

How is OVR different?

OVR provides legal help to crime victims who believe their victim rights may have been violated by a justice agency. We do not provide counseling or grief support, collect money, handle civil matters, or assist with reimbursement of victims' costs. We can provide referrals to agencies which may assist in these areas, such as Standing Together Against Rape (STAR), Victims for Justice (VFJ), local shelters, and the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB)*, which can provide financial assistance to victims of violent crimes.

What can't OVR do?

- Collect reimbursements for victims; Victims should consult with VCCB for compensation or consult a private attorney for monetary compensation.
- Represent defendants who have a complaint involving the same crime they are charged with. Defendants should consult their attorney for assistance.
- Bring any criminal action against another person or agency.
- Reverse decisions already made by a criminal justice agency.

What can I expect?

First, you will need to complete an application for OVR services, which is available on our website, in our office, or can be sent to you. After we receive your application, we will contact you to go over your concerns. If an attorney is assigned to your case, the attorney will then contact you.

Do I have to pay for OVR's help?

No, there is no cost to crime victims. OVR assistance is a free service provided by the Alaska Legislature.

Contact us!



Main: (907) 754-3460
Toll Free: (844) 754-3460
Fax: (907) 754-3469



Email: ovr@akleg.gov



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visit our website at
ovr.akleg.gov



STATE OF ALASKA OFFICE OF VICTIMS' RIGHTS

Free legal services for crime victims



*The Alaska Department of Public Safety's VCCB is a separate agency that helps with financial expenses that directly result from violent crime and can be reached at (907) 465-3040 or through their website at vccb.alaska.gov

Who does OVR help?

OVR helps crime victims who feel their rights have been or may be denied by justice agencies, including the police, prosecutors, or judges. Victims include the actual victim, parents or guardians of a minor or incapacitated minor/adult victim, or a family member of a deceased victim. The crime must be a felony or class A misdemeanor involving domestic violence or a crime against a person under Alaska statutes.

How can OVR help?

OVR can represent a victim in court, make arguments on a victim's behalf, respond to motions involving victim's rights, make inquiries regarding the status of an investigation, and review copies of police reports and other records. OVR can investigate violations of victims' rights and work with agencies to remedy these violations.

Is my information confidential?

Certain victims have the legal right to keep their identity and personal identifying information confidential and OVR can work to ensure these rights are upheld.

Confidential records obtained from a court or justice agency cannot be disclosed even to a victim.

What are my rights?

Crime victims have many rights in Alaska. Listed below are some of those rights.

Victims have a right to:

- Fair and respectful treatment
- Immediate medical treatment
- Privacy of personal information; Kidnapping and sexual assault victims' information may not be in public records
- Consult with the prosecutor
- Not speak with defense counsel and/or defense investigators unless subpoenaed
- Make a Victim Impact Statement for sentencing
- Notification of release or change of custody status of the accused
- Be told both by the police and the prosecutor's office about OVR
- Participate at the defendant's initial court appearance
- Be informed when the accused is released or escapes from jail before or after conviction or juvenile adjudication
- Be heard at hearings regarding the defendant's release and case continuances
- Be heard at any hearing where a change in the defendant's custody status is proposed
- Timely disposition
- Restitution

Sexual Assault/Abuse Victims' Rights:

- Not to be charged for medical rape exams
- Past sexual conduct is not admissible without court authorization

Victims' Rights at Trial:

- Employer cannot penalize or threaten victim for attendance
- Not to be compelled to submit to psychiatric evaluation
- To attend any or all parts of the trial

Victims' Rights After Sentencing:

- To notice of an appeal
- Defendant's conviction history
- Victims' restitution paid first if profit is made from crime by reenactment
- To be notified of any motions to modify the defendant's sentence
- To notice of hearings to review discretionary parole
- To address the parole board

For a complete list of constitutional and statutory victim rights, please visit our website at ovr.akleg.gov

