

WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AS A VICTIM OF CRIME?

*Navigating the criminal justice system can be overwhelming. If you are a victim of a crime, JCADA's Support Staff is available to help you advocate for your rights, which are guaranteed to you by the constitutions of Maryland and Virginia, and the statutes of the District of Columbia. These services are **free of charge** and can be accessed in addition to - or separately from - JCADA's other support services.*

To contact JCADA's Support Staff, please call our free and confidential helpline at 1-877-88-JCADA(52232) or email legal@jcada.org.

RIGHTS FOR INDIVIDUALS VICTIMIZED IN MARYLAND¹

According to the Maryland constitution, victims of crime have the right to:

- Be treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity during all phases of the criminal justice process;
- Be informed and upon request, be notified of, attend, and be heard at criminal justice proceedings - this includes the ability to make a victim impact statement;
- Seek restitution;
- Have your interests as a victim be considered in your criminal case.

RIGHTS FOR INDIVIDUALS VICTIMIZED IN DC²

According to the statutes of the District of Columbia, victims of crime have the right to:

- Be treated with fairness and with respect for their dignity and privacy;
- Be notified of and present at all court proceedings related to the offense;
- Confer with an attorney for the prosecution of the case;
- Seek restitution;
- Be given information about the convictions, sentencing, imprisonment, detention, and release of the offender, and about any court order to seal the offender's criminal records.

RIGHTS FOR INDIVIDUALS VICTIMIZED IN VIRGINIA³

According to the Virginia constitution, victims of crime have the right to:

- Be treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity and that their privacy is protected;
- Be given the opportunity to be heard by law-enforcement agencies, attorneys for the Commonwealth, corrections agencies, and the judiciary at all critical stages;
- Receive information about the level of protection available to them;
- Receive information on financial services available to them including the Crime Victims Compensation Fund - this includes the right to seek restitution;
- Notice, including notice about the date and times court proceedings and any change in the offender's incarceration;
- Victim input including the right to make a victim impact statement, to testify prior to sentencing, and be present in court;
- Be notified before any pleas deal is made in order to obtain their view on any potential deal.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

Criminal Injuries Compensation is a program dedicated to reimbursing victims for economic loss as a result of victimization. While different in each jurisdiction, Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia all have versions of this program. The chart below is meant to give you an overview of the specifics of each area's program. To get a full overview of the programs and to get help seeking reimbursement from a program, please contact JCADA's Legal Staff at legal@jcada.org. You can also call JCADA's free and confidential helpline at 1-877-88-JCADA(52232).

	MARYLAND	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	VIRGINIA
Name of Program	Criminal Injuries Compensation Board	Criminal Victims Compensation Program	Virginia Victims Fund
Website	http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/victimservs/cicb/index.shtml	http://www.dccourts.gov/internet/public/crimevictimscomp.jsf	http://www.cicf.state.va.us/
Requirements for filing a claim	Must report crime to law enforcement within 48 hours unless good cause shown; a protective or peace order will satisfy this requirement. Must apply within 3 years of the incident.	Police report filed within 7 days; a protection order will satisfy this requirement. Must file claim within one year of the crime.	Crime must be reported to law enforcement within 120 hours. Undergoing a sexual assault forensic exam may also qualify you. Must file application within one year of the crime unless good cause is shown.
Reimbursable expenses	<p>Total maximum of \$45,000 per victim for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical/dental up to \$45,000 • Lost wages or disability up to \$25,000 • Dependency/loss of support up to \$25,000 • Crime scene cleanup up to \$250 • Funeral costs in cases of homicide up to \$5,000 • Counseling for adults up to \$5,000 and for children up to \$1,000 • Other expenses as approved by the board 	<p>Total maximum of \$25,000 per victim for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical treatment and medications • Funeral and burial costs up to \$6,000 • Loss of Wages - 80% of net income up to one year or \$10,000 (if employed at the time of the crime and supported by disability statement from physician) • Cleaning of a crime scene up to \$1,000 • Replacement value of clothing held as evidence up to \$100 • Reimbursement for car rental while its being held as evidence up to \$2,000 • Temporary emergency shelter up to \$3,000 • Moving expenses up to \$1,500 • Windows, doors, and lock changes for the safety of the victim name up to \$1,000 • Counseling for adults up to \$3,000 and for children up to \$6,000 	<p>Total maximum of \$25,000 per victim for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving up to \$2,000 • Funeral costs up to \$5,000 • Medical expenses • Lost wages up to \$600 per week based on 2/3 of wages • Lost support to eligible family members based on 2/3 of the wages up to \$600 per week • Mileage for medical services • Crime scene cleanup • Other reasonable and necessary expenses, such as changing locks, prescription medications, new eyeglasses, or clothing taken as evidence • Transportation costs to and from counseling • Up to 20 counseling sessions (no specific dollar amount)