

Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA)



Find Help and Legal Information online at  
[www.MTCrimeVictimHelp.Org](http://www.MTCrimeVictimHelp.Org)

Visit [www.MTCrimeVictimHelp.Org](http://www.MTCrimeVictimHelp.Org) to find  
help and legal information about:

- Sexual Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Elder Abuse
- Child Abuse
- Bullying
- Financial Crimes
- Fraud & Scams
- Identity Theft
- Human Trafficking
- Homicide Survivors
- Other crimes

#### **Where Can Crime Victims in Montana Find Legal Help?**

Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA) provides free, confidential legal assistance to crime victims.

**Apply Online:** Visit [www.mtlsa.org](http://www.mtlsa.org). After you submit an online application, a member of the MLSA staff will contact you to complete the application process.

**Apply By Phone:** Call the Helpline at **(800) 666-6899** to talk with an MLSA staff member. The Helpline hours are limited.

## **What RIGHTS Do Crime Victims Have in Montana?**

### **Right to Information and Notification**

- Ask your Law Enforcement agency for a Victims' Rights packet.
- You have a right to obtain contact information for the investigation officer and the prosecuting attorney. You may obtain certain documents related to the investigation of the crime. You have a right to one free copy of public documents in the court file.
- You have a right to be notified of arrests, the release of the accused, any charges filed, the time and place of hearings, plea negotiations, and information on sentencing.

### **Right to Confidentiality**

- You can request the address, phone number, workplace of you and your family be kept confidential. If the crime was sex offense, your identity can not be disclosed.

### **Right to Fair Treatment**

- Victims and their families cannot be fired for participating in criminal proceedings. You can get help notifying school, work, or creditors about your situation.
- You have the right to have an advocate present during interviews.

### **Right to be Present**

- You and your family cannot be excluded from court hearings.

### **Right to Consultation with Prosecuting Attorney**

- The prosecutor must consult with you about certain parts of the case.

### **Right to be Heard**

- You can tell your story and give your opinion about the offender's sentence.

### **Right to Restitution**

- You can recover money from a convicted offender for damages such as medical bills, damaged property, and lost wages.

### **Safety**

- You can apply for a protective order to keep the offender away from you and your family.

**If your rights are being violated, call Montana Legal Services at 1-800-666-6899.**

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