



Frequently Asked Questions:

- **I received a subpoena in the mail; what do I do now?**
You must sign the subpoena, update any relevant information, and return it by mail. You must appear at your court date. If the date for which the case is listed presents a serious conflict (i.e. pre-scheduled medical procedure, etc.) please contact the Victim/Witness Services Unit as soon as possible.
- **I would like to drop charges, how do I go about doing that?**
For the safety of the victim and the Philadelphia community, charges cannot be dropped over the phone and the decision to pursue charges remains solely with our office. You must still come to court and discuss the matter with the ADA (Assistant District Attorney).
- **Do I have to take time off of work?**
Yes. However, if you present your employer with the subpoena, they do not have the authority to penalize you for missed time. Furthermore, you may be able to receive compensation for lost wages through Victim's Compensation.

The Victim/Witness Services Unit of the District Attorney's Office provides information and services to crime victims in Philadelphia.

It is the mission of the Victim/Witness Services Unit to advocate on behalf of all crime victims and witnesses. We provide direct assistance from the time of the arrest through the disposition of a case and after, as needed.

Our goal is to ensure that older adult victims and witnesses are well-informed and treated with compassion and respect.

Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
Three South Penn Square
Philadelphia, PA 19107
www.phila.gov/districtattorney

Philadelphia District
Attorney's Office
Victim/Witness
Services Unit

Information For Older Adult Victims of Crime

If you need assistance, please
contact the

Elder Victim/Witness Coordinator:
Nermeen Karyaquos
Phone: 215-686-8035

Email:
Nermeen.Karyaquos@phila.gov
OR

The Victim/Witness Services Unit:
215-686-8027

The Victim/Witness Services Unit directly assists with the following

- Case Status Information:** Information about the next listed court date.
- Court Accompaniment:** Securing a victim advocate to provide support in court.
- Court Transportation:** Providing free transportation to and from court.
- Safe Waiting Area:** Staffing the Victim/Witness waiting room at all times.
- Restitution:** The sum that the defendant is ordered to repay the victim for financial losses due to the crime.
- Victim Compensation:** Compensation for out-of-pocket expenses due to the crime, with the exception of personal property loss or damage. Unlike restitution, this sum does not depend on the verdict or the defendant's ability to pay.
- Referrals:** Provide information about community-based and social services for seniors.

Criminal Justice System-Based Services for Older Adult Crime Victims in Philadelphia

District Attorney's Office Private Criminal Complaint

Unit:

1425 Arch Street

Assists victims with filing private criminal complaints—*filing fee* \$39.10

District Attorney's Office Public

Nuisance Task Force Unit:

Three South Penn Square

Philadelphia, PA 19107

215-686-5858 (hotline)

Monday-Sunday: 24 hours/day

Philadelphia Police Department

C.A.R.E Unit

(Crimes Against the Retired Elderly)

Assists older adult crime victims with filing felony criminal complaints.

300 E. Hunting Park Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19134

215-685-3263

Monday-Friday: 8am to 5am



Probation Department:
Assists victims with complaints about offenders on probation

1401 Arch St.

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-1000

Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm

Restitution: 215-683-1251

Family Court Domestic Violence Intake Unit

Assists victims with filing

Protection From Abuse (PFA)

Orders—*free*

1501 Arch St

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-686-4000

Monday-Friday: 8am to 4pm

Office of the Victim Advocate & PA SAVIN Notification System

Assists with victim registration for notification of an offenders upcoming parole hearings, release, escape, or transfer from custody

If the offender is in state custody, please call the Office of the Victim

Advocate:

1-800-563-6399

If the offender is in county

custody, please call PA SAVIN:

1-866-972-7284

1-866-847-1298 TTY