FREE LEGAL HELP
VICTIMS’ RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT.

YOU HAVE RIGHTS. As a victim of a crime, you have gone through something very traumatizing and it may be difficult for others to understand what you are going through.

HERE IS THE GOOD NEWS: You have enforceable and crucial rights during the criminal process.

- You have the right to be informed and present at all public proceedings and hearings.
- You have the right to be heard.
- You have the right to full and timely restitution.
- You have the right to be reasonably protected from the accused.
- You have the right to confer with the prosecutor concerning pleas, diversion programs, sentencing, and other matters.
- You have the right to prevent disclosure of information that could be used to locate you or your family.

Having an attorney to represent you as the victim in a criminal case is invaluable. Remember — the prosecutor for the State Attorney’s Office represents the State of Florida, not any one individual or victim. The prosecutor will advocate for your interests when they are able to, but they must consider the rights of the defendant as well. The public defender, or the defendant’s criminal defense attorney, represents the defendant only.

Our job is to represent you. We will advise you of your legal rights and help you assert and protect your rights at every stage of the criminal case.

HOW TO GET HELP

- You must be a victim of crime | “A victim is a person who suffers direct or threatened physical, psychological, or financial harm as a result of the commission or attempted commission of a crime or delinquent act or against whom the crime or delinquent act is committed.” –Article I, Section 16 of the Florida Constitution

Our services are FREE There are no financial eligibly restrictions or requirements.

To learn if your case falls within the guidelines of the program call 754.312.3101 or e-mail RISE@legalaid.org

OUR GOALS

- Protect your privacy, dignity, and safety as a victim of crime.
- Answer your questions about the criminal process.
- Keep you informed about the status of the case and your rights.
- Represent you to enforce your rights in the criminal case.
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Being a victim of crime is difficult enough. Going through the criminal justice system may be even more traumatizing, especially if you are navigating it alone. We are here to help to walk you through the process.

In 2018, with funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) launched a national victims’ rights enforcement project – RISE (Rights in Systems Enforced). Legal Aid is one of six subgrant recipients of RISE.

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If you are a victim of crime, please call 754.312.3101 or e-mail RISE@legalaid.org

HOW TO FIND US

Legal Aid Service of Broward County | Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida
491 N. State Road 7 | Plantation, FL 33317 | LegalAid.org