





## Victim Services Advocates

Victim Services Advocates in Riverside County work for the District Attorney's Office. Advocates help prosecution witnesses understand and exercise their rights.

## Witness Rights:

As a witness to a crime, you are vital to the criminal justice process. Without you, the system cannot work. Witnesses to a crime have the following rights.

- You have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- No attorney may disclose your address or telephone number to the defendant, or anyone else, unless the court holds a hearing and finds good cause for the disclosure. (*Penal Code §1054.2.*)

- When anyone seeks to interview you in connection with a case, you are entitled to know the name and agency of persons seeking the interview and to see their identification. (*Penal Code §1054.8.*)
- You have the right to be notified as soon as feasible that a court proceeding to which you have been subpoenaed has been cancelled or rescheduled. (*Penal Code §679.02(a)(1).*)
- Upon request, you have the right to be notified of the final disposition of the case. (*Penal Code §679.02(a)(2) and 11116.10.*)
- If the case involves a violent felony, you have the right to be notified of a pending pretrial disposition prior to the entry of the plea. (*Penal Code §679.02(a)(12).*)
- If the case involves a violent felony, you may have the right to be notified of the release, escape, scheduled execution or death of the defendant. (*Penal Code §679.02 (a) (11) and 679.03(b).*)
- If the case involves a violent felony, you have the right to be notified of the community in which the defendant is scheduled to be released and the proposed date of release. (*Penal Code §3058.8.*)

- You have the right to receive services from the District Attorney's Division of Victim Services. (*Penal Code §13835.5.*)
- You have the right to review and copy the probation report within 60 days of the date of judgment or the date probation is granted. (*Penal Code §1203.05.*)
- You may be entitled to witness fees and mileage. (*Penal Code §679.02(a)(7) and 1329(a).*)

For more information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.rivcoda.org>

For more detailed information regarding your rights, you may download a copy of the Victim Rights Manual from the website or you can request a copy be mailed to you by calling the Division of Victim Services.

Finally, if you wish to follow the progress of the criminal case online you may do so by logging on to the Riverside County Courts' website at:  
<http://www.riverside.courts.ca.gov/>