

YOUR RIGHTS AS A CRIME VICTIM

You are listed as a complainant (victim) in this case. I am the Victim Assistance Coordinator assigned to assist you. I can help you with information about the status of your case, with completing paperwork, and can accompany you to court. Please call or email me if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance.

Your rights as a victim/complainant in the case listed above are important to Harris County District Attorney Sean Teare and the Harris County District Attorney's Office ("HCDAO"). We know that you did not ask to be a crime victim, and are committed to helping you with compassion and care during what may be a very difficult time. For information regarding your rights as a crime victim, please visit the Harris County District Attorney's Office website at [Harris County District Attorney's Office - Survivors & Victims](#)

Please keep in mind that the HCDAO represents the State of Texas in court proceedings, as a violation of Texas law has occurred. The HCDAO does not represent you personally, nor any legal guardian or close relative associated with the case.

The defendant or someone on the defendant's behalf may try to contact you. You do not have to speak with anyone representing the defendant. If the defendant or someone representing the defendant threatens you or tries to intimidate you, please contact law enforcement and the prosecutor assigned to your case.

Important Information To Be Completed by You:

Victim Impact Statement (VIS)

The Victim Impact Statement is a form you may complete that describes the financial, physical, and emotional impact the crime has had on you. This form will assist the prosecutor, judge, and correctional agencies with the prosecution of your case. Please complete the attached VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT form and return by email to DistrictAttorneyVictimServices@dao.hctx.net or by mail to:

Harris County District Attorney's Office
Victim Services Division
1201 Franklin St, Ste 600
Houston, TX 77002

Texas Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC)

The Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Fund is a program administered by the Office of the Attorney General that may provide financial assistance such as counseling expenses, medical services, and lost wages to victims of violent crimes. To complete an application, please follow this link:

[Crime Victims' Compensation Program](#)

Victims of sexual offenses have the right to request that the judge order the defendant to undergo medical testing for sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV). Please complete

the attached HIV/STI TESTING REQUEST form if you choose to exercise this right and return with your Victim Impact Statement.

Victims of sexual offenses also have the right to payment for a forensic medical exam and for any prescribed continuing medical care that is related to the sexual offense and provided to the victim during the 30-day period following forensic medical examination.

If the victim in this case is a child under the age of 18, please complete the attached CHILD NOTIFICATION AND CUSTODY FORM and return with your Victim Impact Statement. The form may or may not apply to your situation.

Important Resources That May Assist You:

Integrated Victim Services System (IVSS)

You may register with IVSS for information about defendants who are currently in custody. If you register, you will be notified of future court dates and if the defendant in your case is released from custody. To register with IVSS, please follow this link: [IVSS Counties](#)

Harris County District Clerk's Office

To obtain case information, including court dates, follow this link:
[Harris County District Clerk's Office](#)

Children's Assessment Center

The Children's Assessment Center also provides referrals and services, including counseling, for children who have experienced sexual abuse. For more information, please follow this link:
[Children's Assessment Center](#)

Please see attached Frequently Asked Questions and Assistance for Crime Victims brochure for an explanation of the process of a criminal case and commonly used terms in the criminal justice system.

For more information about the Victim Impact Statement and additional resources that may assist you, including safety planning tips, please follow this link:
[Harris County District Attorney's Office - Survivors & Victims](#)