

Crime Victim's Compensation

Crime Victim Compensation is a program that may be able to assist you with medical bills or counseling expenses you have incurred due to this crime. If you are interested in applying for this program, please call the Victim Advocate to obtain an application and set of rules to see if you would be eligible. The program does require that you use your medical plan/insurance first.

For further information on Crime Victim's Compensation you may call 503-378-5348 or access further information via the Internet at <http://www.doj.state.or.us/crimev/comp.shtml>

We hope this helps you understand the Juvenile Court System a bit better. Although you have undoubtedly been inconvenienced, injured, or had property taken or damaged, your role as a witness is also very important. We appreciate the time and effort you have invested in cooperation with the Juvenile Justice System.

District Attorney's Office Juvenile Court
503-988-3472

To Contact a Juvenile Court Counselor
503-988-3460

Small Claims Court
971-274-0545

Oregon State Bar Referral
503-684-3763

Victim Advocate
503-988-4830

Crime Victims' Rights

The Oregon State Constitution grants the following rights to crime victims:

- A victim may request notice in advance of the court hearing or disposition (sentencing).
- A victim may attend and be heard at the court hearing and/or disposition (sentencing).
- It is the victim's decision whether or not to speak with a defense attorney or his/her representative.
- If you request, your address and phone number can be kept from the defendant.
- A victim may obtain information about the outcome of the court hearing, the youth's referral history, and future release from custody.
- A victim may receive restitution, if ordered by the court.

* If after disposition in the case the Juvenile is not paying restitution or is violating other court orders, call the youth's Juvenile Court Counselor at 503- 988-3460.

GUIDE FOR VICTIMS OF YOUTH OFFENDERS



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503-988-3472

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

503-988-3222
<http://www.mcda.us>

Guide for Victims of Youth Offenders

Your car is stolen, your home is burglarized, your child is sexually assaulted.

Whatever the crime may be, the person arrested is under 18 years of age - What happens next?

The law enforcement agency will forward their report to the Juvenile Court. If a youth is arrested and taken into custody at the scene or shortly after the crime, an Intake Counselor will interview him/her. This counselor will decide, in accordance with Oregon law, if the youth will be held in detention, released to a responsible adult, or diverted.

Diversion

If this is the juvenile's first or second misdemeanor or Class C property offense, the case will be sent to the Multnomah County Juvenile Department for informal resolution/diversion. If the case is diverted, someone from the Juvenile Department will contact you.

Preliminary Hearing

If the youth is kept in custody, there will be a preliminary hearing on the next business day. At this hearing, the judge or referee will decide if there is probable cause to believe this youth committed the offense. If probable cause is found, the court determines whether to keep the youth in custody or to release him/her. Future court dates are set.

Juvenile Court Counselor

Each youth in the Juvenile Justice System is assigned a Juvenile Court Counselor (JCC) from the Multnomah County Juvenile Department. The JCC is a neutral party who helps the youth through the court process and who makes a recommendation to the court about what interventions or consequences the court should impose as a result of the youth's offense. The JCC is also interested in how the youth's conduct impacted you and your family. The JCC may contact you to ask about the case. Your statement can be included in a report to the court.

Defense Attorney

Each youth in the system is appointed a defense attorney. This attorney advocates for the youth's interests. He or she may contact you to discuss the case. You are not required to talk to this person.

Formal Hearing (Trial)

A trial involving a youth is conducted in the same manner and with the same rules of evidence as an adult case. Witnesses are sworn under oath and subject to cross-examination. The only difference is that in juvenile court a judge or referee determines guilt or acquittal, not a jury.

Dispositional Hearing (Sentencing)

At the dispositional hearing, the court hears from the Deputy District Attorney, the defense attorney, and the Juvenile Court Counselor. You, as a victim, also have the right to make a statement to the court if you wish. The court then determines the appropriate disposition. The judge can also order restitution at this time.

Restitution

The District Attorneys Office will send you a request for restitution information. It is important for you to send in your "Request for Restitution" form right away detailing your losses. Based on the information you provide, the court will decide what the youth offender will be required to pay. The court can order the youth to pay restitution for the damages that you incurred as a direct result of the youth's unlawful conduct. If the youth's unlawful conduct resulted in physical injury, the court can order the youth to reimburse your medical bills. If your property was damaged, the court can order the youth to pay restitution for the decrease in the fair market value of your property.

Oregon law states that the parent or parents of an unemancipated minor may be liable for damages to person or property intentionally or recklessly caused by their child. Consult with a private attorney or Small Claims Court to find out more about this.