

# VICTIMS' RIGHTS BRIEF

For Arizona's Justice System Administrators, Practitioners and Advocates



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The **Victims' Rights Brief** is published by the Arizona Attorney General, Office of Victim Services. The goal in generating the Brief is to promote justice and healing for crime victims by sharing information and fostering sensitivity within the justice system.

To learn more about victims' rights visit us at  
[www.azag.gov/victim-services](http://www.azag.gov/victim-services)

If you have questions, suggestions or an idea for an article, contact **Colette Chapman** at (602) 542-8848 or email  
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## Victims' Rights Education and Outreach

The Arizona Attorney General's Office is dedicated to a system of justice that is inclusive of crime victims and will remain focused in striving to provide the most efficient and effective services to the people of Arizona. The Office of Victim Services (OVS) is a service-oriented Section within the Criminal Division of the Attorney General's Office. OVS programs exist for both the direct benefit of crime victims and the many state and local governmental entities in Arizona who serve them. The OVS Victims' Rights Outreach and Education Program conduct presentations statewide on victims' rights laws and provision of services to victims of crime. The presentations have been developed to set the stage for an effective approach to achieving the statutory intent of victims' rights in an effort to expand delivery and improve the quality of victims' rights services.

**Basic Victims' Rights** is suggested for employees new to victims' rights OR for anyone who needs a refresher. Because the curriculum is regularly updated and victims' rights can be complicated, we recommend (and VOCA requires) that those serving victims attend Basic at least once every five years. The content covers fundamental information about victims' rights for victims of a criminal offense or delinquent act and includes: a brief history of victims' rights; definitions; a victim's journey through the criminal and juvenile justice system; pre and post-conviction/adjudication; and information on restitution. Basic Victims' Rights is a five-hour presentation and is scheduled from 9:00AM- 3:00PM.

**Advanced Victims' Rights** is intended for experienced victim services providers, such as those who have completed our Basic session and anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding of victims' rights. Annual attendance is recommended for Advanced since the subject matter changes from year to year and the attendee will receive up to date information on statutory changes. This year's topic is interactive and simulates an adult felony case moving through the criminal justice system as experienced by the victim, along with a video featuring three victims and their experience going through the criminal justice system. A legislative update will be provided as well. Advanced Victims' Rights is presented in a three hour session and is usually scheduled from 9:00AM – 12:00PM.

**Basic and Advanced Victims' Rights courses are approved for the following types of credit:**

- Arizona Peace Officer Standards & Training (AZ POST)
- Committee on Judicial Education and Training (COJET)
- VOCA

*Courses may qualify for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit.*

# **Request A Presentation**

In addition to our Basic and Advanced Victims' Rights presentations, the Office of Victim Services offers a number of specialized courses that can be scheduled for your agency or organization, upon request.

## **Presentations designed for agencies that are responsible for providing victims' rights services:**

- Prosecutor Victims' Rights (2 hours)
- Law Enforcement Victims' Rights \*\* (1.5 hours)
- Probation Victims' Rights (1 hour)
- Victims' Rights Compliance (1.5 hours)

*\*\*Eligible for AZ POST credit*

## **Presentations that provide a general overview of victims' rights related issues:**

- Capital Crime Cases and the Impact on Victims (1.5 hours)
- Victims Have Rights? (1.5 hours)
- Making cents out of Restitution (1.5)

**To schedule a presentation please contact our office at**

<https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/training>

**or complete the request form at <https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/training/request>**

**\*\*Please note that a minimum of 20 attendees are required to schedule a session.**

# **What Attendees Are Saying**

- *“Every single topic was very clearly discussed. I was (and everyone in the room) was very engaged & actively listening. Also ended the training with a bang! Thank you very much!”*
- *“For me personally the whole presentation was interesting and useful. There was a lot of info!!”*
- *“...Great presentation. Informative & kept my attention.”*
- *“I strongly believe each piece of [the] presentation was extremely important.”*
- *“Presenter did an amazing job...”*
- *“The activity was fun, educational and allowed for open discussion among other agencies. We were able to provide each other with our own experiences and hopefully better collaborate with one another.”*
- *“The presentation was very clear and detailed. Explained victim rights very well. Thought it was very well presented.”*

**We encourage you to attend one of our upcoming sessions and see for yourself.**

The currently scheduled presentations can be found at

<https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/training>