

A crime victim must take certain steps to ensure the crime victim receives information.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes:

§ 18-81e, the Commissioner of Correction shall notify any victim of the crime, for which such person is incarcerated of such person's release **if such victim has requested notification and provided the commissioner with a current address.**

§ 54-91c, the state's attorney shall notify the victim of such crime of the date, time and place of the original sentencing hearing or any judicial proceeding concerning a plea agreement, **provided the victim has informed the state's attorney that the victim wishes to make or submit a statement and complied with a request to submit a stamped, self-addressed postcard for the purpose of such notification.**

Upon the request of the victim, the state's attorney shall provide the victim with the terms of a proposed plea agreement in writing.

§ 51-286e, the state's attorney shall notify the victim of any judicial proceeding relating to the victim's case, **if such victim has requested notification and provided current contact information.**

“In the absence of information, we jump to the worst conclusions.”

-Myra Kassim



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INFORMATION

Crime victims have a State Constitutional Right to information about the arrest, conviction, sentence, imprisonment and release of the accused.





Important Information to Obtain from Police

When a crime is reported to police, the victim of the crime should obtain the following information from the police:

- *The name of the accused;*
- *The charges against the accused;*
- *The bond set on the accused, if any;*
- *The date of the accused first court appearance;*
- *The location of the first court appearance; and*
- *Any conditions of release imposed on the accused relating to the victim.*

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes:

§ 54-222a, whenever a peace officer determines that a crime has been committed, such officer shall present a card to the crime victim informing the crime victim of services available and the rights of crime victims in this state.

§ 51-286g, whenever a transcript of a criminal proceeding is prepared, the prosecuting official shall provide a copy of such transcript to any victim of the crime without charge upon request of such victim.

§ 54-91c, upon the request of a victim, prior to the acceptance by the court of a plea of a defendant pursuant to a plea agreement, the state's attorney shall provide the victim with the terms of such proposed plea agreement in writing.

§ 52-146f, an immediate family member or legal representative of a homicide victim may obtain records and communications between a patient and a psychiatrist without the patient's consent for use in a civil proceedings, when the patient has been found not guilty of committing the offense by reason of mental disease or defect.

§ 54-102c, when a court orders HIV testing or venereal disease testing of a defendant, the court shall provide the victim with educational materials about HIV, information about and referral to HIV testing and counseling and referrals and information regarding rape crisis centers. The court shall also inform the victim that the victim may designate a health care provider to receive the results of such tests on behalf of the victim.

§ 54-142c, within 2 years from the date a criminal case has been dismissed, the clerk of the court may disclose to the victim of the crime the fact that the case was dismissed and the name of the defendant and other information from the erased record if the victim has or intends to file a civil action for loss or damage resulting from the crime.

Register to Receive Notification

If defendant is incarcerated:

Pre-Conviction:

Department of Correction
Victim Services Unit
Telephone: (888) 869-7057

Post-Conviction:

Office of Victim Services (OVS)
Telephone: (800) 822-8428

Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System: (SAVIN)

A free confidential automated notification system
Online: www.vinelink.com

§ 54-228, any victim of a crime who desires to be notified whenever an inmate makes an application to the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Department of Correction, sentencing court or judge or review division or is scheduled to be released may file a request for notification with the Office of Victim Services or the Department of Correction, Victim Services Unit.

This summary of legal rights is subject to the full text of the statutes. Victims are entitled to rights as set forth in the statutes. If you don't understand your legal rights, you may wish to contact the Office of the Victim Advocate.