



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM
OF A VIOLENT CRIME

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YOU HAVE VICTIMS' RIGHTS

Who is a victim of crime? Someone who has suffered emotional and/or physical injury (also loss of or damage to property) as a direct result of crime; this includes a person who was directly hurt, and the child, parent, dependent or spouse of someone who has been killed. A victim may also be a witness of crime.

Victims have the right to:

- Receive information about the justice system (i.e. their case) and the services & programs available to them (including restorative justice).
- Have their security & privacy be considered at all stages of the criminal justice process, and to be protected from intimidation & retaliation.
- Ask the court that their identity not be released to the public. (*Publication bans are mandatory if victims are under 18 years of age.*)
- An interpreter if they speak Cree, Oji-Cree or Ojibway.
- Ask for a testimonial aid at court appearances, e.g. screen, closed circuit television, or support person (VWL)
- File & present victim impact statements at the sentencing stage, with VWL assistance.
- Express their views about decisions that affect their rights.
- Have the court make a restitution order, and if unpaid, enforcement in a civil court.
- If at any stage their rights are not respected, call NALSC.

Victims' rights may include information obtained from the Correctional Service of Canada or the Parole Board of Canada. To access information, a victim must be registered with either agency.

Victims of sexual assault can apply to receive up to 2 hours of advice from a lawyer. (Program via the Ministry of the Attorney General.)

Victims are to be treated with courtesy, compassion and respect for their personal dignity and privacy.

VICTIM WITNESS LIAISONS help victims and witnesses of crime with information, support, referrals, and act as liaison with justice & court personnel. They inform clients about alternative justice options (Restorative Justice). They also help clients with the Criminal Injuries Compensation Process.

To access a Victim Witness Liaison Worker contact:

Phone: (807) 738- 5564 (Manager)

Phone: (807) 738- 2038 (Alternate Contact)

Fax: (807) 737- 8804

Email: vwl@nanlegal.on.ca

To speak to a lawyer, call Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services at 1-800-465-5581