

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A STATEMENT IF YOU WERE A VICTIM OF A CRIME, WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED AT SENTENCING.

WHO CAN SUBMIT A VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

1. A person against whom the crime has been committed.
2. If the victim is a child, a parent, guardian or legal custodian of the child.
3. If the victim is physically or emotionally unable to exercise their right, a person designated by the victim.
4. If the victim is deceased, a family member or a person who resided with the person who is deceased.
5. If the victim is determined to be incompetent under chapter 880, the guardian of the victim appointed under ch. 880.

DESCRIPTION OF A VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

A statement to the judge about how this crime has impacted your life, emotionally, psychologically, physically and financially. This statement also gives the victim an opportunity to inform the judge what they feel is an appropriate recommendation of the juvenile offender. Any statements made must be relevant to the disposition of the case. The statements should be made to the Court.

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENTS CAN BE WRITTEN, ORAL OR BOTH.

The statement can be prepared on the standard form provided by the Victim Witness Program or in letter form addressed to the judge presiding over the case. The Victim Impact Statement should be sent back to the District Attorney's Office on the date specified on your statement. The Victim Witness Program will send the original to the judge and a copy will be kept in the District Attorney's file. A copy will also be sent to the juvenile or the juvenile's attorney and possibly, the juvenile's social worker. **Victim Impact Statements are not confidential.**

ORAL VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

We suggest the statement be prepared and written down before the sentence hearing. Please bring an extra copy to provide to the Court. This will insure that you will not forget to inform the judge of something important. If you also submitted a written Victim Impact Statement, your oral statement should not be the same. It is advised your oral statement be to the point and no longer than two (2) to three (3) minutes.

IF YOU WISH TO GIVE AN ORAL VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

You need to call the Victim Witness Assistance Program (920) 236-4977; (920) 727-2880, ext. 4977 to confirm that you wish to exercise your right to give an oral statement or that you have changed your mind and now wish to exercise your right to give an oral statement. Please sit in the front row of the courtroom and inform the prosecutor *before* the sentencing hearing begins that you are present. The prosecutor will be seated at the table in the front of the courtroom.

If you attend the disposition hearing, it is important to follow standard courtroom protocol. It is important to remain quiet in the courtroom. Clapping or loud emotional outbursts will not be tolerated by the judge.