

# VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



A Division of the  
CLERMONT COUNTY  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

(513) 732-7979

(513) 732-7810

(513) 732-7313

Mark J. Tekulve  
Prosecuting Attorney  
[www.clermontprosecutor.org](http://www.clermontprosecutor.org)

*Becoming a victim of crime is a reality that many of us will face in Clermont County. It is never anticipated, but crime has no boundaries creating a frightening and confusing experience. Facing physical and emotional trauma creates many questions about the process of the criminal justice system.*

*The Victim Assistance Program, established within the Prosecutor's Office, is committed to helping victims navigate through the criminal justice system. Assistance is available from the time a criminal offense or delinquent act is committed and continues throughout the legal process, to guarantee that crime victims receive the appropriate and necessary services and support. Services provided through this program are explained in this brochure.*

*If you or anyone you know is a victim of criminal offense or delinquent act, please consider calling us for assistance.*

*Mark J. Tekulve  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Clermont County, Ohio*

## **MARSY'S LAW**

Crime Victims In Clermont County Have Rights.  
As A Victim You Are Automatically Entitled To:

- Be Informed Of Your Rights;
- Be Treated With Fairness And Respect For Your Safety, Dignity, And Privacy;
- Reasonable Protection From The Accused Or Anyone Acting On Behalf Of The Accused;
- Receive Information About The Status Of The Case;
- Refuse A Defense Interview, Deposition, Or Other Discovery Request;
- Object To Defense Requests For Access To Your Confidential Information;
- Be Present At All Public Proceedings;
- Have A Support Person With You During Proceedings
- Tell The Court Your Opinion In Public Proceedings Involving Release, Plea, Sentencing, Disposition, Parole, Or Any Hearing That Involves Your Rights
- Object To Unreasonable Delays; And
- Full And Timely Restitution From The Offender

The rights listed below must be requested:

- Receive Notice Of The Arrest, Escape, Or Release Of The Offender;
- Reasonable And Timely Notice Of All Public Proceedings;
- Confer With The Prosecutor Assigned To The Case;
- Be Notified Of Subpoenas, Motions, Or Other Requests To Access Your Personal Information;
- Designate And Appoint A Victim's Representative
- Request For An Interpreter

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

A Caring Place Pregnancy Center.....	513.753.4357
Beech Acres .....	513.231.6630
CASA for Kids .....	513.732.7160
Catholic Social Services .....	513.241.7745
Child Focus .....	513.752.1555
Cincinnati Children's Hospital.....	513.636.4200
Mayerson Center for Safe & Healthy Children...	513.636.7233
Psychological Services .....	513.636.8107
Fernside Center for Grieving Children .....	513.246.9140
Inter-Parish Ministry .....	513.561.3932
Lighthouse Youth Services .....	513.221.3350
National Domestic Violence Helpline .....	800.799.7233
NewPath Child & Family Solutions.....	855.577.7284
Ohio Domestic Violence Network.....	800.934.9840
RAINN.....	800.656.4673
Report Child Abuse.....	513.732.STOP
SANE of Butler County .....	513.889-5435
Women Helping Women .....	513.381.5610
YWCA House of Peace.....	513.753.7281

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES & OTHER AGENCIES

Adult & Children Protective Services.....	513.732.7173
Christian Help Center .....	513.735.9400
Clerk of Courts-Common Pleas Clerk of Court	513.732.7560
Municipal Court Clerk of Court .....	513.732.7290
Civil Clerk .....	513.732.7292
Clermont County Animal Shelter.....	513.732.8854
Clermont Board of Developmental Disabilities..	513.732.7000
Clermont County Domestic Relations Court ..	513.732.7327
Clermont County Jail.....	513.732.7540
Clermont County Juvenile Detention.....	513.732.7696
Clermont Mental Health & Recovery .....	513.732.5400
Clermont County Probate Court .....	513.732.7243
Clermont County Veteran's Service Office..	513.732.7363
Clermont Senior Services .....	513.724.1255
Clermont Transportation Connection.....	513.732.7433
Council on Aging .....	513.721.1025
Dept. of Job and Family Services.....	513.732.7111
Child Support Enforcement .....	513.732.7248
Prevention, Retention & Contingency .....	513.732.7111
WIC (Women, Infants & Children).....	513.732.7329
Fraud Investigation & Benefit Recovery .....	513.732.7270
Lawyer Referral Service .....	513.732.2050
Legal Aid .....	513.241.9400
Office for Victims of Crime .....	800.851.3420
Ohio Attorney General.....	800.282.0515
Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center.....	614.848.8500
Ohio Department of Corrections.....	614.387.0588
Victim Information.....	614.728.1976
	888.842.8464
Ohio Means Jobs .....	513.943.3000
Parents of Murdered Children-POMC.....	513.721.5683
Probation-Common Pleas.....	513.732.7265
Juvenile .....	513.732.8001
Municipal .....	513.732.8100
Prosecuting Attorney-Common Pleas .....	513.732.7313
Municipal & Juvenile .....	513.732.7810
Public Defender-Common Pleas.....	513.732.7223
Municipal .....	513.732.7418
Salvation Army.....	513.732.6241

# MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE REFERRALS

Central Clinic Behavioral Health Services .....	513.868.1562
Clermont County Crisis Hotline .....	513.528.SAVE
Clermont Eastside Center-AA.....	513.752.2210
Clermont Recovery Center .....	513.735.8100
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health.....	513.354.5200
HOPE Center for Mental Wellness .....	513.752.6170
Linder Center of HOPE.....	513.536.4673
Narcotics Anonymous .....	513.820.2947
Northland Intervention Center, Inc.....	513.753.9964
Talbert House .....	513.281.2273
Teen Challenge .....	513.248.0452

## Municipal (Misdemeanor) Trial Process

**Criminal Complaint is filed**

**Arraignment/Bond Hearing**  
Defendant is informed of their rights and given a bond

The case is then set for a Pre-Trial Hearing (Also known as Plea/Trial Settings). Information is exchanged, plea discussions happen.

The case is then set for trial where the victim/witness has to testify.	A plea can happen instead of trial where the defendant would plead.
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**Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) –**  
A PSI is an investigation done by probation in an attempt to find out more information about the defendant prior to the Judge giving the defendant a sentence.

**\*Sentencing happens after a plea or a conviction.** A sentencing hearing is where the Judge determines what the defendant should be ordered to do based on the crime committed.

An appeal can be filed after the sentencing hearing.

If the case is dismissed or the defendant is found not guilty at trial, then a sentencing hearing would not occur.

## Juvenile Trial Process

**Criminal Complaint is filed\***

**Arraignment/Bond Hearing**  
Defendant is informed of their rights and given a bond

The case is then set for a Pre-Trial Hearing (Also known as Plea/Trial Settings). Information is exchanged, plea discussions happen.

The case is then set for trial where the victim/witness has to testify.	A plea can happen instead of trial where the defendant would plead.
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**Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) –**  
A PSI is an investigation done by probation in an attempt to find out more information about the defendant prior to the Judge giving the defendant a sentence.

**\*Sentencing happens after a plea or an adjudication.** A sentencing hearing is where the Judge determines what the defendant should be ordered to do based on the crime committed.

An appeal can be filed after the sentencing hearing.

If the case is dismissed or the defendant is found not guilty at trial, then a sentencing hearing would not occur.

## Common Pleas (Felony) Trial Process

**Criminal Complaint/Indictment is filed\***

**Arraignment/Bond Hearing**  
Defendant is informed of their rights and given a bond

The case is then set for a Pre-Trial Hearing (Also known as Plea/Trial Settings). Information is exchanged, plea discussions happen.

The case is then set for trial where the victim/witness has to testify.	A plea can happen instead of trial where the defendant would plead.
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**Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) –**  
A PSI is an investigation done by probation in an attempt to find out more information about the defendant prior to the Judge giving the defendant a sentence.

**\*\*Sentencing happens after a plea or a conviction.** A sentencing hearing is where the Judge determines what the defendant should be ordered to do based on the crime committed.

An appeal can be filed after the sentencing hearing.

\*If a felony charge/complaint is originally filed in Municipal Court, there may be a Preliminary Hearing held prior to an indictment.

\*\* If the case is dismissed or the defendant is found not guilty at trial, then a sentencing hearing would not occur.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUPPORT/ ADVOCACY & CRISIS INTERVENTION**

- Supports & Advocates for crime victims at any stage of the criminal justice process
- Encourages victims to utilize resources and participate in the criminal justice system
- Provides assistance and referrals regarding Protection Orders through Municipal Court, Common Pleas Court and Domestic Relations Court
- Attends bond hearings and arraignments daily
- Notification of court hearings by telephone, email, or mail
- Separate waiting areas for victims and witnesses
- In person crisis intervention and emotional support either on scene, immediately after a crime, or on an ongoing basis
- Attends all criminal justice proceedings with the victim, upon request
- Works with victim to request higher bonds and stay away orders from court
- Acts as a liaison between victim and prosecutor
- Assistance with victim impact statements
- Collaboration with local law enforcement
- Advocates are available to respond to a police department or on scene at the request of a law enforcement officer

## **SERVICES INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES**

- Referrals to community resources and social service agencies for counseling, emergency housing, financial assistance, and medical services.
- Advocates are trained to assess the needs of victim
- Advocates have received trauma informed care training
- Safe at Home registered application assistants
- Work closely with YWCA to provide referrals for civil protection orders, safety planning, and emergency housing
- Assistance with filing for Crime Victims Compensation including completing forms, gathering required documentation, and submitting applications
- Works closely with Ohio Attorney General to obtain information to expedite the process
- Advocates receive training to determine eligibility for the CVC program
- Information regarding VINE, Ohio's victim notification service
- Information regarding the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Corrections, Victim Services
- Victim Assistance is available to anyone who is a victim of a criminal offense or delinquent act within Clermont County
- Victims of Federal crime will be served.
- Advocates cannot give legal advice

## POLICE AGENCY NUMBERS

BATAVIA .....	513.732.5692
BETHEL VILLAGE .....	513.734.2256
CLERMONT COUNTY NARCOTICS UNIT .....	513.625.2806
CLERMONT COUNTY SHERIFF .....	513.732.7500
FELICITY VILLAGE .....	513.876.2621
GOSHEN TOWNSHIP .....	513.722.3200
LOVELAND .....	513.583.3000
MIAMI TOWNSHIP .....	513.248.3721
MILFORD .....	513.248.5084
NEW RICHMOND VILLAGE .....	513.553.3121
OHIO STATE PATROL .....	513.732.1510
OWENSVILLE VILLAGE .....	513.732.1171
PIERCE TOWNSHIP .....	513.752.4100
UNION TOWNSHIP .....	513.752.1230
WILLIAMSBURG VILLAGE .....	513.724.2261

The National Domestic Violence

# HOTLINE

1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

## VICTIMS HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW

Access to Information & Notification for  
Offender Custody Status

Ohio Statewide VINE® Service

# 1-800-770-0192

Toll-Free  
TTY 1-866-847-1298  
[www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)

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**Offender name**

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**Offender number**

**Your 4 digit PIN**



A service provided by the  
**Ohio Attorney General, Dave Yost**  
In partnership with the Buckeye State Sheriffs'  
Association, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation  
and Correction, Ohio Department of Youth  
Services and Appriss®