

Important Information About Victim Notification

If you have been a victim or designated family member of a victim of certain crimes, you may be entitled to certain rights under **Louisiana's Crime Victim Bill of Rights**, including but not limited to:

- The right to receive emergency social or medical services as soon as possible.
- The right to be notified of a defendant's arrest, release on recognizance, posting of bond, release pending charges being filed, release due to rejection of charges by the district attorney, escape, or re-apprehension.
- The right to be interviewed in a private setting and to a secure area during criminal proceedings.
- The right to requests for assistance by judicial and law enforcement agencies in informing employers that the need for cooperation in the prosecution of the case may necessitate absence from work.
- The right to reasonable notice and to be present and heard during all critical stages of pre-conviction and post-conviction proceedings, and the right to be notified of scheduling changes of criminal justice proceedings.
- The right to consult with the prosecution prior to the trial and final disposition of the case.
- The right to refuse to be interviewed by the accused or a representative of the accused.
- The right to review and comment upon the pre-sentence report prior to imposition of sentencing, and the right to be notified of the minimum and maximum sentence allowed by law.
- The right to be present at all phases of the court proceedings, including the sentencing hearing
- The right to make a written or oral impact statement.
- The right to seek restitution.
- The right to a reasonably prompt conclusion to the case.

In order for a victim or designated family member to be eligible to receive notices and exercise the rights listed above, the victim or designated family member must complete a "Louisiana Victim Notice and Registration Form" and file it with the law enforcement agency investigating the offense of which the person is a victim, or the district attorney's office that has jurisdiction over the case. By completing and properly filing this form you have officially registered for notification and every attempt will be made to notify you of the above events based on the contact information you have provided. ***It is important that you notify the investigating law enforcement agency and district attorney's office of any changes in your contact information.***

To qualify for these statutory rights, you or your family member must be a victim of a homicide, felony crime of violence as defined or enumerated in R.S. 14:2 (B), sexual offense, certain vehicular related offenses, or attempts to commit any of them, including but not limited to:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Solicitation for murder | • Aggravated oral sexual battery | • Aggravated crime against nature |
| • 1 st degree murder | • Intentional exposure to AIDS virus | • Carjacking |
| • 2 nd degree murder | • Aggravated kidnapping | • Illegal use of weapons/dangerous instrumentalities |
| • Manslaughter | • 2 nd degree kidnapping | • Aggravated criminal damage to property |
| • Aggravated battery | • Simple kidnapping | • Aggravated 2 nd degree battery |
| • 2 nd degree battery | • Aggravated arson | • Aggravated assault upon police officer |
| • Aggravated assault | • Terrorism | • Aggravated assault with a firearm |
| • Mingling harmful substances | • Aggravated burglary | • Armed robbery, use of a firearm |
| • Aggravated rape | • Armed robbery | • Aggravated degree robbery |
| • Forcible rape | • 1 st degree robbery | • Disarming of a peace officer |
| • Simple rape | • Simple robbery | • Stalking |
| • Sexual battery | • Purse Snatching | • 2 nd degree cruelty to juveniles |
| • Aggravated sexual battery | • Extortion | • Aggravated flight from an officer |
| • Oral sexual battery | • Assault by drive-by shooting | • Vehicular negligent injuring |
| • Stalking | • Molestation of a juvenile | • 1 st degree vehicular negligent injuring |
| • Incest | • Crime against nature | • Domestic Battery Abuse |
| • Aggravated incest | • Aggravated crime against nature | • Abuse / Neglect of Adults |
| • Felony carnal knowledge of a juvenile | • Sexual battery of the infirm | • Video voyeurism |
| • Indecent behavior with juveniles | • Pornography involving juveniles | |

NOTE: If the District Attorney declines prosecution, or reduces the charges to a charge not included in the list above, victim notification may not apply. You should contact the district attorney's office that has jurisdiction over the case if you have any questions or concerns about charges or the court proceedings.

Crime Victims Reparations Program

The State of Louisiana has established a program for the payment of compensation to innocent victims of violent crimes with unrecovered costs associated with personal injury, death, or catastrophic property loss. Applications and assistance for Crime Victims Reparation may be obtained from any Sheriff's Office or by contacting the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, Crime Victims Reparation program at 1-888-6-VICTIM or 1-225-925-4437.

Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections Crime Victim Services Bureau

Victims and other persons directly affected by the criminal actions of an individual in the custody of the Department of Corrections are encouraged to contact the Crime Victim Services Bureau at 1-888-342-6110.

Nothing in this Section (R.S. 46:1844) shall be construed as creating a cause of action by or on behalf of any person for an award of costs or attorney fees, for the appointment of counsel for a victim, or for any cause of action for compensation or damages against the state of Louisiana, a political subdivision, a public agency, or a court, or any officer, employee, or agent thereof.

Victim's Copy