

If you are a victim and in danger, call 911.

Shelter and Resource Assistance Crisis Hotline 1-800-650-6522 or www.acadv.org

You, as a victim of a crime, may apply for financial benefits under the Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission. You may also be eligible for restitution which lessens the financial burden of victims of crime who have suffered a financial loss due to injuries or other qualifying events.

For more information:

Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission

www.acvcc.alabama.gov

info@acvcc.alabama.gov

P.O. Box 231267

Montgomery, AL 36123-1267

1-800-541-9388

An Alabama **Protection from Abuse** Order "PFA" is available to victims of domestic violence.

This is a civil matter and a prosecutor does not file for this relief.

A victim may on their own, through an attorney, or a personal representative, request an order from a judge which will assist in providing protection from abuse by providing specific relief.

Relief is within the discretion of the judge.

By law, there are no costs or fees for requesting or receiving a PFA order.

More information is available at the circuit clerk's office in any Alabama county courthouse.

As a victim of a crime, you have legal rights including:

- To be informed about your case;
- To be present and heard when authorized at all crucial stages of criminal proceedings;
- To refuse a request by the defendant or defendant's attorney for communication or interview;
- To remain away from the defendant during court sessions.

If you are not notified of an arrest within 60 days, you may call the law enforcement agency for the status of the case:

Officer _____

Agency _____ **#** _____

**Help is available 24/7
TEXT "START" to 88788**

As a victim, you may experience shock, disbelief, numbness, change of appetite, change in sleep patterns, guilt, shame, anxiety, depression, intrusive thoughts, anger, or fatigue.

The criminal process can be confusing. You are encouraged to ask questions and discuss any concerns with the prosecutor assigned to your case.

The criminal process in Alabama generally follows these steps: investigation, arrest, 1st appearance by defendant, preliminary hearing, grand jury, and plea or trial.

During these stages, there are numerous appearances and hearings. It is very important that you appear in court when summoned because without your assistance it is difficult to prosecute the offender.

Contact your victim service officer or prosecutor for all questions.

*Only licensed attorneys may give legal advice.

Prosecuting Agency

Phone#

Incident Report # (if known)

A Plan for Your Safety

1. Develop a code to alert a trusted person to call the police.
2. Have a bag packed with a change of clothes, important papers, spare keys, cell phone, and cash.
3. Seek out resources for assistance.

In an emergency, dial 9-1-1

Resources for support, counseling, safety planning & more:

1-800-799-SAFE or

Text "START" to 8888

Suicide Hotline: 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

YWCA DV Hotline: 205-322-4878 (HURT)

Crisis Services Helpline: 1-800-691-8426

AshaKiran (foreign-born): 1-800-793-3010

**Alabama Domestic Violence
Hotline**

1-800-650-6522

**Additional State Resources
Dial 2-1-1**

