



THE UNIVERSITY *of*
NEW ORLEANS

Resources Available to Crime Victims



Common Reactions to Victimization

Victims of crime may experience many physical, cognitive, and emotional reactions as a result of the victimization. The time of onset and the duration of these symptoms will vary by individual.

Physical Reactions:

- Headaches
- Stress related illnesses, such as nausea, diarrhea, and hives
- Sleep disturbances or nightmares
- Hyperactivity
- Lethargy
- Appetite changes
- Lowered immunity

Cognitive Reactions:

- Forgetfulness
- Inability to concentrate
- Memory loss of the event
- Flashbacks of the event

Emotional Reactions:

- Terror
- Anger or rage
- Guilt
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Mood swings
- Emotional numbness
- Social withdrawal
- Feelings of helplessness

These and many others are normal reactions to experiencing a traumatic event, such as being the victim of a crime. You do not have to go through the healing process alone. If you or someone you know is experiencing such symptoms, talk about it with a trusted family member or friend. Or seek help from one of the resources listed in this brochure. Take the first step towards healing by reaching out.

Louisiana's Crime Victim Bill of Rights

As a victim or designated family member of a victim, you may have the right of notification of certain proceedings in the criminal justice system that may affect you. For this registration you must file a Victim Notice and Registration Form with the arresting law enforcement agency, online, the clerk of court or the prosecuting agency that has jurisdiction over the case. You can register to receive an automated notification when the arrestee/offender is released from custody, and other vital information, by contacting the Louisiana Automated Victim Notification System (LAVNS) toll free at 1-866-528-6748 or WWW.LAVNS.ORG. LAVNS is an anonymous, free service.

By registering as a victim, you are also entitled to do a Victim Impact Statement. For you to have these Statutory Rights, the defendant must be charged with any homicide, felony crime of violence, vehicular negligent injuring, first-degree vehicular negligent injuring, sexual offense, or an attempt thereof.

Crime Victims Bill of Rights

- The right to reasonable notice and to be present and heard during all critical stages of pre-conviction and post-conviction proceedings.
- The right to be informed upon the release from custody of the escape of the accused or the offender.
- The right to confer with the prosecution prior to final disposition of the case.
- The right to refuse to be interviewed by the accused or a representative of the accused.
- The right to review and comment upon the pre-sentence report prior to imposition of sentencing.
- The right to seek restitution.
- The right to a reasonably prompt conclusion to the case.

As a witness you have many of the same rights given to the victim. For example, the witness has a right to advance notification concerning judicial proceedings and to be provided a secure waiting area during court proceedings, which does not require close proximity to defendants and their family or friends. A crime victim witness coordinator assists those who have a case pending within the Attorney General's Criminal Division. If you have been a victim or witness or a crime and need assistance contact the Louisiana Department of Justice Criminal Division:

STREET: 1885 North 3rd St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
MAIL: P.O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
PHONE: 225-326-6200
FAX: 225-326-6297

EMAIL: CriminalInfo@ag.state.la.us

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

UNO Resources

UNO Student Affairs
(504) 280-6222

UNO Counseling
(504) 280-6683

UNO Office of Student Accountability and Advocacy
(504) 280-6222

UNO Office of Disability Services
(504) 280-6222

UNO Greek Life
(504) 280-6636

UNO Women's Center
(504) 280-7285

UNO Police Department
(504) 280-6666

Off-Campus Resources

Alcoholics Anonymous
(504) 838-3399

New Orleans Police Department
911 (for emergencies)

24 hour Drug Helpline
(504) 486-9690

Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office
(504) 363-5500

National Sexual Assault Hotline
800-656-HOPE

Crescent House
(504) 837-7481

Off-Campus Resources (Continued)

Metropolitan Center for Women and Children
(504) 837-5400

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
800-800-3855

Crisis Intervention Hotline
(504) 269--6273

Rape Crisis Counseling Line
(504) 837-5400

Louisiana Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-411-1333

National Suicide Prevention Hotline
1-800-273-8255

Louisiana State Police
(504) 471-2775 or (504) 589-6261

U.S. Coast Guard
(504) 589-6261

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
(504) 840-1100

U.S. Secret Service
(504) 589--4041

U.S. Postal Inspector
(504) 589-1200

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
800-GET-MADD (800-438-6233)
Local 214-744-6233

Victim Services 24-Hour Help Line
877-MADD-HELP (877-623-3435)

Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault
Phone: (985) 345-5995
Fax: (985) 345-5592
Toll Free: (888) 995-7273



The Impact of Crime

After being victimized, most people experience a range of emotions including shock, disbelief, anger, self-blame, and fear. It is important for you to know that what happened was not your fault and help is available. It is important for you to know what resources are available here at the University of New Orleans and in the Metro Area.



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