

## HELPFUL NUMBERS FOR VICTIMS

Adult Parole Authority	330-797-9994
Mahoning County Bar Association	330-746-2933
Community Legal Aid Services	330-744-3196
COMPASS Family and Community Services	330-782-5664
COMPASS Sojourner House Domestic Violence Program	330-747-4040
Department of Youth Services	800-872-3132
Juvenile Justice Center	330-744-2244
Mahoning County Children Services	330-941-8888
Mahoning County Clerk of Courts	330-740-2104
Mahoning County Jail	330-480-5000
Mahoning County Probation Dept.	330-726-9448
Mothers Against Drunk Drivers	330-726-3523
Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program	877-584-2846
Suicide Help Hotline	330-747-2696

## VICTIM REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION

Ohio VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) system links county sheriffs, county prosecuting attorneys, and state correctional facilities to create a comprehensive victim notification system. The Ohio system is part of a nationwide VINE program. A website or toll free hotline will provide information 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

For inmate information, go to [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com) or call 1-800-770-0192.

If you wish to keep your personal information private, you may register for the Ohio Secretary of State's "Safe at Home" program to keep your home address private. Participants receive a "safe" mailing address to use for official documents.

Information is available at [www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/survivors/](http://www.ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/survivors/) or (614) 995-2255.

For more information about the Mahoning County Victim Witness Division, please visit our website.



[prosecutor.mahoningcountyoh.gov/units/victim-witness](http://prosecutor.mahoningcountyoh.gov/units/victim-witness)



## VICTIM/WITNESS SERVICES

Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office  
21 W. Boardman Street, 6th Floor  
Youngstown, OH 44503  
(T) 330-740-2330  
(F) 330-740-2008

Victim/Witness Felony Division  
Mahoning County Courthouse  
120 Market Street, Basement  
Youngstown, OH 44503  
(T) 330-740-2082  
(F) 330-480-5247

Victim/Witness Juvenile Division  
300 E. Scott Street  
Youngstown, OH 44505  
(T) 330-740-2244  
(F) 330-742-5871

Email: [prosecutor@mahoningcountyoh.gov](mailto:prosecutor@mahoningcountyoh.gov)  
Website: [prosecutor.mahoningcountyoh.gov](http://prosecutor.mahoningcountyoh.gov)

# THE VICTIM/WITNESS SERVICES DIVISION

The Victim/Witness Services Division is a section of the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office. This Division is comprised of Victim/Witness Coordinators who serve victims and witnesses in the criminal and juvenile divisions. Each coordinator provides information and support to crime victims and witnesses as their cases proceed through the judicial process. The goal of the Division is to help victims and witnesses understand their rights and responsibilities so that they can make informed decisions throughout the process.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

**Crisis-Intervention & Supportive Services** - When victimization occurs, it is not uncommon to have difficulty handling stress and new information. Coordinators work with victims to address these issues.

**Explanation of the Criminal Justice Process** - Coordinators can address and answer questions or direct victims to those who can.

**Advocacy & Assistance during Court Proceedings** - Victims have the right to have an coordinator present with them during court appearances. Coordinators can also assist with safety planning and arrange for emergency transportation to court.

**Assistance with Notification Process** - Coordinators can provide details of case developments and court proceedings.

**Assistance with Crime Victim Compensation** - The Victim/Witness Division has application forms and information about available programs. Coordinators can assist victims with the preparation and filing of the application.

**Assistance with Post-Conviction Issues** - Coordinators can provide an explanation of the parole consideration process, help victims and survivors provide input to the Parole Board and accompany victims and survivors to hearings.

# OHIO CONSTITUTION Article I, § 10a, Rights of Victims of Crime MARSY'S LAW

As a victim, you are **automatically** entitled to:

- Be informed of your rights
- Be treated with fairness and respect for your safety, dignity, and privacy
- Reasonable protection from the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused
- Receive information about the status of the case
- Refuse a defense interview, deposition, or other discovery request
- Object to defense request for access to your confidential information, including medical, counseling, school, or employment records, access to your personal devices, online accounts, or personal information
- Be present at all public proceedings
- Have a support person with you during proceedings
- Tell the court your opinion in public proceedings involving release, plea, sentencing, disposition, parole, and any other hearing that involves your rights
- Object to unreasonable delay
- Full and timely restitution from the offender

As a victim, you **may request your right to:**

- Receive notice of the arrest, escape, or release of the offender
- Reasonable and timely notice of all public court proceedings
- Confer with the prosecutor assigned to the case
- Be notified of subpoenas, motions, or other requests to access any of your personal information
- Appoint a victim's representative

To learn more about the enforcement of your rights as a victim of crime, visit: <https://www.ocvjc.org/marsys-law>

# ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION?

Victims of a criminal offense have a constitutional right to receive full restitution from the person who committed the criminal offense against them. Victims may choose to seek restitution, but do not have to. Restitution may be awarded to the victim's estate if the victim is deceased. Restitution does not necessarily cover every loss suffered by the victim. The victim retains the ability to seek damages from the offender in a civil action if necessary.

## WHAT IS RESTITUTION?

Restitution is compensation for "economic loss" due to the criminal offense. Victims can be reimbursed for "economic loss" they had or will have because of the crime, including but not limited to:

- Full or partial payment for the value of stolen or damaged property (the replacement cost of the property or the actual cost of repairing the property if repairs are possible)
- Medical expenses
- Mental health counseling expenses
- Expenses related to making a vehicle or residence accessible if the victim is permanently disabled as a result of the offense
- Wages or profits lost due to injury or harm, including lost commission income and base wages. You are not entitled to lost wages for time voluntarily attending criminal court proceedings.

It is important to keep a record of all expenses incurred as a result of the crime (receipts, invoices, estimates, etc.). The court will use this information to determine what costs are properly included in the amount of the restitution order.

You may be eligible for financial assistance through the Crime Victim's Compensation Fund for expenses such as medical counseling bills, work loss, and funeral expenses even if the suspect has not been arrested or convicted. For more information and to apply, call (800) 582-2877 or visit [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/individuals-and-families/victims/apply-for-victim-compensation](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/individuals-and-families/victims/apply-for-victim-compensation).