

## **YOUR RIGHTS AS A CRIME VICTIM**

As a CRIME VICTIM, or surviving family member of a crime victim, you have the following rights:

- ⇒ To have an advocate present at any interview of the victim of a sex crime or violent crime.
- ⇒ Access to medical assistance without unreasonable delay.
- ⇒ Return of stolen within ten days after it is recovered.
- ⇒ To know the date, time and location of the trial and, if requested, of the sentencing hearing for a felony conviction.
- ⇒ To request restitution for property damage or loss, for medical or counseling expenses and, in cases involving a death, for funeral and burial expenses.
- ⇒ To submit a written victim impact statement to the court (which is included in the presentence report and made a part of the file).
- ⇒ To make an oral or written statement at the sentencing hearing for a felony conviction.
- ⇒ To be informed of the final disposition of the case.

## **YOUR RIGHTS AS A WITNESS**

As a WITNESS IN A CRIMINAL CASE, you have the following rights:

- ⇒ To be protected from threats or harm because you are cooperating with law enforcement and the prosecuting attorney.
- ⇒ To be informed of changes of court dates to which you have been subpoenaed.
- ⇒ To have your employer contacted if your employment is at risk because you will miss work for your testimony.
- ⇒ To have, whenever practical, a secure waiting area provided for you during court proceedings.
- ⇒ To receive any witness fees to which you are entitled.

## **CHILD VICTIMS AND WITNESSES**

In addition to the rights of adult crime victims and witnesses, children have the following rights:

- ⇒ To have all proceedings explained in language which can be easily understood.
- ⇒ For information and referrals to assist with the emotional impact of the crime and legal proceedings and the services of other professional personnel.
- ⇒ To have a child advocate who may:
  - inform the court about the child's ability to understand the nature of the proceedings;
  - make recommendations about the child's ability to cooperate with the prosecution and the potential effects upon the child; and
  - be present in court to provide emotional support during the child's testimony.
- ⇒ To have support person(s) before, during and after court proceedings.
- ⇒ Nondisclosure of the child's name, address or photograph to any agency outside the criminal justice system.