

vICTIM support inform empower **SERVICES**

SONOMA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



**A DIVISION OF THE SONOMA COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



Office Location



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Units of Victim Services Division



Victim Services Division (15 people)



Director (1)

Senior Victim
Advocate (1)

Victim
Advocates
(10)

Legal
Processor (1)

Restitution
(2)

Our Goal



To make the criminal justice system more understandable, accessible and responsive to the concerns of victims and their families.



Victim Advocacy Defined



Victim Advocates:

- Work to ensure that crime victims and their family members are provided the services and information necessary to be an integral part of the criminal case process and that victims are treated fairly and that their voices are heard.

Assist Deputy District Attorneys (DDAs) in

1. effective prosecution
2. fulfilling Marsy's Law.

Marsy's Law

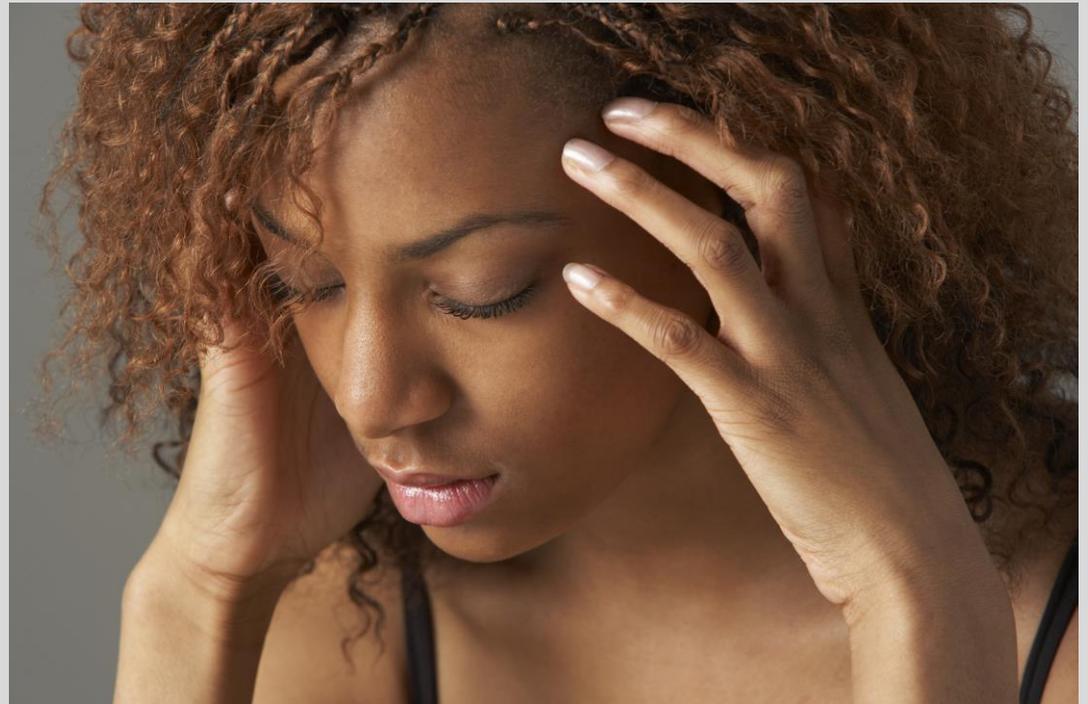


Marsy's law ensures that victims of crime have equal, constitutional rights on the same level as those accused and convicted of crimes.

Marsy's Law: Victim Rights



- Respect
- Protection
- Bail Consideration
- Notice & Presence
- To Be Heard
- Confidentiality
- Restitution

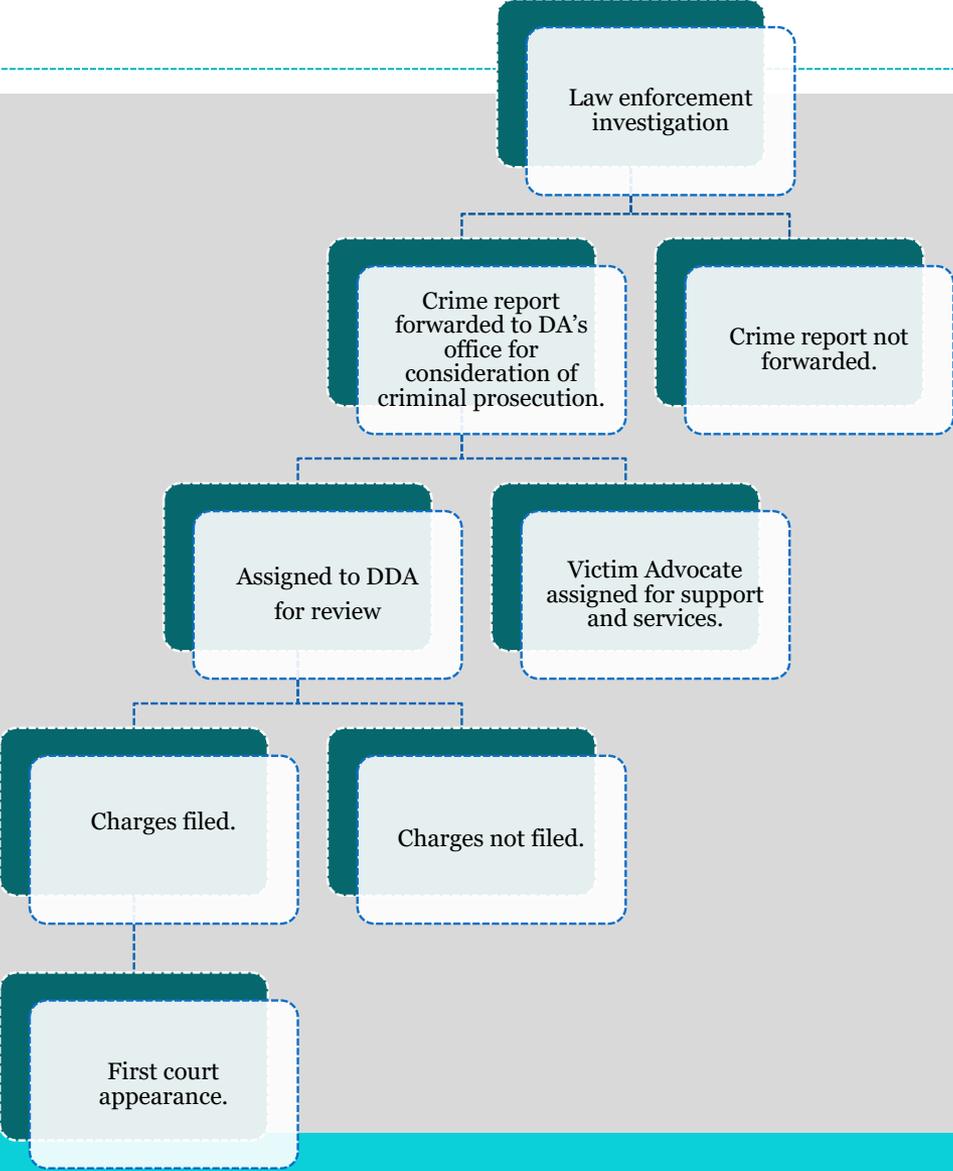


Restraining Orders



- EPO
 - Emergency Protective Order
- CPO
 - Criminal Protective Order
- TRO
 - Temporary Restraining Order
- DVRO
 - Domestic Violence Restraining Order

Criminal Justice System





Miranda 9 Year Old
Black Lab

Darla 4 Year Old Black
Lab

Lucy 2 Year Old Yellow



Providing Support

Court Support



- Orientation to Criminal Justice System
- Case Status Information
- Court accompaniment
- Victim Impact Statement
- Restitution Order



Offered Services: Mandatory



- Crisis Intervention
- Safety Planning
- Resource & Referral Assistance
- Victim Compensation Claims
- Crime related property return
- Orientation to Criminal Justice System
- Court Escort & Support
- Training for Criminal Justice Agencies
- Public Presentations & Publicity
- Case Status/Disposition
- Notification of Family/Friends
- Restitution

Offered Services : Optional

- Employer Notification/ Intervention
- Creditor Intervention
- Witness Notification
- Funeral Arrangements
- Crime Prevention Information
- Assistance with serving TRO, DVRO.

- Transportation Assistance
- Court Waiting Area
- Relocation support (if applicable)



Restitution Defined



- Restitution is financial compensation for costs accrued as a result of the crime paid by a convicted Offender to the crime Victim.
- Restitution Ordered does not always mean it is paid.

Victim Compensation Board: Eligibility



- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse
- Sexual & Physical Assault
- Homicide
- Robbery
- Drunk Driving with Injury/Hit & Run
- Vehicular Manslaughter

Victim Compensation Board: Criteria



- Report Crime to Law Enforcement or CPS
 - Crime Report or CPS Report must be attached to application
 - In domestic violence cases, a civil DV restraining order can be provided in lieu of a crime report.

- Cooperation with Law Enforcement/Prosecution
 - Determined by review of crime report
 - Victim must appear for subpoenaed hearings & testify if needed

- Cannot participate or been involved with the crime
 - Contribution (Gang; Drugs)

- State makes final determination

Victim Compensation Board: Covered Losses



- Medical & Dental Treatment
- Mental Health Services
- Income Loss
- Loss of Support
- Home Security
- Residential Crime Scene Cleanup
- Funeral & Burial Expenses
- Job Retraining
- Relocation

Victim's Compensation Board vs Restitution

VCB

- Eligibility based on crime codes
- State provides \$ to cover costs and then goes after convicted offender for reimbursement

Restitution

- Personal property loss
- Court ordered
- Regulated through probation department, CDCR

* VCB and restitution do not provide compensation for pain and suffering. Civil avenues would be most applicable.

Thank You!



QUESTIONS?