

“I can’t believe this happened to me!”

You do have certain rights as a victim of crime. You may be having problems dealing with the reality of the crime.

This is very normal.

Many people react to a crime in a variety of ways but most everyone finds it helpful to talk with someone else about what happened.

If you or a family member have questions, are having problems, or just need to talk to someone about what happened, please call the Division of Victim Services for resources in your county.

It takes a while, but you will feel safe again. Recovering from a criminal act takes time and patience.

Wyoming Crime Victim Bill of Rights

- 1. The right to be treated with compassion, respect, and sensitivity within the criminal justice system;***
- 2. The right to know the whereabouts of the offender and the current status of the case;***
- 3. The right to receive restitution from offenders;***
- 4. The right to know all rights under this law, including information about services and victims assistance at the local level;***
- 5. The right to know about victim compensation;***
- 6. The right to reasonable protection and safety and the right to know of legal recourse if threatened;***
- 7. The right to prompt return of property;***
- 8. The right to preservation of employment while participating in the criminal justice process;***
- 9. The right to be informed about the opportunity to make a victim impact statement at sentencing and parole hearings; and***
- 10. The right to be present at trial.***

Know your rights!

***If You Are A Victim
Of A Crime In
Wyoming ...
You are not alone!
There Is Help!***

***Wyoming Office of the
Attorney General
Division of Victim Services***



***Crime Victim Helpline
1-888-996-8816 V/TTY***

“This Has Never Happened To Me Before.”

Where Do I Begin?

As soon as you are safe, the first and most important step is to call the police.

Talking about what happened may be difficult at first, and you may not understand why the officers have to ask so many hard questions.

Try your best.

If you have been physically hurt in any way, make sure to get medical attention immediately.

You may even be eligible to have your medical bills paid for from a special compensation fund for victims in Wyoming.

Save all your bills and receipts for any expenses resulting from the crime. Keep them together and you have one year to decide if you want to file for compensation.

You may be able to get financial assistance through your insurance, public assistance, or by requesting restitution from the Court.

You also have the option to sue civilly anyone who causes you harm. Consult an attorney to discuss your civil court remedies.

Ask the police how to get your property back if it is recovered.

What Are My Rights As A Victim In Wyoming?

Depending on the type of crime committed against you, you have several rights under the law.

However, they are subject to some provisions and are not Constitutionally guaranteed.

Be sure to ask to speak with a victim advocate who can explain your rights and how to exercise them.

Ask about how you can get information about;

- The status of the case.
- The release from custody of the perpetrator.
- Various court-related rights, including, making a statement concerning your losses.
- Requesting restitution, accepting plea agreements to lesser charges, and making a statement to the judge at sentencing.

“What Should I Know About My Case?”

In all cases you should stay in contact with law enforcement.

Be sure to request the Case Incident number from the responding officer and always refer to it when you call.

What If They Come Back?

What If I Am Threatened?

Most victims and their families feel unsafe after they have been victimized.

By working with helping professionals and the Court, you can take positive actions to safeguard you and your family from further harm.

Remember, whether you need to go to a safe shelter, obtain a protection order, or just learn about the latest crime prevention tips, help is available!

For more information contact the Wyoming Division of Victim Services

Herschler Bldg. 1st Floor West

122 West 25th Street

Cheyenne, WY. 82002

Phone: 307-777-7200

Fax: 307-777-6683

Web Site:

<http://victimservices.wyoming.gov>

VINE 1-866-WY-4-VINE