

A Message from the District Attorney:

The staff of the District Attorney's Office is committed to successfully prosecuting and convicting guilty offenders who commit crimes in our community. We are also committed to treating victims with respect. For instance, we request that the courts order convicted offenders to pay restitution for the financial losses suffered by the victims.

Unfortunately, once the crime has occurred there is nothing that can be done to prevent the pain and loss already experienced by each victim. It is our goal, however, to prevent additional harm to the victim which can occur in the complicated and sometimes confusing criminal justice system. To accomplish these tasks, we are indebted to community volunteers who provide time and efforts to assist crime victims.

Crime is a community problem which requires community involvement for any adequate solution. We are always interested in comments and feedback concerning our services and actions. If you are a crime victim who has a question about the criminal case, I encourage you to call for assistance.

Several times throughout the year we recruit and train additional community volunteers. If you have a desire to help crime victims and are willing to commit some of your time, please call for information. Crime can be an overwhelming and devastating problem. With the help of our community we can make a positive difference-one case at a time.

Walter M. Beglau
District Attorney

To ensure the broadest range of services to individuals with disabilities, the Marion County District Attorney is prepared to make necessary arrangements. Please call at least 2 working days in advance for services.

District Attorney's Office
Voice: 503-588-5222
Toll Free: 1-866-780-0964

Victim Assistance Division
Voice: 503-588-5253
Toll Free: 1-866-780-0960

TTY: 1-800-735-2900

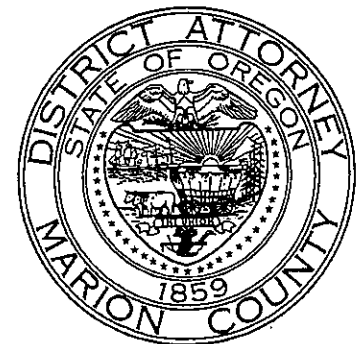
For More Information Contact:

Victim Assistance Division
Marion County District Attorney's Office
100 High Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-588-5253
1-866-780-0960

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30am – 12:00pm
and
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Marion County Victim Assistance Division

General Program Information



WALTER M. BEGLAU
District Attorney

KIMBERLY A. LARSON
Division Director

About the Victim Assistance Division

In 1981, the Marion County District Attorney established the Victim Assistance Division. Over the years, our program has grown in its mission and contributions to the community. We are proud to work closely with more than fifty volunteers in providing services to victims of violent crimes in Marion County.

Our volunteers contribute more than 25,000 hours to the community each year. In addition to our strong volunteer base, the program is financially supported through a mix of federal and state grants, general fund dollars, fines imposed on criminals, private donations, and fundraising events.

Our mission is to involve crime victims and the community in a healing process that lessens the devastating impact of crime. We will fulfill this mission by:

- Providing direct victim services;
- Advocating for victim rights;
- Offering volunteer opportunities;
- Providing education and promoting public awareness; and
- Promoting professional & agency communication.

Although the Victim Assistance Division is specifically charged with providing services to victims, every District Attorney staff member is committed to treating victims with dignity and

compassion. As an office, we believe that victims have a right to fair treatment. We have implemented procedures to advise victims of their rights and to keep victims apprised of the status of the case in which they were victimized.

"Justice will be served only when those who are not injured by crime feel as indignant as those who are."

We are committed to interagency collaboration that will directly benefit crime victims. For instance, members of the VAD staff participate in such groups as the Domestic Violence Council, the Homicide/Assault Response Team (HART), the Multidisciplinary Child Abuse and Fatality Review Team, and the Crime Victims' Assistance Network.

We are committed to promoting a broader understanding of the victimization experience. Staff members conduct numerous public presentations and trainings for diverse audiences throughout the state. We believe that through a concerted effort to publicly address the victimization experience, we can make a positive impact on the way victims are treated by the justice and social service systems, as well as by the community-at-large.

Although much has been accomplished on behalf of victims, we recognize that there is still a lot of work to do. In everything we do, we renew our pledge to keep victims' concerns at the top of the agenda for the justice system.

Victim Services

We provide 24-hour on-call response for the victims of sexual assault and for the surviving loved-ones of homicide victims. This immediate crisis intervention service is then followed by on-going support and advocacy throughout the investigation and prosecution of the case.

Victim Assistance provides support throughout the prosecution of the case. Advocates also help victims connect with needed resources in the community.

All victims of crimes being prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office receive information about their Rights as victims; an opportunity to submit information about their losses for restitution; a victim impact statement questionnaire that enables them to make a statement to the court in the event of conviction; and notification letters on the case status and disposition. We also assist victims in applying for Crime Victims' Compensation through the State of Oregon, Department of Justice.

**Victim Assistance
Division
503-588-5253 or
Toll Free: 1-866-780-0960**