



**Kamala D. Harris**  
**Attorney General**  
**State of California**

**Victims' Bill of Rights**  
**Marsy's Law**

The California Constitution, Article 1, Section 28, confers certain rights to victims of crime. Those rights include:

- 1. Fairness and Respect** To be treated with fairness and respect for his or her privacy and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment, and abuse, throughout the criminal or juvenile justice process.
- 2. Protection from the Defendant** To be reasonably protected from the defendant and persons acting on behalf of the defendant.
- 3. Victim Safety Considerations in Setting Bail and Release Conditions** To have the safety of the victim and the victim's family considered in fixing the amount of bail and release conditions for the defendant.
- 4. The Prevention of the Disclosure of Confidential Information** To prevent the disclosure of confidential information or records to the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or any other person acting on behalf of the defendant, which could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family or which disclose confidential communications made in the course of medical or counseling treatment, or which are otherwise privileged or confidential by law.
- 5. Refusal to be Interviewed by the Defense** To refuse an interview, deposition, or discovery request by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or any other person acting on behalf of the defendant, and to set reasonable conditions on the conduct of any such interview to which the victim consents.
- 6. Conference with the Prosecution and Notice of Pretrial Disposition** To reasonable notice of and to reasonably confer with the prosecuting agency, upon request, regarding, the arrest of the defendant if known by the prosecutor, the charges filed, the determination whether to extradite the defendant, and, upon request, to be notified of and informed before any pretrial disposition of the case.
- 7. Notice of and Presence at Public Proceedings** To reasonable notice of all public proceedings, including delinquency proceedings, upon request, at which the defendant and the prosecutor are entitled to be present and of all parole or other post-conviction release proceedings, and to be present at all such proceedings.

## HELPFUL RESOURCES

**Colusa County District Attorney's Office**  
 (530) 458-0545

**Colusa County Superior Court/Family Law**  
 (530) 458-5149

**Colusa County Sheriff's Department**  
 (530) 458-0200

**Colusa County Police Department**  
 (530) 458-7777

**Williams Police Department**  
 (530) 473-2312

**Colusa Probation Department**  
 (530) 458-5871

**California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation**  
 1-877-256-6877

**Victim Information Notification Everyday Service (VINE)**  
 1-877-411-5588

**Child Protective Services**  
 (530) 458-0280

**Adult Protective Services**  
 (530) 458-0280

**Casa de Esperanza Shelter**  
 1-888-874-2040

**Colusa Regional Medical Center**  
 (530) 458-5821

**Pathways Rape Crisis Line**  
 (530) 342-7273

**Safe Haven Drop in Center**  
 (530) 788-5388



**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

*County of Colusa*

**MATTHEW R. BEAUCHAMP**  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**VICTIM WITNESS**  
**PROGRAM**



346 5<sup>th</sup> STREET, SUITE 101  
 COLUSA, CALIFORNIA 95932  
 PHONE 530-458-0449  
 FAX 530-458-0517

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 Victims of Crime Act, 2016-VA-GX-0058*

## VICTIM SERVICES

Victims of crime often feel lost and frustrated during the course of the criminal justice system. Victim advocates serve as a liaison between victims and law enforcement officials and ensure that each victim is treated with equality and respect. It is essential for us that victims and family friends/relatives are included in the criminal justice process. Victim advocates can assist with the following services:

- ❖ **Crisis Intervention**
- ❖ **Resource and referrals to outside agencies**
- ❖ **Follow up for emotional, personal, financial, & employment problems resulting from crime**
- ❖ **Emergency assistance for temporary shelter, clothing, food, transportation & medical care**
- ❖ **Filing for compensation through the state Victims of Crime Program**
- ❖ **Obtaining criminal restraining orders**  
*(Emergency Restraining orders required, appointments only)*
- ❖ **Funeral Arrangements**
- ❖ **Orientation to the criminal justice system & support through court appearances**
- ❖ **Information regarding the progress of the case & its disposition** *(upon request)*
- ❖ **Restitution assistance**

## WITNESS SERVICES

Witnesses to a crime are key in the prosecution of the case. As a witness of a crime, your truthful testimony is crucial to the outcome of the case. The criminal justice system can be overwhelming when you are a witness. Victim advocates can assist with the following:

- ❖ **Crisis Intervention**
- ❖ **Resource and referrals to outside agencies**
- ❖ **Orientation to criminal justice system**
- ❖ **Case status/disposition** *(upon request)*
- ❖ **Emergency assistance with shelter, food, clothing & transportation**
- ❖ **Witness fees**

## CALIFORNIA VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM (VCB)

Victims of crimes go through frightening and traumatic experiences that often carry with it great physical, emotional, or financial harm. Many victims have questions about whom they can turn to and where they can go for help. When it comes to financial assistance, the California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCB) may provide needed compensation to help cover treatment and other support services for victims and their families. With the victim in mind, this website aims to provide access to valuable information and resources to ensure victims are supported through this critical time.

### The VCP qualifying crimes include:

- ❖ **Domestic Violence**
- ❖ **Child Abuse**
- ❖ **Disability**
- ❖ **Sexual Assault**
- ❖ **Robbery**
- ❖ **Assault**
- ❖ **Molestation**
- ❖ **Drunk Driving**
- ❖ **Homicide**
- ❖ **Vehicular Manslaughter**

### General Eligibility Requirements:

- ❖ Documentation that crime has occurred.
- ❖ Claimant cannot have participated in or been involved in committing the crime.
- ❖ Applying within **seven years** from the date the crime happened, or an explanation as to why it was not filed on time. \*If the victim is under 18, the application must be submitted prior to their 19th birthday. *(If crime involves sex with a minor, application must be submitted prior to their 28th birthday).*
- ❖ Cooperate with law enforcement during the investigation and prosecution of the crime.
- ❖ Claimant cannot be on felony probation, on parole, in jail or in prison.

### Covered Expenses by VCP:

Medical/Dental treatment	Mental health services
Income loss	Relocation
Home/Vehicle modifications	Home security
Crime Scene Cleanup	Job retraining
Funeral & burial expenses	

Loss of Support (for dependents when victim is killed or disabled because of crime)  
**\*There are limits on how much can be paid for each loss.**

### How to Apply:

For assistance with VCP applications, you may contact the Colusa County Victim Witness Program to schedule an appointment or you can log on to [www.vcgcb.ca.gov](http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov) to fill out and submit application, or call 1-800-777-9229 to request an application by phone.

## 8. Appearance at Court Proceedings and Expression of Views

To be heard, upon request, at any proceeding, including any delinquency proceeding, involving a post-arrest release decision, plea, sentencing, post-conviction release decision, or any proceeding in which a right of the victim is at issue.

## 9. Speedy Trial and Prompt Conclusion of the Case

To a speedy trial and a prompt and final conclusion of the case and any related post-judgment proceedings.

## 10. Provision of Information to the Probation Department

To provide information to a probation department official conducting a pre-sentence investigation concerning the impact of the offense on the victim and the victim's family and any sentencing recommendations before the sentencing of the defendant.

## 11. Receipt of Pre-Sentence Report

To receive, upon request, the pre-sentence report when available to the defendant, except for those portions made confidential by law.

## 12. Information About Conviction, Sentence, Incarceration, Release, and Escape

To be informed, upon request, of the conviction, sentence, place and time of incarceration, or other disposition of the defendant, the scheduled release date of the defendant, and the release of or the escape by the defendant from custody.

## 13. Restitution

- A. It is the unequivocal intention of the People of the State of California that all persons who suffer losses as a result of criminal activity shall have the right to seek and secure restitution from the persons convicted of the crimes causing the losses they suffer.
- B. Restitution shall be ordered from the convicted wrongdoer in every case, regardless of the sentence or disposition imposed, in which a crime victim suffers a loss.
- C. All monetary payments, monies, and property collected from any person who has been ordered to make restitution shall be first applied to pay the amounts ordered as restitution to the victim.

## 14. The Prompt Return of Property

To the prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence.

## 15. Notice of Parole Procedures and Release on Parole

To be informed of all parole procedures, to participate in the parole process, to provide information to the parole authority to be considered before the parole of the offender, and to be notified, upon request, of the parole or other release of the offender.

## 16. Safety of Victim and Public are Factors in Parole Release

To have the safety of the victim, the victim's family, and the general public considered before any parole or other post-judgment release decision is made.

## 17. Information About These 16 Rights

To be informed of the rights enumerated in paragraphs (1) through (16).

For more information on Marsy's Law, visit the Attorney General's website at: [www.ag.ca.gov/victimservices](http://www.ag.ca.gov/victimservices)