OFFICE OF THE HUDSON COUNTY PROSECUTOR

595 NEWARK AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07306

ESTHER SUAREZ
PROSECUTOR

TELEPHONE: (201) 795-6400
FAX: (201) 369-5211

Sexual Assault is considered a serious crime in the State of New Jersey and there is help available. The Hudson County Office of Victim Witness Advocacy assists victims to help lessen the loss, and inconvenience suffered as a result of this crime.

The Office of Victim Witness Advocacy can help you determine your eligibility for reimbursement of medical expenses and/or loss of earnings through the New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office. The advocates in our unit can also act as liaisons, assisting with social service agencies, employers, and other interventions. However, if you feel that you require immediate support or counseling services, please contact Hudson SPEAKS for free and confidential services on their 24-hour bilingual helpline at (201) 795-5757.

The QR Code provided below will allow you to access information on resources that may assist you and your family during this time. If you would like further information on resources please feel free to visit https://hcpovictimwitness.org/VWPortal. Statewide information on additional resources is also available at https://njcasa.org/our-work/resources/.

If you are interested in determining if you qualify for a Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Order (VASPA), please review the packet. If you are eligible to file for a VASPA please complete the packet and submit it via email to the Hudson County Family Court Division at HudEmergent.Mailbox@njcourts.gov. A Family Division staff member will review the submitted packet and contact you (the victim/plaintiff) to coordinate a date and time for a telephonic or video hearing before a Superior Court Judge.

If you have questions about the status of the criminal prosecution, please contact Assistant Prosecutor Andrew Baginski at (201) 795-6400 ext. 6586 or Assistant Prosecutor Barbara Drasheff at (201) 795-6400 ext. 6993.

If you would like further information, or have any questions, please contact the Office of Victim Witness Advocacy at (201) 795-6508.

Sincerely,

The Office of Victim Witness Advocacy

Si tiene cualquier pregunta, por favor llame a la Oficina de Victimas y Testigos del Condado de Hudson al (201)795-6508.

Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights

N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-60.1 et seq.

In New Jersey, victims of sexual violence are afforded the following rights:

(1) To have any allegation of sexual assault treated seriously; to be treated with dignity and compassion; and to be notified of existing medical, counseling, mental health, or other services available for victims of sexual assault, whether or not the crime is reported to law enforcement;

(2) To be free, to the extent consistent with the New Jersey or United States Constitution, from any suggestion that victims are responsible for the commission of crimes against them or any suggestion that victims were contributorily negligent or assumed the risk of being assaulted;

(3) To be free from any suggestion that victims are to report the crimes to be assured of any other guaranteed right and that victims should refrain from reporting crimes in order to avoid unwanted personal publicity;

(4) When applicable, to no-cost access to the services of a sexual assault response team comprised of: a certified forensic nurse examiner, a confidential sexual violence advocate, and a law enforcement official as provided in accordance with the Attorney General's Standards for Providing Services to Victims of Sexual Assault, and the choice to opt into or out of any of the team's services;

(5) To be informed of, and assisted in exercising, the right to be confidentially or anonymously tested for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or any other related virus identified as a probable causative agent of AIDS; and to be informed of, and assisted in exercising, any rights that may be provided by law to compel and disclose the results of testing of a sexual assault suspect for communicable diseases;

(6) To have forensic medical evidence, if collected, retained for a minimum of five years, and to receive information about the status of the evidence upon request;

(7) To choose whether to participate in any investigation of the assault;

(8) To reasonable efforts to provide treatment and interviews in a language in which the victim is fluent and the right to be given access to appropriate assistive devices to accommodate disabilities that the victim may have, whether temporary or long term;

(9) To information and assistance in accessing specialized mental health services; protection from further violence; other appropriate community or governmental services, including services provided by the Victims of Crime Compensation Office; and all other assistance available to crime victims under current law;

(10) To be apprised of the availability and process by which a court may order the taking of testimony from a victim via closed circuit television in accordance with section 1 of P.L.1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4); and

(11) To be apprised of the availability and process by which to seek protections through a temporary or final protective order under the "Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015," P.L.2015, c.147 (C.2C:14-13 et seq.), if the victim believes that the victim is at risk for re-victimization or further harm by the perpetrator.

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Declaración de Derechos de La Víctima de Agresión Sexual

N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-60.1 et seq.

En Nueva Jersey a las víctimas de violencia sexual se les otorgan los siguientes derechos:

(1) Que toda denuncia de agresión sexual sea tratada con seriedad; ser tratada/o con dignidad y compasión; y de ser notificada/o de servicios disponibles ya sean médicos, de consejería y asesoramiento, de salud mental, o de otros tipos disponibles para las víctimas de agresión sexual ya sea que se haya reportada el delito a las agencias del orden público o no.

(2) De estar libres, en la medida compatible con la Constitución de Nueva Jersey o de Los Estados Unidos, de cualquier inferencia que las víctimas son las responsables por los delitos que se cometen en su contra o de alguna inferencia que las victimas contribuyeron al delito por su negligencia o que asumido el riesgo de ser agredidas/os.

(3) De estar libres de cualquier inferencia que las victimas deben reportar los delitos para que se les asegure algún otro derecho garantizado y que las victimas deben evitar reportar los delitos para evitar publicidad personal no deseada.

(4) Cuando aplique, al acceso sin costo a los servicios de un equipo de respuesta a la agresión sexual comprendido por una enfermera examinadora forense certificada, un asesor confidencial de violencia sexual, y un oficial del orden público como lo indican los Estándares de la Oficina del Fiscal General para proveer servicios a las Victimas de Agresión Sexual, y de tener la opción de participar o no con los servicios que provee el equipo y que usted escoja.

(5) De que se le informe y que se le ayude a ejercer su derecho a obtener pruebas confidenciales para detectar el Síndrome de Inmunodeficiencia Adquirida (SIDA) o la infección con el Virus de Inmunodeficiencia Humana (VIH) o de cualquier otro virus relacionado e identificado como probable agente causante del SIDA; y de permanecer informada/o y recibir asistencia al ejercer cualquier derecho que le otorgue la ley para requerir y divulgar los resultados de pruebas que se le hayan hecho a un sospechoso de agresión sexual para detectar enfermedades transmisibles;

(6) Que se guarden los resultados de las pruebas médicas forenses, si es que se han colectado, por un mínimo de cinco años, y de recibir información sobre la condición/estatus de las evidencias cuando la solicite.

(7) Decidir si participar o no en la investigación de la agresión.

(8) Que se hagan esfuerzos razonables para proveer tratamiento y entrevistas en el idioma en el que la víctima hable con fluidez y dar acceso a dispositivos de asistencia adecuados en relación a cualquier incapacidad que pueda tener la víctima ya sea temporal o a largo plazo;

(9) A tener información y ayuda para poder tener acceso a servicios especializados de salud mental; a protección contra nuevos actos de violencia; a otros servicios apropiados ya sean comunitarios o gubernamentales, incluyendo los servicios proveídos por la Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen; y toda otra ayuda disponible a víctimas de delitos conforme a las leyes vigentes.

(10) De ser informada/o de la disponibilidad y el proceso por el cual un tribunal puede ordenar testimonio de una víctima a través de circuito cerrado de televisión conforme a la sección 1 de P.L. 1985, c.126 (C.2A:84A-32.4); y

(11) De ser informada/o sobre la disponibilidad y el proceso para solicitar protección mediante una orden de alejamiento temporal o permanente conforme a "la Ley de protección a sobrevivientes de agresiones sexuales del 2015," P.L.2015, c.147 (C.2C:14-13 et seq.), si la victima cree que corre el riesgo de ser víctima de nuevo o de daño adicional por parte del autor.

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

It is not your fault

Sexual assault survivors often feel as if they are to blame or think they could or should have been able to prevent the assault. But sexual assault is a crime, and the perpetrator is the one responsible. Help is available. The most important thing you can do is get support. You can confide in a friend, partner, family member or anyone you trust. Reach out to those who can help — a sexual violence advocate, a victim witness advocate, a crisis hotline or a counseling agency. They can have someone accompany you to the hospital, the police, prosecutor's office or to court.

It is also important to seek medical assistance. You may have sustained serious physical injuries you are not aware of during the assault. You may be at risk for sexually transmitted infections or pregnancy.

Talking about your feelings is never easy, but it is the key to healing, no matter how long ago the assault occurred. Most victims find they feel better if they have the opportunity to discuss confidentially and freely any issues or emotions they are experiencing because of their victimization.

Victim Resources in Hudson County

Office of Victim Witness Advocacy
Hudson County Prosecutor's Office
(201) 795-6508

FNE (Forensic Nurse Examiner)
Hudson County Prosecutor's Office
(201) 795-6400 ext. 6884

Hudson SPEAKS
(Rape Crisis)
(201) 795-5757

NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault
(NJCASA)
1-800-601-7200

Victims of Crime Compensation Office
(VCCO)
(973) 648-2107

National Sexual Assault Hotline
(RAINN)
1-800-656-HOPE

Manavi
(732) 435-1414

Information for Victims of Sexual Assault

HUDSON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

595 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Telephone: (201) 795-6400

Office of Victim Witness Advocacy

(201) 795-6508

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual violence can be a severe physical, emotional, and sometimes life-threatening trauma. It encompasses a wide range of unwanted sexual activities and can happen to anyone regardless of, racial or cultural background, gender, identity/expression, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

It is not unusual to have a wide range of feelings afterwards, including anger, anxiety, depression, and distrust. If you are a victim of sexual assault , you might feel numb. You may have flashbacks, fear for your personal safety, and experience changes in eating and sleeping. You may also experience memory problems and be unable to remember some, or all, of the assault. You may be unable to concentrate, or you may feel irritable. It may even be difficult to complete routine chores. You might not trust people as you once did, even those closest to you.

It is important for you to know and remember that these reactions are common responses to your trauma. For most victims, these symptoms decrease over time. Eventually, you will be able to get back into a more normal routine, although you may occasionally have setbacks. It is important for you to know that help is available.

What to Expect if Reported

The choice to speak with others about the crime, including law enforcement, is up to the victim. If you do choose to report the sexual assault, this is what to expect:

- Law Enforcement Officer will conduct an interview with you.
- You may be asked if you want a Forensic Sexual Assault Examination.
- Law Enforcement may attempt to Interview the suspect.
- The suspect may or may not give a Statement.
- Law Enforcement will investigate.

Sometimes it is hard to decide whether or not you want to talk about the assault. A counselor, whose services are confidential, can help you weigh your options in making this decision. Your needs and desires are extremely important. With your cooperation, authorities may be able to apprehend and prosecute the perpetrator.

If you have questions about the status of your investigation, please contact the Special Victims Unit detectives at (201) 915-1234.

If you have questions about the prosecution of a charged case, please contact Assistant Prosecutors John R. Mulkeen (x6564) or Jane Weiner (x6570) at (201) 795-6400.

Additional Protections

NICOLE'S LAW

If charges are authorized, a victim of sexual assault can request a Sex Offense Restraining Order (SORO) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:14-12, N.J.S.A. 2C:44-8, also known as Nicole's Law. Under these laws, defendants charged or convicted of sexual offenses can be prohibited from having any contact with the victim.

OTHER RESTRAINING ORDERS

Even if there are no criminal charges filed, a victim may still have the ability to apply for a protective order under the "Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015" (SASPA) or a Restraining Order under the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1990."

In order to obtain more information, call the Superior Court Family Division in Hudson County at (201) 748-4400 or use the links below:

https://www.njcourts.gov/forms/12590_saspa_kit.pdf

https://www.njcourts.gov/selfhelp/selfhelp_domesticviolence.html#fa

REFERRALS

Christ Hospital Psychiatry and Behavioral Health
179 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 795-8375

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S (formerly Rape Crisis)
24 hour Hotline
(201) 795-5757

Jersey City Medical Center
355 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 915-2000

Hoboken University Medical Center
Community of Mental Health
506 3rd Street, Hoboken, NJ
(201) 792-8200

Hackensack -Palisades Medical Center
Counseling Center
7101 Kennedy Blvd., North Bergen, NJ
(201) 854-0500

North Hudson Community Action Corporation
5301 Broadway, West New York, NJ
(201) 866-9320
714 31st Street, Union City, NJ
(201) 863-7077
1116 43rd Street, North Bergen, NJ
(201) 330-2632
324 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 459-8888

WomenRising Inc.
Programs for Women and Families
(Domestic Violence)
270 Fairmount Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(20) 333-5700

New Jersey Superior Court
Chancery Division—Family Part
Hudson Vicinage
595 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 748-4400

Department of Child Protection and Permanency
(DCP&P)
1-877-NJ-ABUSE

Hudson County Department of Families Services
Division of Welfare
257 Cornelison Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 420-3000

Garden State Episcopal Office of Community Services
(201) 604-2600

Health and Human Services
(Also known as 2-1-1)
1-800-435-7555

PERSONAL CASE INFORMATION

Prosecutor file number:

_____

Prosecutor/Phone Number:

_____

Helpful Resources

Trauma Recovery Center (TRC)
Jersey City Medical Center
(201) 839-2644

New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women
www.njcbw.org
24/7 Hotline: 1-800-572-SAFE (7233)

New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.njcasa.org
24/7 Hotline: 1-800-601-7200

New Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking
www.njhumantrafficking.org
24/7 Hotline: 1-888-373-7888

Behavioral Health Care Point Health
www.carepointhealth.org/behavioral-health
1-877-791-7000

Hudson County Assistance Programs
www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/hudson_county_public_assistanc.html
(website only)

HUDSON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

ESTHER SUAREZ
County Prosecutor

Wayne Mello
First Assistant Prosecutor

OFFICE OF VICTIM WITNESS ADVOCACY

595 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Telephone: (201) 795-6508
Fax: (201) 369-5211

Silena R. Shuta
Victim Witness Coordinator

MESSAGE FROM THE PROSECUTOR

Everyday, in our country innocent people become victims of senseless acts of violence. Peoples' lives are forever changed due to these crimes. The Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy is a supportive resource during these difficult times. The advocates and staff members assist victims and their families through the criminal justice process.

The Hudson County Prosecutor's Office believes that the voices of victims and witnesses are an important part of the Criminal Justice System. The cooperation of every victim and witness is vital to the prosecution of offenders.

The goal of the Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy is to ensure that the rights of victims of crime and witnesses are protected and that their needs receive our full attention.

Sincerely,

ESTHER SUAREZ
County Prosecutor

The Office of Victim Witness Advocacy…

- Provides information on the disposition and status of criminal and domestic violence cases.
- Informs the victim/next of kin if the defendant is released on parole.
- Provides referrals to social service agencies and other counseling services.
- Provides assistance in obtaining Restraining Orders.
- Provides crisis intervention.
- Provides assistance in filling out applications with VCCO (Victims of Crime Compensation Office) for reimbursement of medical bills, funeral expenses, relocation, etc.
- Provides communication and intervention services with employers and/or schools.
- Assists with property/evidence return.
- Provides orientation of the criminal justice system for the victim to be familiar with.
- Provides referral information on available medical testing for those victims of criminal acts involving disease transmission.
- Has a bilingual staff available. (Spanish)
- Provides assistance with Victim Impact Statements.
- Provides a safe area for victims/surviving family members next of kin to await Superior Court proceedings.

To find out if a defendant in your case is in custody at the Hudson County Jail, please call the computer operated VINElink system at 1-877-846-3465 or go to www.vinelink.com. Both are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The New Jersey State Constitution includes guaranteed rights for crime victims. Article 1, Paragraph 22 reads:

A victim of a crime shall be treated with fairness, compassion and respect by the criminal justice system. A victim of a crime shall not be denied the right to be present at public judicial proceedings except when, prior to completing testimony as a witness; the victim is properly sequestered in accordance with law or the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey. A victim of a crime shall be entitled to those rights and remedies as may be provided by the Legislature.

CRIME VICTIMS BILL OF RIGHTS
N. J. S. 52-4B-36

- To be treated with dignity and compassion by the criminal justice system;
- To be informed about the criminal justice process;
- To be free from intimidation;
- To have inconveniences associated with participation in the criminal justice system process minimized;
- To make at least one telephone call provided the call is reasonable in both length and location;
- To provide medical assistance reasonably related to the incident;
- To be notified in a timely manner if presence in court is not needed;
- To be informed about available remedies, financial assistance and social services;
- To be compensated for loss sustained by the victim whenever possible;
- To be provided a secure waiting area during court proceedings;
- To be advised of case progress and final disposition;
- To prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence;
- To submit a written statement about the impact of the crime to a representative of the Prosecutor's Office;
- To make, prior to sentencing, an in person statement directly to the sentencing court;
- To be notified of any release or escape of the defendant.

REFERENCIAS

Hospital Christ - Salud de Comportamiento y Psiquiatria
179 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 795-8375

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S (anteriormente Crisis de Violaciones)
24 hr. Linea Directa
(201) 795-5757

Centro Medico-Jersey City
355 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 915-2000

Hoboken University Medical Center, Salud Mental de la Comunidad
506 3rd Street, Hoboken, NJ
(201) 792-8200

Hackensack - Palisades Medical Center, Centro de Asesoramiento
7101 Kennedy Blvd., North Bergen, NJ
(201) 854-0500

Corporacion Accion Communitaria del Norte de Hudson
5301 Broadway, West New York, NJ
(201) 866-9320
714 31st Street, Union City, NJ
(201) 863-7077
1116 43rd Street, North Bergen, NJ
(201) 330-2632
324 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 459-8888

Women Rising Inc.
Programas para Mujeres y Familia
(Violencia Domestica)
270 Fairmount Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(20) 333-5700

New Jersey Corte Superior Division Cancilleria—Parte de Familia Hudson Vicinage
595 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 795-6779

Departamento de Proteccion de Menores y Permanencia
(Anteriormente conocido como D.Y.F.S.)
1-877-NJ-ABUSE

Departamento de Hudson County Servicio Familiares
Division de Assistencia Publica
257 Cornelison Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
(201) 420-3000

Garden State Episcopal Officina de Servicios Communitarios
(201) 604-2600

Servicio de Salud Humana
(Tambien conocido como 2-1-1)
1-800-435-7555

INFORMACION DE CASO PERSONAL

Nùmero de expediente de la Fiscal:

_____

Nùmero Telefonico de la Fiscal:

_____

Recursos Útiles

Centro de Recuperación de Trauma Centro Médico de la Ciudad de Jersey
201-839-2644

Coalición Para Mujeres Maltratadas New Jersey
www.njcbw.org
24/7 Linea Directa: 1-800-572-SAFE (7233)

Coalición En Contra El Abuso Sexual De Mujeres - New Jersey
www.njcasa.org
24/7 Linea Directa: 1-800-601-7200

Coalición Contra El Trafico Humano New Jersey
www.njhumantrafficking.org
24/7 Linea Directa: 1-888-373-7888

(Cuidado de Salud del Comportamiento) Care Point Health
www.carepointhealth.org/behavioral-health
1-877-791-7000

Programas de Assistencia del Condado de Hudson
www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/hudson_county_public_assistanc.html
(Pagina de Web)

OFICINA DE LA FISCAL DEL CONDADO DE HUDSON

ESTHER SUAREZ
Fiscal del Condado

Wayne Mello
Primer Asistente de la Fiscal

OFICINA DE APOYO DE VICTIMAS Y TESTIGOS

595 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Numero Telefonico: (201) 795-6508
Fax: (201) 369-5211

Silena R. Shuta
Coordinadora de Victimas y Testigos

MENSAJE DE LA FISCAL DEL CONDADO

Todos los días, en nuestro país personas inocentes se convierten en víctimas de actos de violencia sin sentido. Las vidas de las personas cambian para siempre debido a estos crímenes. La Oficina de Apoyo de Víctimas y Testigos es un recurso de apoyo durante estos tiempos difíciles. Los defensores y miembros del personal asisten a las víctimas y sus familias a través del proceso de Justicia Penal.

La Fiscalía del Condado de Hudson cree que las voces de las víctimas y los testigos son una parte importante del sistema de justicia criminal. La cooperación de cada víctima y testigo es vital para el enjuiciamiento de los delincuentes.

El objetivo de la Oficina de Apoyo de Víctimas y Testigos es garantizar que los derechos de las víctimas de crimenes y testigos estén protegidos y que sus necesidades reciban toda nuestra atención.

Sinceramente,

ESTHER SUAREZ
Fiscal Del Condado

LA OFICINA DE APOYO DE VICTIMAS Y TESTIGOS

- Proporciona información sobre la disposición y el estado de los casos de violencia criminal y doméstica.
- Informa a la víctima/pariente siguiente si el acusado es liberado en libertad condicional.
- Proporciona referencias a agencias de servicios sociales y otros servicios de consejería.
- Proporciona asistencia en la obtención de órdenes de restricción .
- Proporciona intervención en crisis .
- Proporciona asistencia en el llenado de solicitudes con VCCO (víctimas de la oficina de compensación de delitos) para el reembolso de facturas médicas, gastos funerarios, reubicación, etc.
- Proporciona servicios de comunicaciòn e intervenciòn con empleadores y/o escuelas.
- Ayuda con el retorno de la propiedad/evidencia.
- Proporciona orientación del sistema de justicia penal para que la víctima se familiarice con ella.
- Proporciona información de referencia sobre las pruebas médicas disponibles para aquellas víctimas de actos criminales que implican transmisión de enfermedades.
- Tiene un personal bilingüe.
- Proporciona asistencia con declaraciones de impacto de víctimas.
- Proveer un área segura para que las víctimas y/o familiares sobrevivientes que están cerca de sus parientes, esperen los procedimientos del Tribunal superior.

Para averiguar si un acusado en su caso está bajo custodia en la cárcel del Condado de Hudson, por favor llame al sistema de VINE operado por computadora al numero telefonico 1-877-846-3465 o visite la pagina de web www.vinelink.com. Ambos están disponibles las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana.

LA ENMIENDA CONSTITUCIONAL

La Constitución del estado de Nueva Jersey incluye derechos garantizados para las víctimas de delitos. El Artículo 1, Párrafo 22, dice:

La víctima de un delito será tratada con equalidad, compasión y respeto por el sistema de Justicia Penal. A la víctima de un delito no se le negará el derecho a estar presente en los procedimientos judiciales públicos, excepto cuando, antes de completar el testimonio como testigo; la víctima está debidamente secuestrada de acuerdo con la ley o las reglas que rigen los tribunales del estado de Nueva Jersey. La víctima de un delito tendrá derecho a los derechos y recursos que pueda proporcionar la legislatura.

DECLARACIÓN DE DERECHOS DE LAS VÍCTIMAS DEL CRIMEN

N. J. S. 52-4B-36

- Ser tratados con dignidad y compasión por el sistema de justicia penal;
- Ser informado sobre el proceso de justicia penal;
- Estar libre de intimidación;
- Tener inconvenientes asociados con la participación en el proceso del sistema de justicia penal minimizado;
- Para hacer al menos una llamada telefónica siempre que la llamada sea razonable tanto en la longitud como en la ubicación;
- Proporcionar asistencia médica razonablemente relacionada con el incidente;
- Para ser notificado oportunamente si no se necesita presencia en el Tribunal.
- Ser informado de los recursos disponibles, la asistencia financiera y los servicios sociales; necesarios;
- Para ser compensado por la pérdida sufrida por la víctima siempre que sea posible;
- Que se proporcione una zona de espera segura durante los procedimientos judiciales;
- Para ser advertido del progreso del caso y de la disposición final;
- Para solicitar la devolución de la propiedad cuando ya no se necesite como prueba;
- Presentar una declaración escrita sobre el impacto del delito ante un representante de la Fiscalía;
- Para hacer, antes de la sentencia, una declaración en persona directamente al Tribunal de sentencia;
- Para ser notificado de cualquier liberación o fuga del acusado.

New Jersey Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act (VASPA) Filing Packet

Superior Court of New Jersey - Chancery Division - Family Part

Who Should Use This Packet?

A. To file for a Temporary Protective Order (TPO) or amend your Verified Complaint you may use the forms in this packet if you are:

- A victim of nonconsensual sexual contact, sexual penetration, lewdness, cyber-harassment, or stalking (see definitions on page 4) or any attempt at such conduct.
- A parent or guardian filing on behalf of your child who is less than 18 years of age **or** has a developmental disability or a mental disease or defect that renders them temporarily or permanently incapable of understanding the nature of the defendant's conduct, including, but not limited to, being incapable of providing consent, or of understanding the nature of the alleged conduct.
- Filing an amended verified complaint to include additional information about the acts the defendant committed or attempted to commit against you.

Do NOT use this packet if:
You meet the definition of a "victim" under the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (PDVA)- N.J.S.A. 2C:25-19 (d)(a) which is as follows:

A person protected by the PDVA includes any person:

1. **Who** is 18 years of age or older, **or** who is an emancipated minor, and who has been subjected to domestic violence by:
   a. A spouse, or
   b. A former spouse, or
   c. Any other person who is a present household member or was at any time a household member, **or**

2. **Who, regardless of age,** has been subjected to domestic violence by a person:
   a. With whom the victim has a child in common, or
   b. With whom the victim anticipates having a child in common, if one of the parties is pregnant, or
   c. Has been subjected to domestic violence by a person with whom the victim has or has had a dating relationship.

B. You may file to amend your existing VASPA TPO for the following reason:

- Add additional locations you would like the defendant to be barred from.
- Add or remove protected parties: or
- Other relief.

This packet contains instructions and forms for the following:

1. How to File *a New Jersey Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act (VASPA) Verified Complaint* (page 8)
2. How to File a *New Jersey Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act (VASPA)* ***Amended*** *Verified Complaint* (page 8)
3. How to request to amend an existing *VASPA Temporary Protective Order (TPO)* (page 18)

Note: If you are a victim of domestic violence and want to file for a domestic violence restraining order and it is after normal court hours, please contact your local law enforcement agency.

If you are filing on behalf of a minor child and the person you are filing against is a parent or guardian of the minor child, you cannot file under the Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act. You must call the Division of Permanency and Protection at: 1-877 NJ ABUSE (1-877-652-2873); TTY/TDD 1-800-835-5510

Note: These materials have been prepared by the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts for use by self-represented litigants. The guides, instructions, and forms will be periodically updated as necessary to reflect current New Jersey statutes and court rules. The most recent version of the forms will be available at the county courthouse or on the Judiciary's Internet site njcourts.gov. However, you are ultimately responsible for the content of your court papers.

Completed forms are to be submitted to your local Family Division.
A list of Family Division Offices can be found on njcourts.gov

Things to Think About Before You Represent Yourself in Court

Try to Get a Lawyer

The law, the proofs necessary to present your case, and the procedural rules governing cases in the Family Division are complex. It is recommended that you make every effort to obtain the assistance of a lawyer. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you may contact the legal services program in your county to see if you qualify for free legal services. Their telephone number can be found online under "Legal Aid" or "Legal Services."

If you do not qualify for free legal services and need help in locating an attorney, you can contact the bar association in your county. The telephone number can also be found in your local yellow pages. Most county bar associations have a Lawyer Referral Service.

The County Bar Lawyer Referral Service can supply you with the names of attorneys in your area willing to handle your case and will sometimes consult with you at a reduced fee.

There are a variety of organizations of minority lawyers throughout New Jersey, as well as organizations of lawyers who handle specialized types of cases. Ask the Family court staff in your county for a list of lawyer referral services that include these organizations.

What You Should Expect If You Represent Yourself

While you have the right to represent yourself in court, you should not expect special treatment, help or attention from the court. The following is a list of some things court staff can and cannot do for you. Please read it carefully before asking court staff for help.

- We *can* explain and answer questions about how the court works.
- We *can* tell you what the requirements are to have your case considered by the court.
- We *can* give you some information from your case file.
- We *can* provide you with samples of court forms that are available.
- We *can* provide you with guidance on how to fill out forms.
- We *can* usually answer questions about court deadlines.

- We *cannot* give you legal advice. Only your lawyer can give you legal advice.
- We *cannot* tell you whether you should bring your case to court.
- We *cannot* give you an opinion about what will happen if you bring your case to court.
- We *cannot* recommend a lawyer, but we can provide you with the telephone number of a local lawyer referral service.
- We *cannot* not talk to the judge for you about what will happen in your case.
- We *cannot* let you talk to the judge outside of court.
- We *cannot* change an order issued by a judge.

Keep Copies of All Papers

Make and keep copies for yourself, any signed orders and any other important papers that relate to your case.

Definitions of Court Terms Used in VASPA Cases

Amended Complaint: An *amended complaint* is when you want to add additional details to your original complaint for the court to consider at the hearing.

Application: An *application* is a written request in which you ask the court to issue an order or to change an order that has already been issued.

Attempt: A specific effort to commit a crime and an act that takes a step toward completing the crime.

Certification - A *certification* is a written statement made to the court when you file papers with the court, swearing that the information contained in the filed papers is true subject to penalty if any statement is willfully false.

Complaint - A *complaint* is a formal document filed in court that starts a case. It typically includes the names of the parties and the issues you are asking the court to decide.

Court Order - A *court order* is the written decision issued by a court of law. For example, a child support court order sets forth how often, how much, and what kind of support is to be paid.

Cyber-Harassment – Means conduct that occurs, while making one or more communications in an online capacity via any electronic device or through social networking site and with the purpose to harass another, that involves: threatening to inflict injury or physical harm to any person or the property of any person; knowingly sending, posting, commenting, requesting, suggesting, or proposing any lewd, indecent, or obscene material to or about a person with the intent to emotionally harm a reasonable person or place a reasonable person in fear of physical or emotional harm; or threatening to commit any crime against a person or a person's property.

Defendant - the party sued in a civil lawsuit, or the party charged with a crime in a criminal prosecution. In some types of cases (such as divorce) a defendant may be called a respondent.

Docket Number - The *docket number* is the identifying number assigned to every case filed in the court.

File - To *file* means to give the appropriate forms to the court to begin the court's consideration of your request.

FV: The letters the court uses to identify a VASPA Protective order.

Intimate Parts - Means the following body parts: sexual organs, genital area, anal area, inner thigh, groin, buttock, or breast of a person.

Lewdness - Means the exposing of the genitals for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual of the actor.

Modification: A change made to court order.

Party - A *party* is a person, business, or governmental agency involved in a court action.

Plaintiff - *Plaintiff* is another name for the person starting the court action by filing the appropriate papers the court will consider.

Relief: To ask for *relief* is to ask the court to grant something such as custody, parenting time, or support.

Repeatedly: Two or more occasions

Sexual Contact - Means an intentional touching by the victim or actor, either directly or through clothing, of the victim's or actor's intimate parts for the purpose of degrading or humiliating the victim or sexually arousing or sexually gratifying the actor.

Sexual Penetration - Means vaginal intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, or anal intercourse between persons or insertion of the hand, finger, or object into the anus or vagina either by the actor or upon the actor's instruction.

Stalking – Means purposefully or knowingly engaging in a course of conduct directed at or toward a person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of a third person, or suffer other emotional distress, because the conduct involves: repeatedly maintaining a visual or physical proximity to a person; directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device or means, following, monitoring, observing, surveilling, threatening, or communicating to or about, a person, or interfering with a person's property; repeatedly committing harassment against a person; or repeatedly conveying, or causing to be conveyed, verbal or written threats implied by conduct or a combination thereof directed at or towards a person.

The numbered steps listed below tell you what forms you will need to fill out and what to do with them. Each form should be typed or printed clearly on 8 ½ x 11 white paper only. Forms cannot be filed on a different size or color paper. Use only the forms included in this packet. **Be sure to keep a copy for your records.**

Steps for Filing a Verified Complaint or Amended Complaint

STEP 1: Fill out the *Confidential Information Sheet* (Form A)
The Confidential Information sheet provides your, the defendant's and/or the incapacitated adult/minor child's demographic information. This information will be kept confidential and will not be shared with the defendant.

STEP 2:Fill out the *Verified Complaint or Amended Complaint* (Form B)
The *Verified Complaint* is a written request in which you ask the court to establish a court order on your behalf or on a minor child's behalf. The court will establish an order based on testimony of the parties and written documentation submitted. Please check the appropriate box. If you are filing for the first time, check the Verified Complaint box. If you are amending your complaint, check the Amended Verified Complaint box.

STEP 3: Fill out the *Additional Information Sheet* if needed (Form C)
This form is provided if you need additional space to type the details of the incident for which you are filing for a protective order.

STEP 4:Provide the court with the most recent address of the other party.
If the court grants a temporary order of protection, the court will send the order to police department where the defendant resides, works or frequents to serve the defendant with the order and court date. Your appearance on the court date is **mandatory**.

Note: The other party will receive copies of all the papers you attach (except for the *Confidential Information Sheet*) to your complaint with the *Notice to Appear*, unless court rules prohibit this information from being shared.

You must provide the court with the most current address(es) (that you know of) for the other party when you file your complaint.

STEP 5: Check your completed forms and make copies.
Check your forms and make sure they are complete. Remove all instruction sheets. Make sure you have signed all the forms wherever necessary.

STEP 6: Submit your completed paperwork.
Submit your completed packet through the Judiciary Electronic Document System (JEDS). In JEDS please select the county where you would like to file your application. You may file your complaint in the county where the conduct or attempted conduct occurred, where the defendant resides, or where you reside or are sheltered.

You may also submit your completed application ***in person*** to the courthouse where the conduct or attempted conduct occurred, where the defendant resides, or where you reside or are sheltered.

STEP 7: Hearing

A hearing on your request for a VASPA order will be held either the same day as your submitted application or as soon after as practicable. You *must* be available for this hearing.

If you submit the application through JEDS during the **normal court business hours**, the Family Division staff will contact you at telephone number or email address that you provided in your application to inform you of the time of the hearing. This hearing will take place the same day of your submitted application unless the application is submitted **after 4pm**. If the application is submitted after 4pm or on a weekend or a holiday, the court staff will contact you on the **next business day** to inform you of the time of the hearing. If you do not hear from the court by the next business day, call the Family Division in the county in which you filed your application.

The hearing may be in person, by video or by telephone. If you are unavailable when court staff try to contact you to set the hearing time, your application may be dismissed.

If you submit your application in person, the hearing will be held that same day. Court staff will inform you of the time of the hearing upon submission of your application.

Note: These applications will only be processed in the Family Division of the Superior Court during normal business hours.

These applications may only be taken at the Superior Court and are not to be accepted at Municipal Courts and/or police departments.

All courthouse addresses can be found on njcourts.gov.

Instructions for Completing the VASPA Confidential Information Sheet (Form A)

1. Part I of the VASPA Intake form (left side) is for the Plaintiff/Victim information. If you are the victim, enter your own information. If you are a **parent** or **guardian enter the minor child's** or **incapacitated adult's** information.

2. Part II of the form (right side) is for the Defendant's information. Please fill this side out with as much information that you have available. This will assist in serving the defendant with the Temporary Order if it is granted by the court.

3. Part III of the form should **only** be filled out if you are a parent/guardian filing on behalf of a minor child or incapacitated adult. Please complete the following fields on the second portion of the form under Parent/Guardian section.

4. Part IV of the form should be filled out if the Plaintiff has an attorney.

5. Part V of the form should be filled out with any identifiers you know about the defendant. This will assist in serving the defendant with the Temporary Order if it is granted by the court.

6. Part VI of the form should be filled out if either party requires an interpreter. Please specify type of interpreter. **Note:** The *Confidential Information Sheet* (Form A) will be kept confidential and will not be given to the other party/defendant.

Form A

New Jersey Judiciary
Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act (VASPA)
Confidential Information Sheet

Do Not Give to Defendant

Date: _____

Part I. Your Information (Party Filing - Plaintiff)		**Part II. Information of Person you're filing against (Defendant)**	
Name		Name	
Any Prior Names or Also Known As (AKAs)		Any Prior Names or Also Known As (AKAs)	
Street Address		Street Address	
City		City	
State	Zip Code	State	Zip Code
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Home Phone	Cell Phone
Email		Email	
Social Security Number		Social Security Number	
Birth Date	Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ X	Birth Date	Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ X
Race		Race	
Ethnicity ☐ Hispanic ☐ Non-Hispanic		Ethnicity ☐ Hispanic ☐ Non-Hispanic	

Employment Information (Plaintiff)		**Employment Information (Defendant)**	
Employer Name		Employer Name	
Employer Address: Street		Employer Address: Street	
City		City	
State	Zip Code	State	Zip Code
Work Phone		Work Phone	
Email		Email	
Work Days	Work Hours	Work Days	Work Hours
Emergency Contact: Name		Other Place(s) Defendant May Be Reached	
Emergency Contact: Phone			

Part III. Filing on Behalf of a Minor or Incapacitated Adult

I, _____ am the ☐ parent / ☐ guardian. I am filing on behalf of the plaintiff because the plaintiff is:

☐ A minor

☐ Incapacitated adult

Parent/Guardian Name		
Prior Name	Birth Date	Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ X
Parent/Guardian Address: Street		

City		State	Zip Code
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email	
Race		Ethnicity ☐ Hispanic ☐ Non-Hispanic	

Part IV. Plaintiff's Attorney Information

Attorney Name		
Attorney Address: Street		
City	State	Zip Code
Office Phone	Email	

Part VI.

The Judiciary will provide reasonable accommodations to enable individuals with disabilities to access and participate in court events. Please contact the local ADA coordinator to request an accommodation. Contact information is available at njcourts.gov.

The New Jersey Judiciary provides court-interpreting services. If you need an interpreter, notify the court as soon as possible.

☐ spoken language interpreter required language: _____

You will be asked about the incident which brought you here today. Please be prepared to discuss the incident, plus any prior history, if applicable.

Instructions for Completing a Verified Complaint/Amended Complaint (Form B)

1. Leave the Docket Number blank. The court will provide this number for you.

2. On the right side of the form, enter the County where you are filing the application.

3. Please indicate if you are filing a Verified Complaint for a Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protective order for the first time or if you are amending an existing complaint.

4. Enter your name or the incapacitated adult or the minor's name, if you are filing a complaint on the behalf of an incapacitated adult or a minor child, in the space marked "Plaintiff".

5. If you are filing on behalf of a minor child or an incapacitated adult, enter your name in the space marked "Parent/Guardian".

6. If you are filing on behalf of a minor child or an incapacitated adult, please enter their date of birth in the space provided.

7. If you are represented by an attorney enter that information in the space provided.

8. In the Defendant's Information section, please complete with as much information as you can provide.

9. In the Current Allegation section:

    a. Start by entering the date(s) and time(s) the defendant committed the act(s). Enter the details of the act(s) the defendant committed in the space provided. You can continue to use as many lines as necessary to state the exact details of the act(s) the defendant committed against you, minor child, or incapacitated adult. If you need more space for your allegation(s) there is an **Additional Information Sheet (Form C)** in this packet.

    b. Check off the act or acts the defendant committed or attempted to commit: *"Sexual Contact, Sexual Penetration, Lewdness, Stalking, Cyber-Harassment"*. See definitions of each act in the definitions section of this packet (on page 15).

    c. Answer *"Yes"* or *"No"* regarding if a criminal complaint has been filed in this matter. If you select *"Yes"*, enter the date, docket number and the county and state where the case is being heard in item c.2.

10. If you are filing to amend a complaint that was previously filed you will need to fill out **sections 1 and 3, Amending my Verified Complaint**. Under *subsection a* fill in the date your Verified Complaint was previously filed and under *subsection b* include the additional information about the act(s) the defendant committed or attempted to commit. If you need

more space for your allegation(s) there is an *Additional Information Sheet* (Form C) in this packet.

11. If you are the parent/guardian filing on behalf of a minor or incapacitated adult who is not present, fill out the section above the Certification with your name, the name of the person you are filing on behalf of and the reason the Plaintiff is not present.

12. In the Certification box, the signature of the party filing must be on the complaint. If you cannot scan a signed copy of this document, please type your name in the signature line.

_____ Plaintiff,	Superior Court of New Jersey Chancery Division - Family Part _____ County Docket Number: FV -
_____ Plaintiff: Parent/Guardian, vs. _____ Defendant.	**Complaint for Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protective Order** ☐ **Verified Complaint for Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protective Order** ☐ **Amended Verified Complaint for Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protective Order**

Plaintiff's Name	
Is the Plaintiff a minor or an incapacitated adult? If yes, Guardian's Name _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
Is the Plaintiff represented by an attorney? If yes, Name: _____ Phone number: _____ Email: _____	☐ Yes ☐ No

If you are filing for a New Complaint, complete sections 1 and 2
If you are amending your Complaint, complete sections 1 and 3

Section 1: Defendant's Information

Name		Date of Birth	Sex ☐ M ☐ F ☐ X
Aliases		Social Security Number	
Race		Ethnicity ☐ Hispanic ☐ Non-Hispanic	
Height	Weight	Eye Color	Hair Color
Distinguishing Features (Scars, facial hair, tattoos, etc.) Please be specific:			

Defendant Home Address: Street		
City	State	Zip Code
Other places the defendant can be located (gym, friend's house, restaurant/bar). Please specify times and addresses:		

Home Phone Number	Work Phone Number	Employer Phone Number
Cell Phone Number	Email Address	
Employer Name		
Employer Address: Street		
City	State	Zip Code

Section 2: Current Allegation(s)

a. The undersigned complains that the defendant did commit or attempt to commit the following acts (be specific including the date and time the incident(s) occurred)

b. The above constitutes the following criminal offenses were committed or attempted (Check all boxes that apply):

☐ Sexual Assault ☐ Criminal Sexual Contact ☐Lewdness
☐ Stalking ☐ Cyber-Harassment

c. Has a criminal complaint been filed in this matter? ☐ Yes ☐ No

1. If No, do you plan on filing a criminal complaint? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If Yes, case number: _____
   charges: _____
3. If Yes, was a Sex Offender Restraining Order (Nicole's Law) issued? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Is the defendant in jail? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

d. How do you know the defendant? (Neighbor, co-worker, friend, acquaintance, etc.) Please specify.

Section 3: Amending my Verified Complaint

a. On _____ date I filed a Verified Complaint.

b. I am filing this amended Verified Complaint to include the following act(s) that the defendant committed or attempted to commit (be specific including the date and time the incident(s) occurred).

I, _____, am the parent or legal guardian of incapacitated adult or a minor plaintiff, _____, and am filing this complaint on their behalf. The incapacitated adult or minor is not present for the following reason(s):

Certification

I certify that the foregoing responses made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing responses made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

_____ Date

s/ _____
Signature: ☐ Plaintiff / ☐ Parent/Guardian

Form C

New Jersey Judiciary

Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protection Act (VASPA)
Additional Information Sheet

Full Name: _____ **Date:** _____

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

_____ s/ _____

Date Signature: ☐ Plaintiff / ☐ Parent/Guardian

Instructions for Completing the Application to Amend VASPA TPO (Form D)

1. Fill out the *Confidential Information Sheet* (Form A) – this must be completed even if you have done so in the past. See instructions on page 8.

2. Enter the names of the parties in the correct order on the "Plaintiff" and "Defendant" lines. You are the "Plaintiff" and the person you filed the victim's assistance and survivor protection complaint against is the "Defendant. If you are the parent/guardian filing on behalf of a minor or incapacitated adult, you will need to fill out both lines.

3. On the right side of the form, enter the "County" where you are filing the application.

4. Enter the Docket Number that has been issued in your case. You can find that number on your granted temporary VASPA order, it starts with FV.

5. In the first paragraph, select the appropriate box of plaintiff or parent/guardian, enter the date your temporary VASPA order was granted on the line between the words "protective order dated to include".

6. For item #1, list the addresses and location names that you would like the defendant barred from. Please indicate the reason.

7. For item #2, if you are requesting to add protected parties to your order, please indicate their name(s), relationship to you, and reason why they should be included on your TPO.

8. For item #3, if you are requesting a relief that is not granted or listed on your TPO please indicate what you are requesting and the reason why it should be granted by the court.

9. In the Certification section, enter your name on the line for I _____, certify…

10. Sign and date the form.

Form D

_____ Plaintiff	Superior Court of New Jersey Chancery Division - Family Part _____ County Docket Number: **FV -** _____
_____ Plaintiff: Parent/Guardian vs. _____ Defendant.	**Application to Amend Victim's Assistance and Temporary Protective Order**

I am the ☐ Plaintiff / ☐ Parent/Guardian in the above matter, and I am requesting to amend my Victim's Assistance and Survivor Protective complaint and/or Temporary Protective Order dated _____ to include one or all the below:

1. I would like the defendant barred from the following locations (include address, name, and reason):

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. I would like to add the following person(s) to my Protective Order (include name, relationship, and reason):

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. I am requesting other relief (include reason):

   _____

   _____

   _____

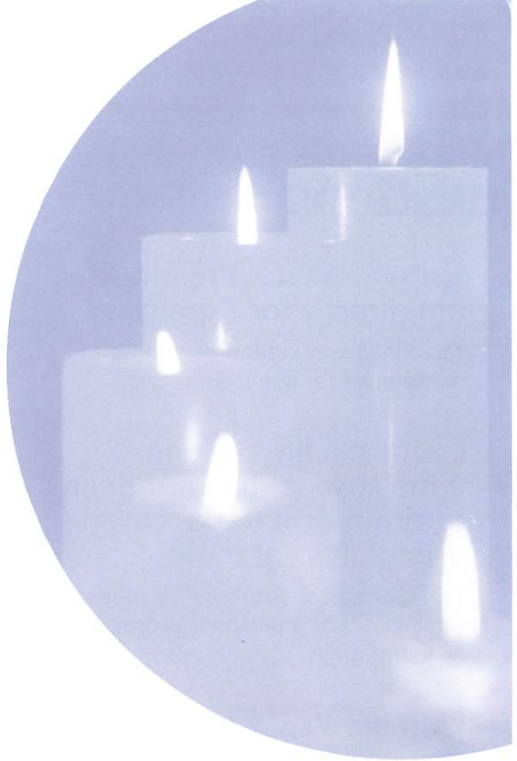
Certification

I (name) _____ certify that the foregoing responses made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing responses made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

_____ Date

s/ _____
Signature: ☐ Plaintiff / ☐ Parent/Guardian

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
Victims of Crime Compensation Office
50 Park Place • 5th Floor • Newark, NJ 07102



caring
support
dignity
help
respect

effective.8.1.20

NEW JERSEY
VICTIMS OF CRIME
COMPENSATION OFFICE

We help put the pieces back together

our mission

The New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) reimburses certain victims of crime for some of the expenses they suffer as a result of a crime. The VCCO is mindful of the special needs of victims and their right to be treated with fairness, compassion and respect.

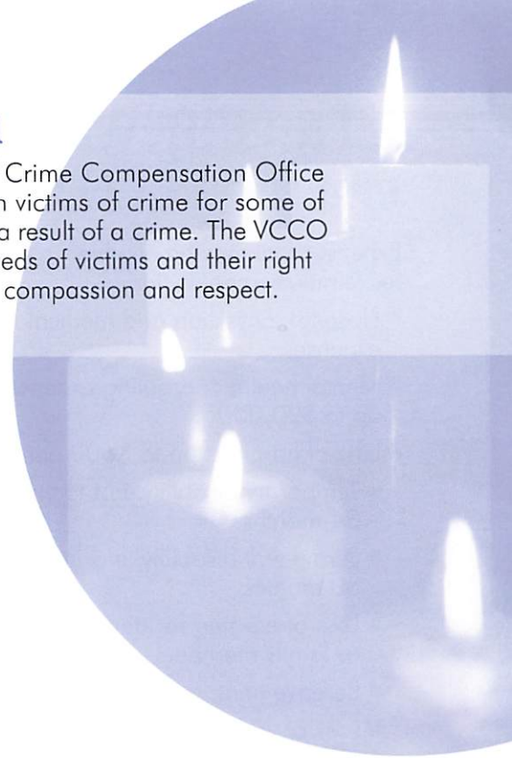
eligible crimes

This is a list of the types of crimes that may qualify. Certain conditions may apply. For more information, please contact the VCCO:

- Assault
- Arson
- Bias crime
- Burglary*
- Disorderly conduct offenses
- Domestic violence
- Human trafficking
- Indecent acts with children
- Kidnapping
- Lewd, indecent or obscene acts
- Manslaughter
- Motor vehicle offenses
- Murder
- Robbery
- Sexual assault
- Stalking
- Threats to do bodily harm

**Must be in structure during burglary.*

apply online at...



conditions

- The crime must have occurred in New Jersey or to a New Jersey resident
- The victim must have reported the crime to police
- The victim should cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of the crime, if reasonable
- The claim must be filed within 5 years of the date of the crime in most cases

www.njvictims.org

Toll Free **877-658-2221**

effective.8.1.20

If I qualify, what can the VCCO pay?

Expenses that may be eligible for reimbursement include:

- Hospital, physician and medical expenses
- Mental health counseling expenses up to $20,000
- Loss of earnings up to $600 per week
  - Temporary disability, not to exceed 24 months
  - Permanent disability, maximum 60 months
  - Loss of earning for dependants or family members
  - Bereavement, maximum two weeks
  - Loss of wages due to court attendance
- Loss of financial support up to $600 per week, maximum 48 months
- Funeral expenses maximum $7,500
- Attorney fees:
  - Victims' rights attorney fees up to $275 per hour, maximum $10,000
  - Representation with the VCCO claim up to 15% of award at $275 per hour
- Relocation expenses up to $3,000
- Crime scene clean up to $4,000
- Child care/day care/domestic help services up to $6,500

The VCCO is a payer of last resort

- Victims must first utilize and exhaust other resources including State benefits and insurance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Crime Victims' Compensation?

The Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) reimburses victims of a crime for some of the expenses they incur as a result of a crime.

Do all crime victims get paid?

Not always. The law sets forth the types of crimes that can be covered by the VCCO. Further, if victims participated in the crime or contributed to their injuries, they may be denied compensation.

Who is eligible to file?

- Victims may file their own applications.
- Family members, and dependents of victims or the estate of the victims
- A person who paid for some of the services for the victim
- The guardian, guardian ad litem, estate representative, authorized agent of the victim or the victim's dependents

Can the VCCO reimburse me directly for expenses?

Yes. Victims or claimants can be reimbursed for some expenses.

Can I still file a claim if the suspect has not been arrested or if the accused is acquitted at trial?

Yes. Compensation may be made whether or not a person is prosecuted or found guilty.

Can the VCCO pay providers directly?

Yes. Once a claim is approved, payment can be made directly to providers.

I have received additional bills that were not considered in my initial award. Can I still submit them?

Yes. Crime related bills can be considered for additional reimbursement after the initial payment award has been made.

How do I apply?

Complete the online VCCO claim form at *www.njvictims.org*. Include police reports and any documentation showing financial loss or need if possible. Once an application is received, a claims specialist will contact you.

Applications are also available from any of the 21 County Prosecutors' Offices through their Victim Witness Coordinators.

For more information or for a claim application, please contact us by phone, mail, fax, or visit our web site.

NJ Office of the Attorney General
Victims of Crime Compensation Office
50 Park Place, 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Walk-in Clients: Please visit our web site, or call our toll free number for details.

Toll Free: 877-658-2221

Phone: 973-648-2107

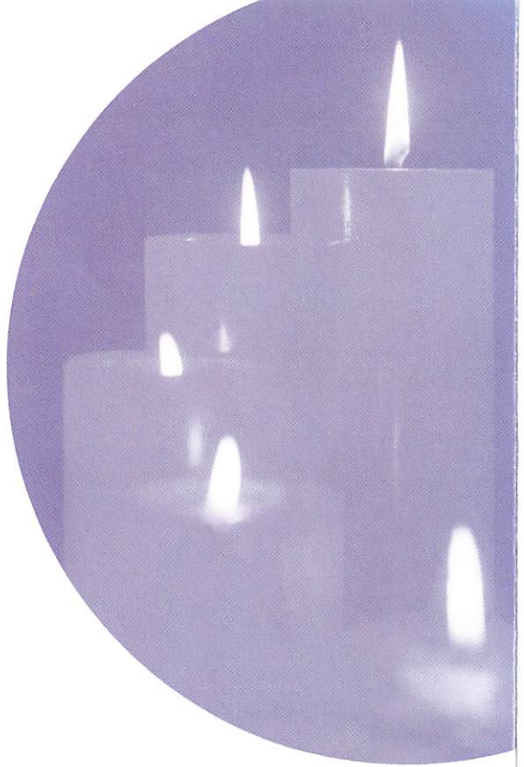
Fax: 973-648-3937

Web site: *www.njvictims.org*

effective.8.1.20

We help put the pieces back together

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
Victims of Crime Compensation Office
50 Park Place • 5th Floor • Newark, NJ 07102



cuidado
apoyo
dignidad
ayuda
respeto

NEW JERSEY
OFICINA DE COMPENSACIÓN
PARA VÍCTIMAS DEL CRIMEN

Los ayudamos a normalizar su vida

nuestra misión

La Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen (Victims of Crimen Compensation Office VCCO) de Nueva Jersey compensa a inocentes víctimas de crímenes violentos de algunos gastos incurridos como resultado del crimen. Llevando a cabo su misión la VCCO reconoce las necesidades especiales de las víctimas y el derecho de ser tratadas con justicia, compasión y respeto.

crímenes cubiertos

Si ha sido víctima de uno de los crímenes siguientes puede ser elegible para recibir compensación de la VCCO:

- Acoso
- Actos indecentes con niños
- Actos lascivos, indecentes u obscenos
- Amenazas de causar daño corporal
- Amenazas terroristas
- Asalto agravante
- Asalto sexual
- Asesinato
- Atraco
- Crimen de prejuicio
- Delitos relacionados con vehículos**
- Homicidio involuntario
- Incendio provocado
- Robo**
- Secuestro
- Tráfico humano
- Violencia doméstica

***Se aplican ciertas condiciones.*

elegibilidad

- El crimen ocurrió en Nueva Jersey o un residente de Nueva Jersey fue victimizado fuera del estado.
- La víctima tiene que haber reportado el crimen a la policía en un plazo de 9 meses.*
- La víctima tiene que cooperar con la investigación y con el procesamiento del crimen.
- La solicitud tiene que presentarse en un plazo de 3 años dentro de la fecha del crimen.*
- Tiene que ser una víctima inocente del crimen.

**Se tomará en consideración el retraso de la petición si existe causa justificada.*

aplique en línea en: *www.njvictims.org*

Número de llamada gratuita
877-658-2221

Si califico, ¿qué pueden pagar?

Los gastos que se pueden pagar incluyen:

- Hospital, doctores y gastos médicos
- Asesoría de Salud Mental hasta $12,500
- Pérdida de ingresos hasta de $600 por semana.
  - Incapacidad temporal, que no exceda 24 meses
  - Incapacidad permanente, que no exceda 60 meses
  - Pérdida de ingresos de víctimas secundarias*
  - Duelo, que no exceda las dos semanas*
  - Comparecencia en la corte*
- Pérdida de apoyo financiero hasta de $600 por semana, que no exceda 48 meses*
- Gastos de funeral hasta de $5,000
- Honorarios de abogado
  - Honorarios de abogado de derechos de las víctimas hasta $3,000, a $125 por hora
  - Representación del reclamo ante VCCO de hasta el 15% de la compensación o $125 por hora
- Gastos de reubicación hasta $2,500
- Limpieza del lugar del crimen hasta $4,000
- Servicios de ayuda doméstica, cuidado infantil, guardería infantil hasta $6,500

** Se aplican ciertas condiciones.*

VCCO es pagador de último recurso

- La víctima debe utilizar y agotar primero otros recursos incluso los beneficios del Estado y el seguro.

Preguntas frecuentes

¿Qué es la Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen?

La Oficina de Compensación para Víctimas del Crimen (VCCO) compensa a las inocentes víctimas de un crimen violento de algunos gastos incurridos como resultado del crimen.

¿Se compensa a todas las víctimas del crimen?

No. La ley establece los tipos de crímenes que están cubiertos bajo VCCO. Más aún, si la víctima participó en el crimen o contribuyó a sus daños, se le puede negar la compensación.

¿Quién es elegible para solicitarla?

Por lo general la víctima siempre puede solicitar sus propios beneficios. En otros casos incluyendo aquellos envolviendo una muerte, las personas siguientes pueden solicitar los beneficios:

- Un miembro de la familia, un dependiente de la víctima o del patrimonio de ésta.
- Una persona que pagó por algunos de los servicios para la víctima
- El tutor, tutor legal, representante del patrimonio, agente autorizado de la víctima o dependientes de la víctima

¿Se me puede reembolsar por gastos de bolsillo?

En algunas situaciones, la víctima o solicitante puede ser reembolsado.

¿Puedo presentar un reclamo si el sospechoso no ha sido arrestado o si el acusado es absuelto en un juicio?

Sí. Se puede otorgar la compensación sin considerar si la persona es enjuiciada o es declarada culpable.

¿Puede la VCCO pagar directamente a los proveedores?

Sí. Una vez que se determine que el reclamo es elegible, se puede proveer pago directo.

He recibido facturas adicionales que no estaban consideradas en mi compensación inicial. ¿Puedo presentarlas?

Sí. Las facturas relacionadas con el crimen son elegibles para recibir compensación hasta diez años después de que se haya hecho el pago inicial de la adjudicación.

¿Cómo presento la solicitud?

Complete el formulario de reclamo de VCCO. Envíenoslo junto con el reporte de la policía y la documentación que muestre la pérdida o necesidad financiera. Una vez que se reciba esta información, se asignará un especialista de reclamos para que le ayude con este. Si se cumplen todos los requisitos de elegibilidad, se aprobará su reclamo.

Las solicitudes están disponibles en las 21 oficinas de Procurador del Condado a través de sus respectivos Coordinadores de Testigos de las víctimas.

Para obtener más información o una solicitud de reclamo, contáctenos por teléfono, correo, fax o visite nuestro sitio web.

NJ Office of the Attorney General
Victims of Crime Compensation Office
50 Park Place, 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Horario: de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m.

Horario de atención sin cita previa: Por favor visite nuestro Sitio web o contáctenos al Número de llamada gratuita.

Número de llamada gratuita: 877-658-2221

Teléfono: 973-648-2107

Fax: 973-648-3937

Sitio web: *www.njvictims.org*

Los ayudamos a normalizar su vida

OFICINA DEL FISCAL GENERAL DE NJ

OFICINA DE COMPENSACIÓN A VÍCTIMAS DEL CRIMEN

www.njvictims.org • Gratis **877-658-2221**

revisado.8.30.16

Office of Victim Witness Advocacy

Sexual Assault is considered a serious crime in the state of New Jersey. The office of Victim Witness Advocacy provides assistance to victims to help lessen the loss and inconvenience suffered as a result of the crime. Our office provides information to the following social service agencies and other counseling services

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S. — Assisting Survivors in Hudson County
Location: 179 Palisade Avenue
Jersey City NJ, 0706
Website: www.hudsonspeaks.org
24-Hour Bilingual helpline: 201-795-5757
Office Number: 201-795-8375 Ext. 4703

Jersey City Medical Center Trauma Recovery Center
Location: 355 Grand Street
Jersey City NJ, 07302
Email: Jenise.Lum@rwjbh.org
Office Number: 201-395-7640

Victim of Crime Compensation Office
Location: 50 Park Place, 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Website: www.NJVictims.org
Office Number: 973-648-3937

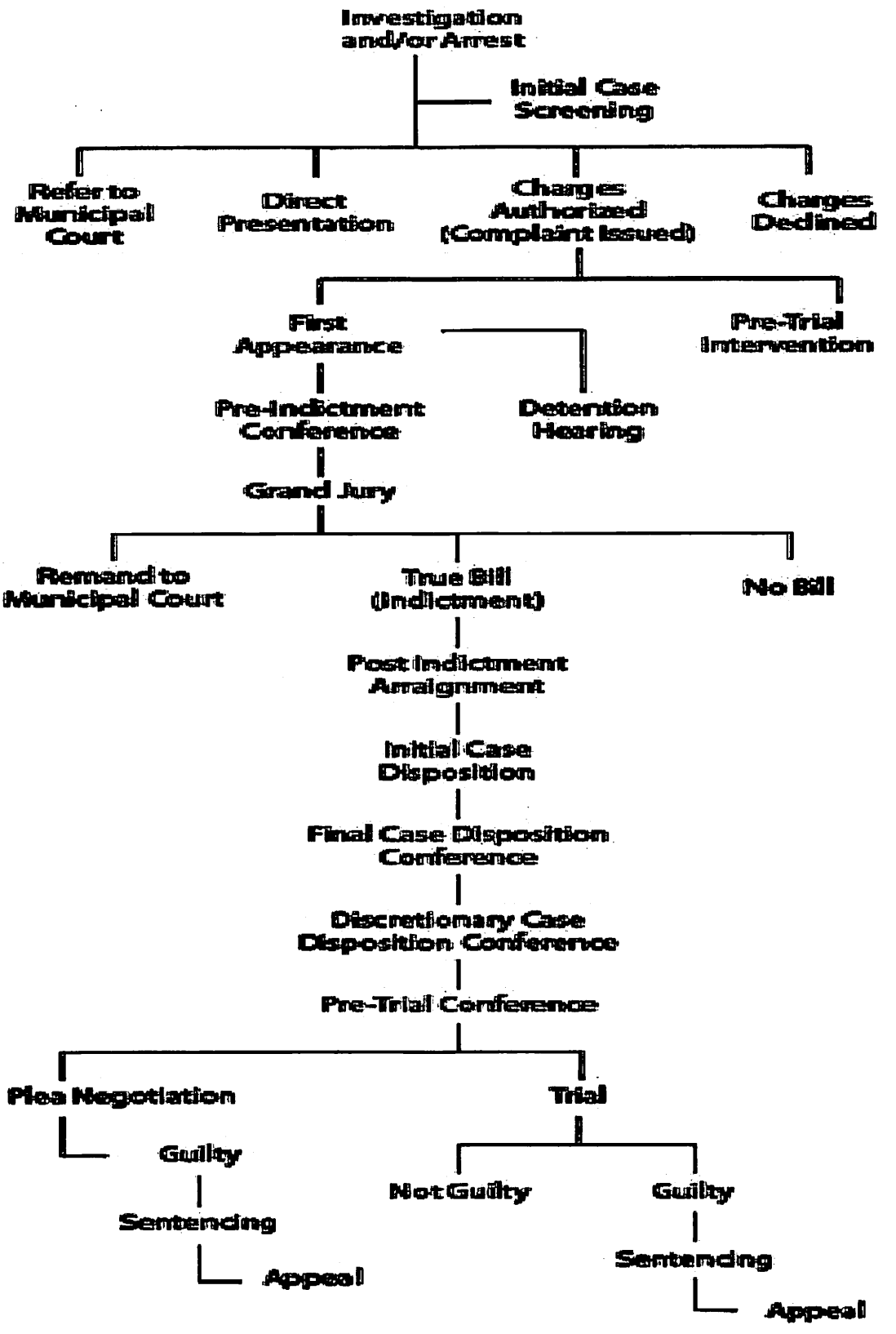
For statewide information on additional resources you can visit
The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Location: 3150 Brunswick Pike, # 160
Lawrence Township, NJ 08648
Website: https://njcasa.org/our-work/resources/
24-Hour State Hotline: 1-800-601-7200
Office Number 609-631-4450

Northeast New Jersey Legal Services
Hudson County
Location: 574 Summit Avenue, 2nd Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Website: https://www.northeastnjlegalservices.org/
Phone Number: 201-792-6363

NJ Victim's Assistance Survivors Protection Act (VASPA)
File with NJ Family Court
Location: 595 Newark Avenue, 2nd Floor
Email Forms to: HudEmergent.Mailbox@njcourts.gov
Phone Number: 201-748-4400 Ext. 60810

VINE/ New Jersey
Website: https://vinelink.vineapps.com/state/NJ/ENGLISH
24-Hour Helpline: 1-877-846-3465

The Criminal Case Process



VINE is a free service that allows you to anonymously check on an offender's custody status by phone, website, or mobile app. You can also register to receive automated notifications about changes in custody status by phone, email, text or mobile app. TTY (hearing impaired) service is also available.

Write down the following information, remove this panel, and keep it in a safe place:

_____

Offender Name

_____

Offender Number

_____

Your four-digit PIN

Download the VINELink mobile app. Search for "VINELink" on your mobile device app store or scan this QR code.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

VINE Facts

- If you feel you are in danger, call 911 immediately.
- VINE is confidential. The offender will not know you are registered with this service.
- VINE only provides information on offenders in custody.
- Since VINE calls automatically when an offender's custody status changes, you may get a call from VINE in the middle of the night.
- Write down your PIN and keep it in a safe place. For safety reasons, do not share this information with others.
- If you do not answer a notification call, VINE will leave a message and will continue calling back until you enter your PIN or until up to 24 hours have passed.
- Do not register a phone number that rings to a switchboard.
- You can register multiple phone numbers and email addresses for notifications.
- If you forget your PIN, call the toll-free number and press zero. You will be transferred to an operator who can help you reset your PIN or cancel notification.
- Operators are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist you.

IMPORTANT!

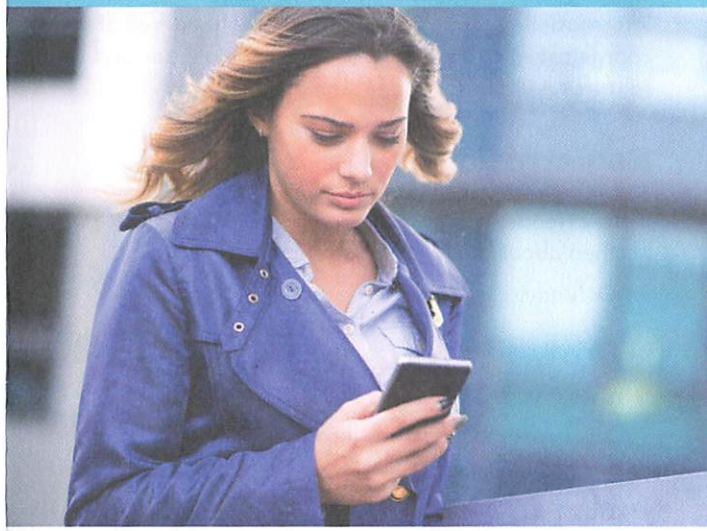
IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL CHANGES, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to call VINE at 1-877-846-3465 or go to www.vinelink.com and follow the instructions on how to change your phone, text or email registration. Unless you make such changes, VINE will be unable to contact you when necessary.

Do not rely solely on VINE for your safety. If you feel you are in danger, call 911.

APPRISS® SAFETY

rev 2018

VINE®



New Jersey VINE Service

Offender Custody Status Information
Victim Notification Services
Victim Resource Directory

A service provided by
State of New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

1-877-846-3465

TTY: 1-866-847-1298

WWW.VINELINK.COM

New Jersey

Information

VINE is a service that lets victims of crime and other concerned citizens access timely and reliable information regarding offenders. It is offered free of charge to registrants, is completely confidential, and features multiple language support.

Registration

If the offender is in custody, you can register to be notified about the following events:

- Offender custody status

To access offender custody information and register to be notified:

- Call **1-877-846-3465**
- Visit **www.vinelink.com**
- Download the **VINELink mobile app**
- TTY users, call **1-866-847-1298**

Notification

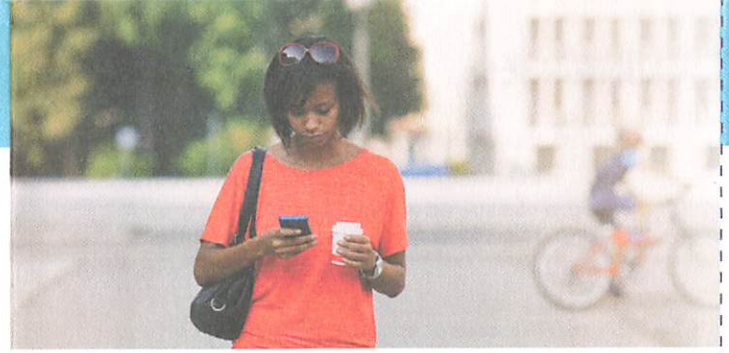
The VINE service allows you to select your preferred notification method:

- Phone
- Text
- Mobile App
- Email
- TTY

You must register separately for each type of notification.

Phone Notifications

If registering a phone number, you will be asked to create a four-digit personal identification number (PIN) that will be used to confirm that the call or text was received. Make sure your PIN is easy to remember.



When VINE calls, listen to the message, and enter your PIN followed by the # key. Entering your PIN lets VINE know that you received the call and will stop the service from calling you again until there is another change in custody status.

Notification Events

Once you are registered, VINE will notify you of offender status changes, such as:

- Release
- Transfer
- Escape
- Return from Escape
- Unsupervised Custody
- Out to Court
- DOC Parole Actions
- Death

Notes

New Jersey VINE Service

1-877-846-3465
TTY: 1-866-847-1298

www.vinelink.com

Victim Resources

V.I.N.E. Website - New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
www.victimwitness.nj.gov/vine

Division of Criminal Justice
www.njdcj.org

New Jersey State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy (SOVWA)
1-866-326-7206

New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO)
1-877-658-2221
www.nj.gov/victims

New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence
1-609-584-8107

Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-572-SAFE (7233)

New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
1-609-631-4450

Statewide Sexual Violence Hotline
1-800-601-7200

NJ Human Trafficking Hotline
1-855-END-NJ-HT (363-6548)

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline
1-877-NJ-ABUSE (652-2873)

NJ State Parole Board's Office of Victim Services
1-609-292-4582

NJ Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services
1-609-292-4036 x5299

New Jersey Adult Protective Services
1-800-792-8820

New Jersey Sex Offender Registry
www.nj.gov/oag/njsp

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
1-877-MADD-HELP (623-3435)

VINE Service Provider Directory

Connect with local, regional and national victim service providers through the VINE Service Provider Directory. The directory is a comprehensive listing of support services, such as victim assistance, crisis support, basic needs, healthcare, counseling, legal assistance, financial assistance, and children's services. Access the directory by visiting VINELink.com or using the VINELink mobile app. Click on SEARCH and select Service Provider to begin.

Learn About VINE

To learn how to use VINE and take advantage of its features, visit www.apprisssafety.com/training to view video tutorials, download reference guides, and register for upcoming training webinars.

What is Sexual Assault?

- Any sexual contact that is unwanted or forced, without consent. This includes: touching someone in intimate areas on top of or underneath clothes, or being forced to touch someone in intimate areas.
- Unwanted vaginal, oral, or anal penetration by any object, no matter how slight.
- Consensual sex with a victim who is mentally disabled or under the age of 16.
- Sex with a victim who is incapacitated (drunk, drugged, or under the influence of a substance).

If you are Sexually Assaulted

- Call our 24-hour Helpline. A confidential sexual violence advocate will listen without blaming you, offer information and options and support your choices. At your request, the advocate will accompany you during all medical and legal processes.
- Seek medical attention for possible injuries, and to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.
- If you are considering pressing criminal charges, medical staff will utilize a "rape kit" to collect forensic evidence. If possible, DO NOT shower, bathe, douche, eat, drink, urinate, or change clothing, as crime evidence may be destroyed. If you have done any of the above forensic evidence can still be collected.
- Consider notifying the police.
- Consider getting counseling right away. Research indicates that rape victims who receive therapy right after their assault are less likely to develop symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

24-Hour Helpline: 201.795.5757

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S Against Sexual Violence

179 Palisade Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Main Office:
201-795-8375 Ext. 4703

Prevention Education & Outreach:
201-795-8375 Ext. 5292

Crisis Response & Advocacy:
201-795-8375 Ext. 5269

Sunshine Project & Case Management:
201-217-4723

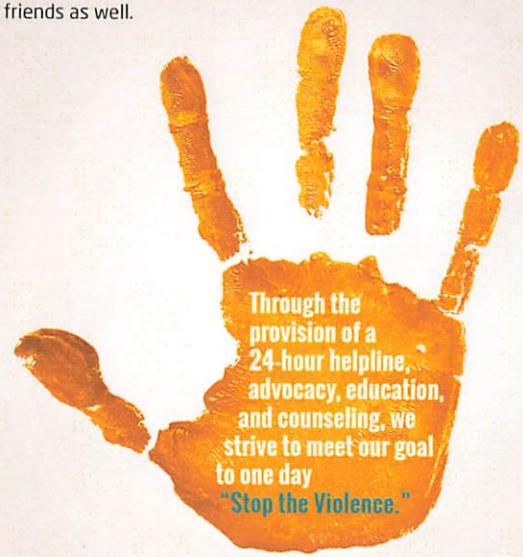
Bolo Behen Initiative:
201-795-8375 Ext. 5866

www.hudsonspeaks.org
@hudson_speaks
www.facebook.com/HudsonSPEAKS

HUDSON SPEAKS
AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S.

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S Against Sexual Violence is a county-wide non-profit sexual assault program which provides victim-centric services for individuals of all gender ages 13 and up. Services are provided without regards to race or socioeconomic status to victims of sexual abuse, assault, and/or harassment. These services are extended to family members, marital/dating partners, and friends as well.



Services at a Glance

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S Against Sexual Violence provides free and confidential services such as:

- 24-hour sexual assault bilingual helpline: **201.795.5757**
- 24-hour accompaniments to hospitals, courts, and law enforcement agencies
- Individual and group counseling for survivors and their significant others
- Community education on issues pertaining to sexual assault, such as awareness and prevention
- Recruitment and training of confidential sexual violence advocates who work with survivors and their families

HUDSON SPEAKS
AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE

OUR SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S Against Sexual Violence provides free and confidential services such as:

- 24-hour sexual assault bilingual Helpline **201.795.5757**
- 24-hour accompaniments to hospitals, courts, and law enforcement agencies
- Individual and group counseling for survivors and their significant others
- Community education on issues pertaining to sexual assault, such as awareness and prevention
- Recruitment and training of confidential sexual violence advocates who work with survivors and their families

DIRECT SERVICES

24-Hour Bilingual Helpline

We operate the countywide 24-hour bilingual sexual assault Helpline which is staffed 24/7 by trained confidential sexual violence advocates .The advocates assist in crisis intervention, information and referrals, and to support anyone who has questions or is looking for information related to sexual violence.

Case Management and Advocacy

We advocate for individuals who have experienced sexual violence and help them access services such as housing, provides referrals, accompaniments to police precincts, court, medical appointments, interviews with Special Victim Unit and other emergency assistance.

Individual Counseling and Support Group

Harmful and lasting psychological impacts of sexual violence can be prevented or minimized with structured interventions and support post sexual violence. We have trained counselors who can help process trauma and start the healing journey. *Voices of Strength* is a free and confidential support group for individuals who have experienced sexual assault.

Bolo Behen (Speak Sister): South Asian/Indo Caribbean Initiative

Project Bolo Behen was conceptualized in January of 2010 urging women in Hudson County to break the silence and actively engage in a dialogue about issues like domestic and sexual violence. The project's mission is to create a safe space with a full range of culturally-sensitive, language-specific information, support, services and advocacy for South Asia/Indo-Caribbean women living in Hudson County who are experiencing domestic and sexual violence.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Prevention and Education

Youth are one of the high risk groups for both perpetration and victimization, so reaching them is vital. We use a comprehensive approach to preventing and ultimately, end sexual violence in our community through the provision of interpersonal violence prevention curriculum for youth and their parents. The project uses research-based prevention strategies to increase knowledge of interpersonal violence; increase participant's skills to connect bystander intervention, power structures and media literacy to interpersonal violence.

Outreach

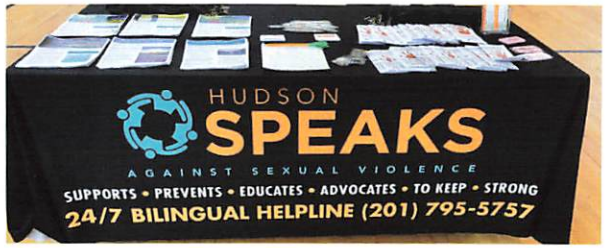
Outreach services include general awareness presentations and participating in events throughout the community to ensure people are aware of sexual assault and available resources. We welcome invitations to Community Health Fairs, Resource Fairs, Volunteer Expos and any event where we can set up a table and inform the community about the services we offer.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

Confidential sexual violence advocates have a pivotal role in Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S Against Sexual Violence. All volunteers / advocates are required to attend our annual 40-hour training.

Requirements to be a Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate:

- Advocate must be 18 years old or older
- Complete 40 hour training
- Access to dependable transportation
- Ability to deal with confidential information
- Pass criminal background check



¿Qué es la Agresión Sexual?

- Cualquier contacto sexual no deseado o forzado, sin consentimiento. Esto incluye tocar a alguien en áreas íntimas aun cuando tenga ropa interior o ser obligado a tocar a alguien en áreas íntimas.
- Penetración vaginal, oral o anal no deseada mediante cualquier objeto, sin importar el grado de penetración.
- Sexo con consentimiento con una víctima que tenga una discapacidad mental o sea menor de 16 años.
- Sexo con una víctima que se encuentra incapacitada (ebria, drogada o bajo los efectos de una sustancia).

Si Sufre Agresión Sexual

- Llame a nuestra Línea de ayuda las 24 horas del día. Un defensor confidencial contra la violencia sexual lo escuchará sin culparlo, le ofrecerá información y opciones, y apoyará sus decisiones. Si lo solicita, el defensor lo acompañará durante todos los procesos médicos y legales.
- Busque atención médica para tratar posibles lesiones, y para prevenir enfermedades de transmisión sexual y embarazo.
- Si considera presentar cargos penales, el equipo médico utilizará un "kit de violación" para recoger pruebas forenses. Si es posible, NO se duche, bañe, lave ni coma, beba, orine o se cambie la ropa, ya que podría arruinar las pruebas del delito. Si usted realizó alguna de las actividades que se mencionaron antes, aún se pueden recoger pruebas forenses.
- Considere dar aviso a la policía.
- Considere recibir asesoramiento de inmediato. Las investigaciones indican que las víctimas de violación que reciben terapia justo después de la agresión tienen menos probabilidades de desarrollar síntomas de trastorno por estrés postraumático (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD).

Línea de ayuda las 24 horas del día: 201.795.5757

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S.
Against Sexual Violence
179 Palisade Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306

www.hudsonspeaks.com

Instagram: Hudson_speaks
www.facebook.com/HudsonSPEAKS

HUDSON SPEAKS
AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S (Habla) Contra la Violencia sexual es un programa contra la agresión sexual sin fines de lucro que abarca todo el condado y brinda servicios orientados a las víctimas para personas mayores de 13 años, de todos los géneros. Los servicios se brindan a las víctimas de abuso, agresión o acoso sexual independientemente de la raza o elnivel socioeconómico. Estos servicios se extienden a otros integrantes de la familia, el cónyuge o la pareja y también a amigos. A través de una Línea de ayuda las 24 horas del día, defensa, educación y asesoramiento, luchamos para alcanzar nuestro objetivo de un día "detener la violencia".

UN RESUMEN DE NUESTROS SERVICIOS

Violencia Sexual Brinda Los Siguientes Servicios Gratuitos y Confidenciales:

- Línea de ayuda bilingüe contra la agresión sexual las 24 horas del día: **201.795.5757**
- Acompañamientos a hospitales, tribunales y organismos de orden público las 24 horas del día
- Asesoramiento individual y grupal para los sobrevivientes y sus seres querido
- Educación orientada a la comunidad sobre temas relacionados con la agresión sexual, como concientización y prevención
- Contratación y capacitación de defensores confidenciales contra la violencia sexual que trabajen con los sobrevivientes y sus familias

SERVICIOS DIRECTOS

Línea de Ayuda Bilingüe las 24 Horas Del Día

Nuestra Línea de ayuda bilingüe contra la agresión sexual funciona las 24 horas del día en todo el condado. Cuenta con defensores confidenciales contra la violencia sexual capacitados que se encuentran disponibles las 24 horas del día los 7 días de la semana. Los defensores asisten en la intervención de crisis, brindan información y referencias, y apoyan a cualquier persona que tenga preguntas o busque información relacionada con la violencia sexual.

Manejo de Casos y Defensoría

Defendemos a personas que han sufrido violencia sexual y las ayudamos a acceder a servicios, tales como vivienda, además, brindamos referencias, acompañamientos a las delegaciones policiales, a los tribunales, a las consultas médicas, a las entrevistas con la Unidad de Víctimas Especiales y a otras asistencias de emergencia.

Línea de ayuda las 24 horas del día: 201.795.5757

Asesoramiento Individual y Grupo de Apoyo

Los efectos psicológico y duraderos provocados por la violencia sexual pueden evitarse o minimizarse mediante intervenciones estructuradas y apoyo luego del hecho de violencia sexual. Voces Sin Fronteras es una iniciative para la comunidad en Español que incluye consegeria y groupos de apoyo con el autoestima. La personas aprenden diversas aptitudes para lidiar con la situación y se proyectan a partir de el inicio de la agresión sexual. El apoyo es gratuito y confidencial para personas que hayan surfrido aggression sexual.

EDUCACIÓN Y CAPACITACIÓN

Prevención y Educación

Los jóvenes son uno de los grupos de alto riesgo tanto de la perpetración como de la victimización, de manera que llegar a ellos es fundamental. Empleamos un enfoque integral para prevenir y, finalmente, terminar con la violencia sexual en nuestra comunidad mediante un programa de estudios sobre la prevención de la violencia interpersonal para los jóvenes y sus padres. El proyecto utiliza estrategias de prevención basadas en la investigación para ampliar el conocimiento sobre la violencia interpersonal, aumentar las aptitudes del participante para conectar la intervención de testigos, las estructuras de poder y la alfabetización de los medios con la violencia interpersonal.

Difusión

Los servicios de difusión incluyen presentaciones generales de concientización y participación en eventos dentro de la comunidad para garantizar que las personas sean conscientes de la agresión sexual y los recursos disponibles. Agradecemos invitaciones a ferias comunitarias de salud, ferias de recursos, exposiciones voluntarias y cualquier otro evento donde podamos sentarnos e informar a la comunidad acerca de los servicios que ofrecemos.

SEA VOLUNTARIO JUNTO CON NOSOTROS

Los defensores confidenciales contra la violencia sexual cumplen una función esencial dentro de Hudson S.P.E.A.K.S (habla) contra la violencia sexual. Todos los defensores o voluntarios deben asistir a nuestra capacitación anual de 40 horas.

Requisitos para ser un defensor confidencial contra la violencia sexual:

- Los defensores deben tener 18 años o más.
- Deben completar la capacitación de 40 horas.
- Deben tener acceso a un medio de transporte confiable.
- Deben tener la capacidad para tratar información confidencial.
- Deben aprobar un control de antecedentes penales.

Voces Sin Fronteras

Voices without Borders

Jersey City Medical Center

Trauma Recovery Center

The Jersey City Medical Center Trauma Recovery Center facilitates and removes barriers for survivors of violence and trauma to heal, using a clinically-proven model of comprehensive care, advocacy, and outreach.

Are you a survivor of a violent crime?

JCMC's Trauma Recovery Center serves survivors of a range of violent crimes, including:

- sexual assault
- domestic violence and battery
- LGBTQ+ intimate partner violence
- crimes of violence (shootings, gang violence, and other forms of community violence)
- racial violence
- vehicular assault
- human trafficking

We also serve family members of survivors of violence.

How can JCMC Trauma Recovery Center serve survivors of violence and trauma?

JCMC's Trauma Recovery Center utilizes trauma-informed, evidence-based practices in providing comprehensive mental health and support services.

- on-call crisis intervention
- individual and group counseling
- clinical case management and assistance in linking to community resources

Who is eligible to receive assistance?

- Hudson County Resident
- Ages 5 and up
- Survivor of a violent crime that occurred within the last five year
- Must not have any other mental health services at the time of enrollment.

All services are confidential and provided free of charge, and are available remotely or in the home, office or community. For more information or to schedule a phone or virtual screening to determine eligibility, please contact:

Jenise Lum – Interim Program Coordinator
Phone: **201-395-7640**
Jenise.Lum@rwjbh.org

Jersey City Medical Center | RWJBarnabas HEALTH

Let's be healthy together.

PARTNERS

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH JUSTICE

partnersnj.org

EMERGE STRONGER

Free Legal Help for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims

How do you know you need help?

Some signs of domestic violence are more obvious than others.

Does your partner ever:

- Hurt you by shaking, restraining, hitting, slapping, choking, or kicking you?
- Intimidate and threaten to hurt you or someone you love?
- Threaten to hurt themselves if they don't get what they want?
- Isolate you or try to control what you do and whom you see?
- Pressure or force you into unwanted sex?
- Control your access to money?

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Our Mission

Partners empowers low-income victims and survivors of domestic violence to build safe and secure futures for themselves and their children by providing equal access to justice. We offer quality legal assistance in domestic violence and family law matters.

ALL Are Welcome Here

Partners does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

We can help.

Partners' attorneys provide free legal assistance to low-income domestic violence and sexual assault victims. We handle the following types of cases:

- Domestic violence restraining order hearings
- Issues related to domestic violence including visitation, custody, child support, and relocation out of New Jersey
- Sexual assault protective order hearings

Our legal assistance is either over-the-phone advice and counsel or representation in court for cases pending in Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic, and Union Counties.

Contact us.

Call: 973-233-0111 or 732-535-6318

Text: 732-535-6318

Email: gethelp@partnersnj.org

Learn more about domestic violence and sexual assault: ➡

SCAN ME

650 Bloomfield Ave., Suite 209
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

PARTNERS

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH JUSTICE

partnersnj.org

SURGIR VALIENTE

Ayuda Legal Gratuita para Victímas de Violencia Doméstica o Agresión Sexual

¿Cómo sabe si necesita ayuda?

Algunas señales de violencia doméstica son más obvias que otras.

Alguna vez su pareja:

- ¿Le hizo daño al sacudirle, restringirle, pegarle, abofetearle, asfixiarle, o patearle?
- ¿Le intimidó y amenazó con hacerle daño a usted o a un ser querido suyo?
- ¿Amenazó con hacerse daño si no obtenía lo que quería?
- ¿Trató de controlar lo que usted hace o a quién usted ve?
- ¿Le presionó o forzó para tener sexo no deseado?
- ¿Le controló su acceso al dinero?

Si estás en peligro inmediato, llame al 911.

Nuestra Misión

Partners capacita a víctimas y sobrevivientes de violencia domestica de bajos ingresos a construir futuros seguros y estables para sí mismas y sus hijos proveyéndoles igualdad de acceso a la justicia. Ofrecemos ayuda legal de calidad en asuntos de violencia doméstica y de derecho de familia.

ALL Are Welcome Here

Partners no discrimina en base al sexo, orientación sexual, identidad o expresión de género, raza, color,religión, origen nacional, edad, o discapacidad.

Podemos ayudarle.

Los abogados de Partners ofrecen asistencia legal gratuita a las víctimas de violencia domestica de bajos ingresos. Nosotros ayudamos con los siguentes tipo de caos:

- Orden de Restricción Final
- Asuntos relacionados con violencia doméstica incluyendo: Visitas Seguras, Custodia, Manutención de los Hijos, Reubicación fuera de Nueva Jersey

Nuestra ayuda incluye consejo y asesoramiento individualizado por teléfono hasta representación en la corte para casos pendientes en Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic, Union.

Communiquese.

Llámenos: 973-233-0111

Mandar un texto a: 732-535-6318

Mandar un correo electrónico: gethelp@partnersnj.org

Aprenda más sobre la violencia doméstica y agresión sexual.

SCAN ME

650 Bloomfield Ave., Suite 209
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

How Do I Get A Restraining Order?

You can get a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) by going to your local county courthouse during normal business hours. You can also go to your local police department after hours, on weekends and during holidays. You will be asked to give a statement detailing the current incident and your abuser's history of domestic violence against you. Make sure to include all threats, property damage, harassment and abusive physical contact. Also be sure to give a complete history of past incidents. A Judge will hear the complaint and issue a TRO. A final hearing will be held within ten days. If you are eligible for our services, Northeast New Jersey Legal Services may be able to represent you at the hearing. Survivors of sexual assault who are not also survivors of domestic violence are also entitled to a Temporary Protective Order even if you are not in a relationship with the abuser.

Do I Need to Have An Attorney?

The court does not require you to have an attorney, but it is recommended. Domestic Violence is a serious matter and the court may make decisions regarding a restraining order, custody, child and spousal support and temporary possession of property. Our attorneys are experienced in domestic violence law and can help you get the legal relief to which you are entitled.

Are you a survivor of domestic violence or sexual assault?

Please contact your local NNJLS office at:

NNJLS
Bergen County Division
190 Moore Street, Suite 100
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Telephone: 201-487-2166
Fax: 201-487-3513

NNJLS
Hudson County Division
574 Summit Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Telephone: 201-792-6363
Fax: 201-798-8780

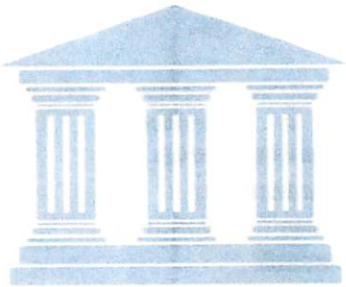
NNJLS
Passaic County Division
152 Market Street, 6th Floor
Paterson, NJ 07505
Telephone: 973-523-2900
Fax: 973-523-9002

www.northeastnjlegalservices.org

Northeast New Jersey Legal Services is an equal opportunity affirmative action agency and provides services without regard to race, color, gender, age, disability, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation.

NORTHEAST NEW JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES

Equal Justice for All



Celebrating 50 Years

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPRESENTATION PROJECT

Providing free legal services to low-income Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic County survivors of Domestic Violence.

www.northeastnjlegalservices.org

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is behavior that includes patterns of intimidation, coercion and violence. However, you do not need to be hit or punched by your abuser to be a survivor of domestic violence. If your abuser subjects you to verbal, emotional, and/or physical abuse or harassment you may be entitled to protection under New Jersey Law.

The following crimes are grounds for a domestic violence Restraining Order:

- Harassment
- False Imprisonment
- Assault
- Criminal Mischief
- Homicide
- Criminal Sexual Contact
- Stalking
- Criminal Restraint
- Kidnapping
- Terroristic Threats
- Lewdness
- Sexual Assault
- Burglary
- Criminal Trespass
- Criminal Coercion
- Robbery
- Cyber Harassment
- Contempt of Court
- Other Crimes involving risk of harm

What Should I Do First If Domestic Violence Occurs?

Call the police (911) ***immediately!*** Police have a duty to enforce the law and protect the survivor. They must arrest your abuser if you show visible signs of injury, or if there is reason to believe that your abuser used a weapon or violated a current Restraining Order. Whether they arrest your abuser or not, the police must give you, the survivor, written notice of your right to file both a criminal complaint and a domestic violence complaint against your abuser. If you file a domestic violence complaint, a Judge will take your complaint and issue you a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO), and the matter will be scheduled for a final hearing at a future date. If the court grants a TRO, you will have a restraining order protecting you from further contact by the abuser until the final hearing.

What Should I do Next?

Contact us! If you qualify for our services, you will be assigned to an attorney who will discuss the specific details of your case with you. The attorney will explain the law and your rights, and will give you legal advice which will prepare you for your final hearing. An attorney may also be available to represent you in court.

Why Should I File For A Restraining Order?

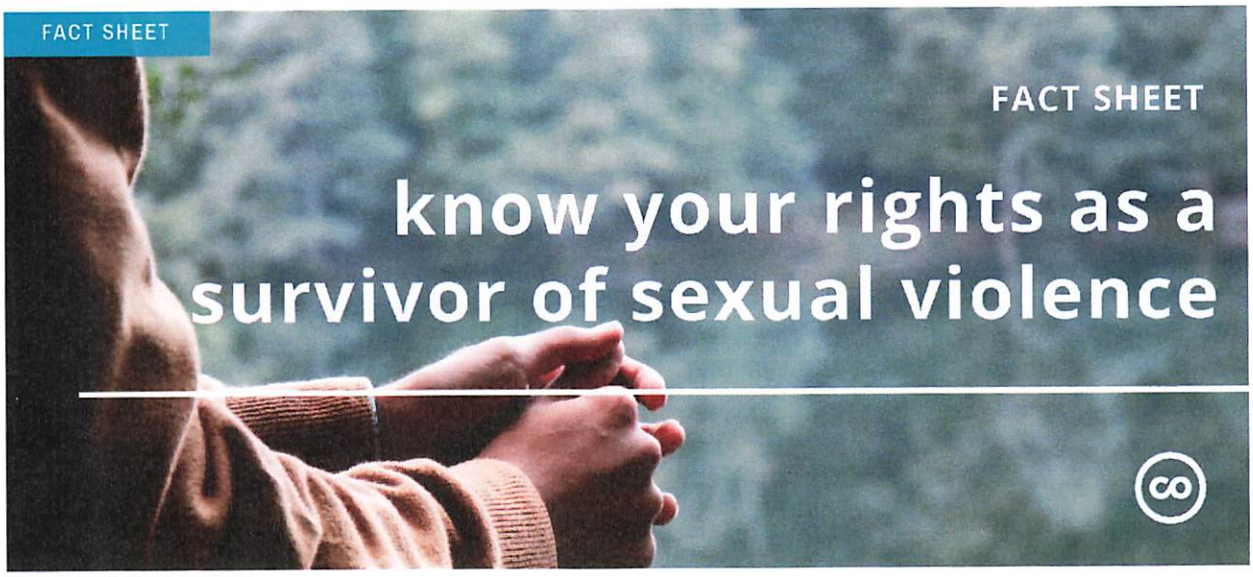
A Restraining Order will help protect you by prohibiting your abuser from having any contact with you. He or she will be prohibited from calling you or coming to your job, school, or home. If they do they could be held in contempt of court. Your abuser may also be excluded from your residence even if you are not the primary tenant. Temporary custody of your children is typically awarded to the survivor. If the abuser is permitted parenting time, it will be ordered to occur in a manner that does not jeopardize the survivor's safety. Abusers may also be ordered to pay support for their survivor and children and other monetary compensation, in appropriate cases.

NNJLS can refer you to the Women's Shelter and other Domestic Violence Programs in your area.

WE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO SPEAK TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

CALL US!

FACT SHEET



FACT SHEET

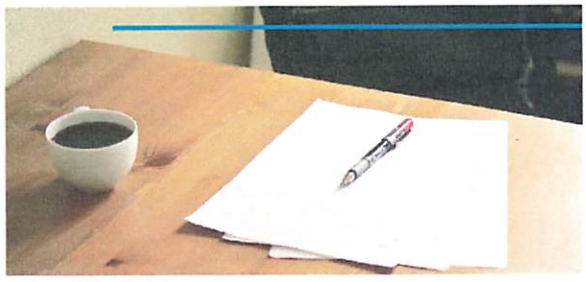
know your rights as a survivor of sexual violence

The **Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights** was enacted in 2019 to outline basic protections and fundamental rights for survivors. As a survivor of sexual violence, the time immediately following an assault can seem confusing and overwhelming. Next steps in the aftermath of an assault should be led by the survivor.

No matter what a survivor chooses to do in the aftermath of an assault, they should know their rights are guaranteed, even if the assault is not reported to law enforcement. The Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights declares all survivors of sexual violence have the right to be treated with dignity and compassion and the right to be free from blame. The Bill of Rights also affirms that the survivor should be free from any suggestion that they contributed to the risk of being assaulted. ***Sexual violence is never the fault of the survivor.***

SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Choose whether to report to law enforcement.
- Be free from any suggestion that they must report the crime to have their rights guaranteed.
- Be free from any suggestion that victims should refrain from reporting crimes in order to avoid unwanted personal publicity.
- Have their report of sexual assault treated seriously.



SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF AND ACCESS:

- Existing medical, counseling, mental health, or other services available for victims of sexual assault, whether or not the crime is reported to law enforcement.
- Treatment and interviews provided in a language in which the victim is fluent.
- Assistive devices to accommodate disabilities that the victim may have.
- Testing for HIV or any other sexually transmitted infections and assistance with compelling and disclosing the results of testing for a communicable disease from the person who caused harm.

CONTINUED...

SURVIVORS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF AND ACCESS:

- **Evidence collection and preservation.** Evidence collection is time sensitive and should occur within five days of the assault. Survivors can choose to have evidence collected whether or not they pursue a criminal case. All forensic evidence is retained for a minimum of five years. If the survivor chooses to report to police, either at the time of collection or later, they can request information on the status of the evidence.
- **Financial compensation.** The Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) offers assistance with accessing compensation for expenses that occurred as a result of an assault, including the cost of mental health counseling, medical bills, relocation, and loss of earnings. Survivors can reach the VCCO at (877) 658-2221 or www.NJVictims.org.
- **A civil protective order.** Under the Sexual Assault Survivor Protection Act of 2015, survivors can seek a civil protective order against the person who caused them harm if there is risk of further harm.
- **The no-cost services of a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), if the survivor is over the age of 13.** A SART is comprised of a Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (CSVA), a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO), and a Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE).
  - The **CSVA** is a confidential resource who can support the survivor through the SART process. The CSVA provides emotional support and can help the survivor explore their rights, options, and available resources.
  - The **LEO** can provide thorough and objective assistance in responding to and conducting a criminal investigation of sexual assault.
  - If the assault occurred within the last five days, the **FNE** can tend to the medical needs of the survivor and perform a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Kit to collect forensic evidence. **The survivor can choose to work with one, two, or all three of the SART members.**

The support of a **Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate** is always available, **24 hours a day**. To learn more about survivors' rights and options or to speak with an advocate, contact your **local sexual violence service provider**.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.njcasa.org
24-hour Statewide Hotline:
(800) 601-7200

REFERENCES

[1] Attorney General Standards for Providing Services to Victims of Sexual Assault. (2018, November). Retrieved from https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases18/AG-SART-Standards.pdf

[2] N.J Ct. R. 5:7B. Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2018/Bills/PL19/103_.PDF

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The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA) is the statewide organization representing 21 county-based rape crisis centers and Rutgers University's Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance. NJCASA elevates the voice of survivors and service providers through advocacy, training, and support for efforts to create safer communities for all people.

njcoalition against sexual assault