

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		Policy and Procedure
Specific Personnel / Administrative Policies		P&P-B-138
Victim Rights Legislative References		
Effective Date: 06-30-11 Supersedes: INV-M-403 dated 11-03-09	Approval: Sheriff	Number of Pages: 1
References: 24-4.1-302, 24-4.1-302.5, 24-4.1-303, 24-4.1-304	Reevaluation Date: Annually or as needed	Standards: CALEA 55.1.1, 55.2.2, 55.2.5

I. PURPOSE

The Victim Assistance Program will work to ensure the rights of victims of crime. The rights pertain to victims of specific crimes as described in legislation. Those rights are set forth by the Colorado Constitution and enabling legislation. The Victim Assistance Program will assist the Office in meeting these responsibilities through cooperative efforts, training, and written materials.

II. DEFINITIONS

The definitions of victims and witnesses are listed in C.R.S. 24-4.1-302.

III. CRIMES COVERED BY THE VICTIM RIGHTS ACT

The Constitution of the State of Colorado and 24-4.1-302(1) C.R.S. guarantee certain rights to victims and lists specific crimes that this statute applies to.

IV. THE VICTIMS RIGHTS ACT

The original Victim Rights Act became effective in January, 1993, and has been amended several times. The Victim Rights Act provides victims an active role in the criminal justice process in an attempt to balance the scales of justice. The rights guaranteed by the Victim Rights Act are listed in 24-4.1-302(1) through § 24-4.1-304 C.R.S.

V. LAW ENFORCEMENT REPSONSIBILIES

Additionally, law Enforcement agencies have the responsibility to provide the victim written information and provide specific services. Those responsibilities are listed in 24-4.1-302(1) through § 24-4.1-304 C.R.S. As the law may be amended during any legislative session, review of current legislation is always recommended.