



Dear Syracuse University
Community Members:

If you are reading this
brochure, you may have been
impacted by a crime as a
survivor or an ally. We
understand that some people
are impacted greatly by the
emotions surrounding the

criminal justice process and that sometimes
responsibilities of school work, employment,
family, and life in general can be difficult to balance
as the process continues. As a crime survivor, we
want you to know that we are here to support you,
in partnership with a variety of other offices and
resources you can find on campus.

It is important to remember that you have rights
during this process - including rights to information,
to notification, and in some cases to compensation.
Your rights are detailed in this brochure. In addition
to working with campus offices that support you,
the Department of Public Safety works closely with
the Syracuse Police Department, the Onondaga
County District Attorney's Office, and various
offices of New York State to ensure your rights are
upheld and guarded during this process.

The Syracuse University Department of Public
Safety is committed to protecting the rights of
crime victims within the campus community. Please
don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have
questions about how these rights may apply to you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Callisto Jr.
Senior VP and Chief Law Enforcement Officer
Division of Campus Safety and Emergency Services

Resources

S.U. Department of Public Safety
315.443.2224

Student Assistance 315.443.4357

SU Sexual and Relationship Violence
Response Team 315.443.4715

Counseling Center (Confidential)
315.443.4715

Health Services (Confidential)
315.443.9005

SU Title IX Coordinator 315.443.0211

Vera House (Confidential, off-campus)
315.468.3260

The National Center for Victims of Crime
www.victimsofcrime.org

Hendricks Chapel (Confidential)
315.443.2901

New York State Office of Victim
Services: 1.800.247.8035
Claim Form: *www.ovs.ny.gov/*

Syracuse Police Abused Persons Unit
315.435.3016

Crime Victims
Bill of Rights
And Resource
Guide



Syracuse University
Department of
Public Safety
315.443.2224

Crime Victims Bill of Rights

Victims have the right to:

- **A free copy of the police report**, even if there was no physical injury.
- **Payment waiver of fees** for replacing driver's license, permit, registration, and license plates that were lost or stolen as a result of a crime.
- **Have law enforcement and the district attorney inform employers** that the criminal case may require work absences. They can also explain the circumstances of the crime to creditors.
- **Not to be penalized by an employer** when appearing as a witness in a criminal proceeding, consulting with prosecutors, or exercising other rights under the law. A violation of this law by an employer is a misdemeanor. Employers, however, may withhold wages in these situations.
- **File for victim compensation and assistance** with the New York State Office of Victim Services. Victims of physical injury or relatives of murder victims are entitled to out-of-pocket expenses incurred as a result of the crime. These expenses may include the repair or replacement of damaged property, loss of earnings or support, medical and counseling

bills, crime scene cleanup, or funeral expenses. Crime victims may also be eligible for transportation expenses incurred for necessary court appearances. Kidnapping, stalking, and unlawful imprisonment victims may be eligible for an award to cover loss of earnings or support, unreimbursed costs for counseling, rehabilitative training, and the costs of damaged essential personal property and security devices. Claims must be filed within one year of the crime or within one year of the victim's death. You can obtain a claim form from the police, the district attorney, a hospital emergency room, the Office of Victim Services or from the office of the attorney general. Assistance is also available from other programs, such as rape crisis centers and domestic violence and child abuse programs. Ask the district attorney's office for referrals.

- **Be notified of criminal proceedings.** Victims who provide a current address and telephone number to the district attorney have the right to be notified of the accused's arrest; first appearance before a judge; release from jail while the criminal proceeding is pending; entry of a guilty plea, trial, and sentencing; maximum and minimum terms of imprisonment if the accused is sentenced to prison; and parole hearing date.

- **Freedom from intimidation, threats, or harassment.** Intimidating a victim or a witness is a felony, apart from any charges the accused may already face. If you are threatened or your property is damaged by anyone connected to your case, you should contact the district attorney's office and law enforcement immediately.
- **Notice of discharge, release, or escape of offender from a correctional facility.** The district attorney has a form to be completed in order to stay informed. The New York Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system provides up-to-date information about the custody status of offenders via the telephone or Internet. Crime victims and other New Yorkers can call 888-VINE-4NY (888-846-3469) or go to www.vinelink.com to secure information about incarcerated defendants. By providing an inmate's identification number or date of birth, which you can obtain from the district attorney, you can learn sentencing and release information. You may also register with VINE for automatic notification by telephone when the inmate is released.