

STATE VICTIM RIGHTS COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS

STATE	NAME/AGENCY	Date started	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Alaska	<p>Office of Victim Rights</p> <p>Agency of the legislature</p>	2001	The office investigates complaints of violations of victim rights, and assists victims in obtaining these rights. It also provides free legal services to victims, such as appointing an attorney to represent them at sentencing and speak for them, if the victim wants such representation.	<p>Katherine Hansen, Interim Director State of Alaska Office of Victims' Rights 1007 West 3rd Ave., Suite 205 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 907-754-3460 844-754-3460 (AK toll free) officeofvictimsrights@akleg.gov</p> <p>www.ovr.legis.state.ak.us</p>
Arizona	<p>State Victims' Rights Compliance Administrator</p> <p>Attorney General's Office</p>		The State Victims' Rights Compliance Administrator functions like an ombudsman by conducting investigations and auditing/evaluating the operations of government providers of mandated victim services.	<p>Ryan Clark, State Victims' Rights Compliance Administrator 2005 N. Central Ave., Cap. Bldg. Phoenix, AZ 85004 602-542-8848 Colette.chapman@azag.gov</p> <p>https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/victims-rights-enforcement-officer</p>
Colorado	<p>Victim Rights Act Compliance Program</p> <p>Victims' Compensation and Assistance Coordinating Committee</p> <p>Division of Criminal Justice Colorado Department of Public Safety</p>	1993	A seven-member subcommittee of the board initially reviews complaints of violations of the Victim Rights Act. The board also reviews grant requests for VOCA and VAWA funding. The Attorney General can become involved with a VRA complaint if an agency in violation has not complied with the recommendations set forth by the VRA Subcommittee.	<p>Kelly Kissell Office for Victims Programs Colorado Division of Criminal Justice</p> <p>Kim Branham Victim Rights Act Specialist</p> <p>700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000 Denver, Co 80215-5865 303-239-4497 888-282-1080 kelly.kissell@state.co.us kim.branham@state.co.us</p> <p>http://dcj.state.co.us/ovp/VRA.html</p>

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Connecticut	<p>The Office of the Victim Advocate</p> <p>Independent State Agency</p>	1999	<p>The OVA is an independent state agency whose mandates include receive and investigate complaints from crime victims or others on behalf of the crime victim, to determine whether the victims’ rights have been violated; enter an appearance in any court for the purpose of protecting the right(s) of crime victims; participate in public education and outreach to enhance the community’s knowledge base regarding crime victims’ rights in CT; recommend policy and legislative initiatives to advance the rights of crime victim or remove barriers to justice; and monitor the delivery of services to the crime victim population, including interactions with crime victims and the State Witness Protection Program and the Office of Chief Medical Examiner.</p>	<p>Natasha Pierre Office of Victim Advocate 505 Hudson St. 5th Floor Hartford, CT 06106 860-550-6632 888-771-3126 Natasha.Pierre@ct.gov</p> <p>https://portal.ct.gov/OVA</p>
Maryland	<p>Victim Rights Compliance Initiative</p> <p>Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention and Maryland State Board of Victim Services</p>		<p>The compliance coordinator investigates complaints against state or local criminal justice agencies, and reports findings, conclusions and recommendations to parties involved. The compliance coordinator can conduct audits/evaluations of criminal justice agencies to determine level of compliance and make recommendations for change.</p>	<p>Kimberly Herndon Victim Rights Compliance Coordinator Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention at UB University of Baltimore, College of Public Affairs, School of Criminal Justice 10 West Preston Street, Rm. 542 Baltimore, Maryland 21201-5779 (410) 837-5938 kimberly.herndon@maryland.gov</p> <p>http://goccp.maryland.gov/victims/rights-resources/compliance-initiative/</p>

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Minnesota	<p>Crime Victim Justice Unit</p> <p>Office of Justice Programs</p> <p>Department of Public Safety</p>	1986	<p>The CVJU investigates complaints from victims about statutory rights violations and victim mistreatment. The office develops informational materials for both crime victims and criminal justice professionals, and initiates and assists in legislative proposals related to crime victims. Although Minnesota's compliance effort no longer carries the title of ombudsman, it operates under the same principles. The CVJU provides both informal assistance to crime victims and conducts formal investigations, the result of which includes determinations on each complaint accompanied by recommendations to ameliorate the harm done to the victim and improve procedures to prevent similar problems in the future.</p>	<p>Suzanne Elwell, Director 45 Minnesota St. Suite 2300 St. Paul, MN 55101 651-201-7312 800-247-0390 suzanne.elwell@state.mn.us cvju.ojp@state.mn.us</p> <p>https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/help-for-crime-victims/Pages/crime-victim-rights-enforcement.aspx</p>
Oregon	<p>Crime Victims' Rights Program</p> <p>Crime Victims' Services Division Oregon Department of Justice</p>	2006	<p>The Crime Victims' Rights Program works with the Attorney General's Task Force on Victims' Rights Enforcement to develop and update materials that support compliance with the law, train system practitioners, and service providers and increase awareness about crime victims' rights. Statutory changes in 2009 now allow victims to file formal motions with the court when victims' rights have been violated. Topic focused workgroups and committees address specific gaps in system awareness and compliance. In 2010 legislative action extended crime victims' rights to post-conviction, appeals, and federal habeas cases, and Oregon DOJ operates a post-conviction victim advocacy program.</p>	<p>Helen O'Brien Crime Victims' Rights Program Coordinator Oregon Department of Justice 1162 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301 503-378-5348 800-503-7983 helen.obrien@doj.state.or.us</p> <p>http://www.oregoncrimevictimsrights.org/</p>

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Pennsylvania	Office of Victim Advocate		Offers email address to voice concerns when victim feels their rights have been violated. The OVS work with many partners in the juvenile and criminal justice systems, to ensure that victims of crime get the help they need to move forward.	Suzanne V. Estrella Commonwealth Victim Advocate Office of the Victim Advocate 1101 S. Front Street, Suite 5200 Harrisburg, PA 17104 1-800-563-6399 Ra-ovainfo@pa.gov http://www.ova.state.pa.us/
South Carolina	Crime Victims' Ombudsman Office of the Governor	1996	Provides referrals, acts as a liaison between victims and justice system elements, and reviews complaints in an attempt to resolve any conflicts	Veronica Swain Kunz Crime Victim Ombudsman South Carolina Attorney General's Office Crime Victim Services Division 1205 Pendleton Street, 4 th floor Columbia, SC 29201 Telephone: 803-734-0357 Direct Line: 803-734-5228 Fax: 803-734-1428 vkunz@oepp.sc.gov http://www.scag.gov/crime-victim-ombudsman
Utah	Victims Rights Committee Utah Council on Victims of Crime		A committee for each judicial district that meets semiannually to review victim complaints. This committee is appointed for each judicial district	Hildegard Koenig 350 East 500 south, Ste. 200 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 801-238-2369 cwatters@utah.gov

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Wisconsin	<p style="text-align: center;">Victim Resource Center</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Justice</p>		<p>The Victim Resource Center (VRC) assists victims of crime by providing information and referrals and an informal complaint process to help victims assert their rights. Mediators act as a liaison with criminal justice professionals to advocate for victims who are having difficulty exercising their rights. All victims who want to file a formal complaint with the Wisconsin Crime Victims Rights Board must first participate in the informal complaint process through the VRC. The vast majority of rights' complaints in Wisconsin are resolved through this process.</p>	<p>Anne Kessenich Director of Victim Services Wisconsin Department of Justice 17 W. Main Street Madison, WI 53707-7951 608-267-5251 800-446-6564 kessenicham@doj.state.wi.us</p> <p>http://www.doj.state.wi.us/cvs/</p>
Wisconsin	<p style="text-align: center;">Crime Victim Rights Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Justice</p>	1999	<p>The board can issue private/public reprimand of officials and agencies that violate victim rights, refer violations by judges to a judicial committee, seek relief to protect victims' rights, and bring civil actions to assess a forfeiture. Intentional violations are subject to a forfeiture up to \$1000.</p>	<p>Julie Braun Wisconsin Department of Justice 819 North 6th Street, Ste. 180 Milwaukee, WI 53203 414-227-1865 800-446-6564 braunja@doj.state.wi.us</p> <p>https://www.doj.state.wi.us/ocvs/victim-rights/crime-victims-rights-board</p>

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U.S.	<p>Office of the Victims' Rights Ombudsman</p> <p>Executive Office for the U.S. Attorney's Office</p>	2004	<p>A crime victim may file a complaint against any employee of the Department of Justice who violated or failed to provide the rights established under the Crime Victims' Rights Act of 2004, 18 U.S.C. § 3771. The Department of Justice has established the Office of the Victims' Rights Ombudsman to receive and investigate complaints filed by crime victims against its employees, and has implemented Procedures to Promote Compliance with Crime Victims' Rights Obligations, 28 C.F.R. § 45.10</p>	<p>Marie A. O'Rourke Victims' Rights Ombudsman Executive Office for United States Attorneys Department of Justice RFK Main Justice Building 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Room 2261 Washington, DC 20530-0001 202-252-1010 877-574-9302 (toll free) Fax: 202-252-1011</p> <p>http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/eousa/vr/</p>
Canada	<p>Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime</p>	2007	<p>The Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime is a new, independent resource for victims in Canada. The Office was created in 2007 to ensure the federal government meets its responsibilities to victims of crime.</p>	<p>Sue O'Sullivan Office of the Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime P.O. Box 55037 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1A1 866-481-8429 victimsfirst@ombudsman.gc.ca</p> <p>www.victimsfirst.gc.ca</p>