

## *Wyoming Crime Victim Bill of Rights*

*As a victim of a crime you have the following rights*

**The right to be treated with compassion respect, and sensitivity within the criminal justice system.**

**The right to have an interpreter or translator inform you of these rights.** Contact the law enforcement officer or the Victim Witness Coordinator if you need these services.

**The right to know the whereabouts of the defendant and the current status of the case from the initial police investigation to the final appellate review.** You have the right to be informed of the status of the case from the initial police investigation to the final disposition of the case.

**The right to receive restitution from the offender.** If you have suffered financially as a result of the crime, the court, at its discretion, may order restitution. Contact the Victim Witness Coordinator for more information.

**The right to know all the rights under this law including information about services and victim assistance at the local level**

**The right to be informed about Wyoming Crime Victim Compensation.** If you have suffered physical injury as a result of the crime, are a family member, or a dependant of a deceased victim you may file a claim for financial assistance. Contact the Victim Witness Coordinator for an application and information.

**The right to reasonable protection and safety and the right to know of legal recourse if threatened.** A crime victim or witness has the right to be free from any form of harassment, intimidation, or retribution and to be provided with information about available legal recourse and other protection measures which may be available.

**The right to prompt return of property seized as evidence.** Contact your law enforcement officer or the Victim Witness Coordinator for information about the return of your property.

**The right to preservation of employment while participating in the criminal justice process.** A victim or witness, upon request, shall be assisted by law enforcement agencies, the prosecuting attorney, or defense attorney in informing an employer that the need for victim or witness cooperation may necessitate their absence from work.

**The right to be informed about the opportunity to make a victim impact statement at sentencing and parole hearings.** You have the right to make a victim impact statement for a pre-sentence investigation. The defendant will have access to information from the victim impact statement.

**The right to be present at trial.** Unless the court for good cause finds to the contrary, the victim shall have the right to be present at or notified of all hearings and proceedings or scheduling changes involving the case.

**The right to discuss the case with the prosecutor and to be informed of the official address and telephone number of the officer and prosecutor handling the case.** You also have the right to refuse to talk to attorneys, private investigators, law enforcement or anyone else on the witness stand under subpoena. You have the right to know if the attorneys involved and their investigators are working for the prosecution or defense.

**The right to be informed about the availability of other legal remedies and the right to seek counsel and employ an attorney.**

**The right to be notified about the defendant's conviction.** You have the right, upon request, to be informed in writing or e-mail by the Department of Corrections about the offender's term of imprisonment, place of confinement, and the offender's release.

**Crook County Attorney's Victim Witness Program** is dedicated to the principles of Equal Opportunity in any term, condition, or privilege of employment or services. We do not discriminate on the basis of race/ethnicity, language, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, social class, economic status, education, marital status, religious affiliation, residency or HIV status or any other status protected by federal, state or local law.

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