, healing and a full and complete understanding of the criminal justice process. These services are provided in a nonjudgmental, informational and practical manner to assure the victim, and the community, understands that **victims have rights, too!**

The victim/witness advocates at the Muskingum County Prosecutor's Office are here to work with victims, help them understand their rights and provide victims with contact information for other resources that may be helpful.

I have served my entire career as a prosecutor and am aware of the many issues that may impact a victim of a crime. I know how important it is for a victim to understand the criminal justice system and to have guidance in obtaining whatever help may be needed to ease the traumatic impact of being a victim. My office and I are dedicated to serving victims and our community in the most beneficial way. I am hopeful that this brochure provides you with an understanding of the services that are available to help you through this process. Please feel free to contact us at any time should you need help or have questions.

**We are here for you!**

## Victim Services

Victims and witnesses of any felony or violent misdemeanor offense are offered the following services based on need or request:

### Crisis-Intervention and Support

- When victimization occurs, it is not uncommon to have difficulty handling stress and new information. Advocates work with the victims to address these issues.

### Explanation of Justice Process

- Advocates can address and answer questions or direct victims to those who can.

### Assistance at Court Proceedings

- Victims have the right to have an advocate present with them during court appearances.

### Assistance with Notifications

- Advocates can provide details of case developments and court proceedings.

### Assistance with Compensation

- The Victim Services Division has application forms and information about the Crime Victim Compensation program available. Advocates can assist victims with the preparation and filing of the application.

### Assistance Post-Conviction

- Advocates can provide an explanation of the parole consideration process, as well as help victims and survivors provide input to the parole board and accompany victims and survivors to hearings.

## Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program

In 1976, the Ohio Legislature created the Victims of Crime Compensation Program to provide reimbursement for certain expenses which eligible crime victims may incur. The program is administered by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. See compensation guidelines below:

### Who may be eligible for payment:

- Victims that experience crimes that poses a substantial threat of injury or death.
- Dependents of people killed in crimes.
- Anyone responsible for a crime victim's finances, such as a parent or guardian.

### Payments may cover:

- Medical and related expenses
- Counseling
- Wages lost because of the crime
- The cost to replace items taken as evidence
- The cost to replace items of clothing damaged as a result of medical treatment/assessment
- Payment for hearing aids, eyeglasses or other vision aids, dental appliances, teeth or other dental aids, canes, walkers, wheelchairs and other mobility equipment
- Protection orders that separate the victim from the offender
- Lost wages and travel expenses for family members of a deceased victim
- Funeral and burial expenses.

*Total payments are limited to \$50,000. Payments cannot be made for pain and suffering or for stolen, damaged or lost property. The Attorney General's Office will not pay for expenses that can be covered by other sources, such as insurance. To be eligible for compensation, the crime must be reported to law enforcement, and the victim must cooperate with requests from law enforcement.*

**Apply at [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/victims](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/victims)**