

Services Provided to Victims and Witnesses

The Douglas County Victim/Witness Assistance Program provides the following services to victims and witnesses:

- Support for victims of a crime from the time the crime is reported to the police to the final disposition
- Education for victims of crime about the criminal court process and procedures
- Information about the progress of your case throughout the criminal court process
- Information concerning dates, times and location of court proceedings
- Notification to victims in the event a subpoena is issued for your appearance in court
- Cancellation of witnesses, when possible, in enough time to avoid an unnecessary trip to court
- Court escort for victims and witnesses of a crime during court proceedings upon request.
- Courtroom orientation and testimony preparation.
- Referrals to available community services, as necessary
- Assistance with the return of *your* personal property if it has been held in evidence
- Assistance in submitting a restitution request for consideration at sentencing
- Assistance in submitting to the judge a victim impact statement which describes the effects the crime had on you and your family
- Assistance in obtaining mileage and witness fees after testifying in court
- Assistance in filing a Crime Victim Compensation claim
- Liaison assistance between victims of crime and the District Attorney's Office in an effort to ensure the needs of both parties are met
- Information concerning the process of being notified of parole hearings and the release of the defendant from prison
- Advocating on behalf of victims within the criminal justice system