

WHAT IS MoCVSU?

The Missouri Crime Victim Services Unit (MoCVSU) provides funding, training, and consultation to help communities develop programs to serve crime victims. MoCVSU also provides guidance to local and state governments and to not-for-profit agencies on practices and policies that impact crime victims.

MoCVSU provides notification and assistance to victims through MOVANS (Missouri Victim Automated Notification System) regarding offender custody status, release dates, upcoming offender court hearings, and information pertaining to the service and the status of Orders of Protection.

MoCVSU provides individual and system support for crime victims. Individual victims may receive information, referral, and assistance in accessing benefits or services, and support for their constitutional rights. Systems serving crime victims benefit from MoCVSU representation of their interests at the state level. Those interests include laws, policies, and funding that impact the development or enhancement of victim services in Missouri's communities.

WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS OF A CRIME VICTIM IN MISSOURI?

Article 1, Section 32 of the Missouri State Constitution guarantees that crime victims have the right to:

- Be present at all criminal justice proceedings at which the defendant has such right
- Be informed and heard at guilty pleas, bail hearings, sentencing's, probation revocation hearings, and parole hearings
- Be informed of trials and preliminary hearings
- Restitution
- The speedy disposition and appellate review of cases
- Reasonable protection from the defendant or any person acting on behalf of the defendant
- Information concerning the release, escape, recapture or death of the accused while in custody or confinement
- Information about how the criminal justice system works, the rights and availability of services, and information about the crime

The rights of crime victims are further established and defined in the Missouri Revised Statutes, Section 595.209.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THESE RIGHTS?

Section 595.209 of the Missouri Revised Statutes specifies that victims of certain dangerous felonies are *automatically* afforded these rights. Victims of all other crimes and witnesses of crimes are also guaranteed these rights but they must submit a *written request* to the appropriate agency (i.e. law enforcement agencies, juvenile authorities, custodial authorities, prosecutors, probation and parole, etc.) to ensure that their rights are afforded to them.

WHAT CAN MoCVSU DO FOR YOU?

- Provide a communication link so that victims can exercise their rights and have access to services
- Provide education, training, and assistance to victim service providers to enhance and expand victims' rights and services
- Provide training on the Missouri Victim Automated Notification System (MOVANS) and respond to questions, concerns, and implementation issues regarding MOVANS
- Inquire about complaints of alleged crime victims' rights violations
- Provide resources, referrals, and information to the general public



CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

In the event a victim feels his/her rights have been violated, the victim can submit a written complaint to MoCVSU in one of the following ways:

Mail: Missouri Department of Public Safety
Crime Victim Services Unit
PO Box 749
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0749
Or
Email: CVSU@dps.mo.gov

WHAT GRANTS ARE ADMINISTERED BY MoCVSU?

State Services to Victims Fund

(SSVF): The State Services to Victims Fund was created by the passage of 595.100, RSMo, (1988). The purpose of SSVF funds is to provide direct services to victims of crime, such as intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance.

STOP Violence Against Women

(VAWA): The STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program is a formula block grant authorized by Title IV of the Violence Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. These funds are provided to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to alleviate violent crime against women, and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crime against women.

Sexual Assault Services Program

(SASP): The SASP is authorized by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005. The purpose of SASP funds is to provide direct services to victims of sexual assault, such as intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA):

(VOCA): VOCA was passed in 1984 by Congress to assist states in providing high quality services that directly improve the health and well being of victims of crime. The purpose of VOCA funds is to provide services to victims of crime, such as intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance.

Public and not-for-profit agencies are eligible to apply for funding. For more information or to apply for funding, go to www.dps.mo.gov or contact MoCVSU at 1-866-334-6682.

VICTIM SERVICES & RESOURCES

Missouri Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-392-3738

Missouri Child Support Enforcement
1-800-859-7999

Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
(573) 634-4161

Missouri Crime Victims' Compensation Program
1-800-347-6881

Missouri Department of Corrections Victim Services
(573) 526-6516

Missouri Senior Abuse and Disability Hotline
1-800-392-0210

Missouri Victim Assistance Network
1-800-698-9199

Missouri Victim Automated Notification System (MOVANS)
1-866-5-MOVANS or 1-866-566-8267

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Missouri State Office
1-800-736-MADD (6233)

The L.E.A.D. Institute
(Leadership through Education and Advocacy for the Deaf)
1-888-761-4357 or (hearing impaired) 1-800-380-3323

FTC Identity Theft Hotline
1-877-ID-THEFT or 1-877-438-4338

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
1-800-843-5678 or (TTY) 1-800-826-7653

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or (TTY) 1-800-787-3224

National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1-888-3737-888

National Sexual Assault Hotline
1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)
1-888-818-POMC (7662)

Department of Public Safety
Office of the Director
Crime Victim Services Unit
PO Box 749
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0749
Phone: 573-526-9945 or 1-866-334-6682
Fax: 573-751-5399
E-mail: CVSU@dps.mo.gov

Missouri Department of Public Safety

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES UNIT (MoCVSU)



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