

Other Resources

DAYA – South Asian Families.....	713-981-7645
Cy-Hope.....	713-466-1360
Parents of Murdered Children	888-818-7662
The Parris Foundation.....	713-315-6446
Compassionate Friends.....	713-877-8626
Victim Assistance Centre – SAFE.....	832-297-0013
Anti-Defamation League/Southwest.....	713-627-3490
Mothers Against Drunk Driving/Houston	281-590-2222
Tahirih Justice Center.....	713-496-0100
Families to Freedom.....	346-386-6767

Notice To Adult Victims of Family Violence

It is a crime for any person to intentionally cause you any physical harm, even if that person is a member or former member of your household. It is important that you tell the officer if you, your child, or any other household resident has been injured, or if you feel you are going to be in danger after the officer leaves.

Important:

If the officer at the scene believes that family violence has occurred, the officer will arrest the offender at the scene if he/she is present. If the offender is not present when the officer arrives and the officer believes that family violence occurred, the offender may be arrested for family violence at a later date.

You Have The Right To:

Safety for yourself and your children: For information about shelters in your area contact the **Harris County Sheriff's Office** or the **Crime Victim Assistance Unit**.

Information and referrals: About the legal system, counseling resources and obtaining court ordered counseling for the offender. Contact the **Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO)** or victim services representative.

Court-ordered protection from the Offender: Protective Orders are issued through the District Attorney's office. This order must be issued directly to the offender. It orders him to stay away from you and your family; to stop any communication, directly or through others, that is threatening or harassing; and to stop committing family violence against you.

Any person charged with an offense has a right to bail and is subject to a speedy release. **The Harris County Sheriff's Office** has no control over this action.

HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Crime Victim Assistance Unit

Providing assistance for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and all other violent crimes.

OUR MISSION

To positively impact the quality of life for the residents of Harris County, the Harris County Sheriff's Office Crime Victim Assistance Unit assists victims/survivors and families by providing crisis intervention, advocacy, and access to resources that reduce the impact of trauma on individuals and their families.



SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ

www.harriscountysos.org | www.hcsjobs.com

Crime Victim Assistance Unit
 713-274-9369 Fax: 713-274-9354
 601 Lockwood, Houston, TX 77011
 For emergencies: 9-1-1
 Non-Emergency: 713-221-6000



@HCSOTexas Harris County Sheriff's Office HCSOTexas HCSOTexas @HCSOTexas

HARRIS COUNTY
HCSO
 SHERIFF'S OFFICE
 SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ



CASE #

HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Crime Victim Assistance Unit

Providing assistance for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and all other violent crimes.

713-274-9369

Rights of Victims

As defined in Article 56, Texas Code of Criminal Procedures, a victim of a violent crime is someone who:

1. Has suffered bodily injury or death as a result of criminally injurious conduct, or who has been the victim of a crime involving sexual assault, kidnapping, or aggravated robbery;
2. Is the close relative (spouse, parent, brother, sister, or adult child) of a deceased victim; or
3. Is the guardian of a victim. As a victim of violent crime, you have the following rights:

The right to protection from threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts.

The right to have your safety and that of your family taken into consideration.

If requested, the right to be informed in advance about court proceedings, including cancellations or rescheduling.

If requested, the right to information about procedures in the criminal investigation of your case by law enforcement officials, and about general procedures in the criminal justice system, including plea bargaining, restitution, appeals and parole, from the prosecutor's office.

The right to receive information about the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Fund that provides financial assistance to victims of violent crimes and, if requested, referral to available social service agencies that may provide additional help.

The right to provide information to a probation department conducting a presentence investigation on the impact of the crime.

The right to have a law enforcement agency pay for medical examinations for victims of sexual assault and, on request, the right to counseling regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for sexual assault victims.

If requested the right to be notified of parole proceedings by the Victim Services Section of the Pardons and Parole Division, the right to participate in the parole process by submitting a victim impact statement or other information, and the right to be notified of the inmate's release.

The right to be present at all public court proceedings, if the presiding judge permits.

The right to a safe waiting area before and during court proceedings.

The right to prompt return of any property that is no longer required as evidence.

If requested, the right to have the prosecutor notify your employer that the need for your testimony may involve your absence from work.
The right to complete a Victim Impact Statement detailing the emotional, physical and financial impact that the crime has had on you and your family, and to have that statement considered by the judge at sentencing and by the parole board prior to taking any parole action.

The right for a victim of a sexual assault to a forensic medical exam within 96 hours of the sexual assault.

The right to consider impact of a continuance request for victim of sexual assault or assault if victim is under 17 years of age or case involves family violence.

Crime Victims' Compensation

Crime Victims' Compensation is a financial assistance program that helps eligible victims of crime with certain expenses related to the crime. Money for this program comes from court costs paid by criminals and deposited into the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund.

Crimes covered by Crime Victims' Compensation are those in which the victim suffers substantial threat of physical or emotional harm or death. These may include sexual assault, kidnapping, robbery, assault, homicide and other violent crimes. Vehicular crimes that are covered include FSRA, DWI, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, aggravated assault, intoxication manslaughter and intoxication assault.

The **Harris County Sheriff's Office Victim Assistance Unit** will assist you in applying for and obtaining benefits from the Crime Victims' Compensation Program.

Please call or write for additional information and/or application:

601 Lockwood, Houston, Texas 77011
713-274-9369 FAX 713-274-9354

TEXAS V.I.N.E.
(Victim Information and Notification Everyday)
1-877-894-8463

Provides basic information on jailed suspects/offenders and their scheduled court events. **Call Toll free 24 hours** a day for information on county jail status and court events. Register to be automatically notified of court events and changes in jail status. This is a free service for crime victims and other concerned citizens.

Victims' Service Program

Services Provided:

1. Criminal Justice Support
 - Referral to assigned division/investigator
 - Status of case information
2. Informing Victims of their rights
 3. Information and referrals to local social service providers
 4. Assistance in filing for Crime Victims' Compensation
 5. Liaison between law enforcement and crime victims
 6. Community Awareness and presentations
 7. Other services as needed

Harris County Sheriff's Office Contact Numbers

EMERGENCY 9-1-1	
NON-EMERGENCY/DISPATCH	713-221-6000
Crime Victim Assistance Unit	713-274-9369
Homicide Division	713-274-9100
Burglary, Theft, Financial Crimes	713-274-9200
Domestic Violence/ Sex Crimes Unit	713-274-9370
Crimes Against Children Unit	713-830-3250
Sex Offender Registration	832-394-1904
Vehicular Crimes Division	713-274-7400
Violent Crimes Unit	713-274-9210

Resource List

Medical Services (Harris County Hospital District)

LBJ Hospital	713-566-5100
Ben Taub Hospital	713-873-2000

Information And Assistance

V.I.N.E. (Victim Information and Notification Every Day)	1-877-894-8463
National Center for Victims of Crime	1-800-394-2255
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233
Hearing Impaired	1-800-787-3224
TCVF-Texas Council on Family Violence	512-794-1133

TO REPORT ABUSE, NEGLECT OR EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN,
THE ELDERLY OR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TDPRS ABUSE/NEGLECT HOTLINE
1-800-252-5400

Crisis Counseling Services

Katy Christian Ministries:	
Domestic Abuse Center	281-391-5261
Sexual Assault Center	281-693-7273
Houston Area Women's Center:	
Domestic Violence Hotline	713-528-2121
Rape Crisis	713-528-7273
FamilyTime Foundation (Humble area)	281-446-2615
Northwest Assistance Ministries	281-885-4555
The Bridge (Pasadena area)	713-472-0753
Bay Area Turning Point (Clearlake area)	281-286-2525
Crisis intervention of Houston	832-416-1177
Catholic Charities	713-526-4611
Montrose Center	713-529-0037
Focusing Families	979-826-0000
El Centro del Corazon	713-926-1849
RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network)	800-656-4673
Shield Bearer	281-894-7222
Family Ties	866-675-1199

Legal Aid Resources

Lone Star Legal Aid	713-652-0077
Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse- AVDA	713-224-9911
Houston Volunteer Lawyers	713-228-0732
Family Criminal Law (Protective Orders)	713-274-0212
Harris County DA-Victim Services Division	713-274-0250
Houston Lawyer Referral Service	713-237-9429
Dispute Resolution Center	713-755-8274
Texas Advocacy Project-Family Violence Legal Line	800-374-4673