

What are my rights as a KS crime victim?

Kansas law provides the following crime victim rights:

- (1) Victims should be treated with courtesy, compassion and with respect for their dignity and privacy and should suffer the minimum of necessary inconvenience from their involvement with the criminal justice system.
- (2) Victims should receive, through formal and informal procedures, prompt and fair redress for the harm which they have suffered.
- (3) Information regarding the availability of criminal restitution, recovery of damages in a civil cause of action, the crime victims compensation fund and other remedies and the mechanisms to obtain such remedies should be made available to victims.
- (4) Information should be made available to victims about their participation in criminal proceedings and the scheduling, progress and ultimate disposition of the proceedings.
- (5) The views and concerns of victims should be ascertained and the appropriate assistance provided throughout the criminal process.
- (6) When the personal interests of victims are affected, the views or concerns of the victim should, when appropriate and consistent with criminal law and procedure, be brought to the attention of the court.
- (7) Measures may be taken when necessary to provide for the safety of victims and their families and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation.
- (8) Enhanced training should be made available to sensitize criminal justice personnel to the needs and concerns of victims and guidelines should be developed for this purpose.
- (9) Victims should be informed of the availability of health and social services and other relevant assistance that they might continue to receive the necessary medical, psychological and social assistance through existing programs and services.
- (10) Victims should report the crime and cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

Important Phone Numbers

Crisis Hotline:
Law Enforcement:
Prosecutor:
Prosecutor Address:
Case#
Friend:
Neighbor:
Day Care:
Emergency Health Care:

KS Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline Numbers:

Kansas Crisis Hotline 1-888-363-2287

dv= domestic violence services only

sv= sexual violence services only

Atchison	800-367-7075 or 913-367-0363
Dodge City	620-225-6510
El Dorado	800-870-6967 or 316-321-7104
Emporia	800-825-1295 or 620-342-1870
Garden City	620-275-5911
Great Bend	866-792-1885 or 620-792-1885
Hays	800-794-4624 or 785-625-3055
Hutchinson	800-701-3630 or 620-663-2522
Iola	620-365-7566
Kansas City, KS El Centro, Inc. ¡Si Se Puede!	(dv) 913-677-0177
Friends of Yates / Joyce H. Williams Center	(dv) 913-321-0951
Kansas City, MO KCAVP	816-561-0550
MOCSA	(sv) 816-531-0233
Lawrence GaDuGi Safe Center	(sv) 785-841-2345
Women's Transitional Care Services	(dv) 800-770-3030 or 785-843-3333
Leavenworth	800-644-1441 or 913-682-9131
Liberal	620-624-8818
Manhattan	800-727-2785 or 785-539-2785
Mayetta	866-966-0173 or 785-966-0173
Newton	800-487-0510 or 316-283-0350
Overland Park	888-432-4300 or 913-262-2868
Pittsburg	800-794-9148 or 620-231-8251
Salina	800-874-1499 or 785-827-5862
Topeka	888-822-2983 or 785-354-7927 evening 785-234-3300
Ulysses	888-229-8812 or 620-356-2608
Wichita Catholic Charities Harbor House	(dv) 866-899-5522 or 316-263-6000
Wichita StepStone (dv) (office)	316-265-1611
Wichita Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center	(sv) 316-263-3002 por español: 316-263-2044
Wichita YWCA Women's Crisis Center	(dv) 316-267-SAFE (7233)
Winfield	800-794-7672 or 620-221-4357

Information for Stalking Victims



**Attorney General's Office
Victim Services Division
120 SW 10th Ave, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612-1597
(800) 828-9745
www.ksag.org**

Provided by Kansas Attorney General

Steve Six

in partnership with the
Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence

What is stalking?

In Kansas, as in most other states, stalking is a crime. Criminal stalking is engaging in “a course of conduct targeted at a specific person which would cause a reasonable person to fear for such person’s safety or the safety of a member of such person’s immediate family and the targeted person is actually placed in such fear.” K.S.A. 21-3438.

“Stalking” is defined differently for purposes of the Kansas Protection from Stalking Act. Under this Act, “stalking” is the “intentional harassment of another person that places the other person in reasonable fear for that person’s safety.” K.S.A. 60-31a01 et seq.

What can you do if you are being stalked?

First and foremost, you should think about your safety. Keep in mind, different stalkers respond differently. Actions taken that increase safety for one victim can, in different circumstances, increase risk for another. An advocate can assist you in developing a safety plan that takes into consideration your specific circumstances. You can contact your local domestic violence/sexual assault program in Kansas (see list) for this service. The following suggestions are recommended by experts to increase safety of victims:

- Report each incident of stalking to your local law enforcement agency. While officers may not have enough evidence to arrest the stalker, it is important to develop this “official” record of the stalking behavior. Keep in mind that if a law enforcement report is made, the information may become public.
- Be clear and firm. Some stalkers believe there are hidden messages within conversations they have with their victims that encourage them to continue the stalking. If your stalker is a former intimate partner or someone who believes you want to be in a relationship, it can be helpful to be clear and firm early on about wanting to end the relationship. The longer the relationship goes on, the harder it is for the stalker to get the message that you are not interested.
- Cease communication. Instead, let the “system” communicate with him through a law enforcement officer, probation officer, or through a protection order. A formal letter from you, given to your stalker by law enforcement can document your fear and demand for no contact.

What can you do if you are being stalked?

- Avoid contact. Try to avoid mediation, joint therapy, shared custody, face-to-face child exchanges, or other forms of contact.
- Consider obtaining a protection from stalking order. A protection from stalking order may or may not be effective in ending the stalking. These orders tend to be most effective if issued when the stalking behavior first begins, and where violations of the order are taken very seriously by law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges. Keep in mind that the face-to-face hearing contact could be detrimental contact.
- Keep a log of all stalking behaviors, including the following (see Incident Log):
 - date of incident
 - times and places the incidents occurred
 - description of stalking behavior
 - witnesses to the incident
- Retain and record all communications possible, including but not limited to the following
 - phone calls
 - phone and text messages
 - e-mail messages
- Prepare for your safety, taking into consideration the following:
 - critical phone numbers, such as law enforcement, friends, domestic violence or sexual assault programs, and other important people or services you may need after reaching a safe location, such as neighbors, attorneys, prosecutors, medical care, child care, or pet care
 - keep a reserve of necessities in case you have to leave your home quickly, such as a suitcase in the trunk of your car or at a friend’s house; include money, medication, toys or items important to the children
 - consider having important documents such as passports, immigration documents, birth certificates, and social security numbers readily accessible
 - alert people who may be part of your safety plan, such as law enforcement, employers, coworkers, family, friends, neighbors, or security personnel
 - a cell phone for 911 access. (If you do not have one, it can be provided to you by your local domestic violence/sexual assault program.) Warning: If your cell phone was purchased by your stalker, or his name is on the account, your stalker might be able to use its GPS features to locate you.

Other safety measures

- Other safety measures. Consider whether any of the following measures would help decrease or prevent some of your danger:
 - changing locks, securing all spare keys
 - installing outside lighting
 - trimming bushes and vegetation around your residence
 - identifying locations that may be safe for you, such as police stations, residences of family/friends, local churches, or other public places
 - getting an unlisted number or, if you have financial means, using a “dummy” answering machine connected to your published phone line. The private or unlisted number can be reserved for close friends or family and the stalker may not realize you have another line
 - varying travel routes and other routines
 - limiting time walking or jogging alone
 - informing a trusted neighbor about the situation and, if possible, giving them a description or a photo of the stalker, asking them to call law enforcement if they see anything unusual
 - try not to be alone at places the stalker typically contacts you
 - arrange for others to be with you when arriving and leaving from work

Can I receive compensation for my losses as a crime victim?

The Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board (CVCB) housed in the Office of the Attorney General handles applications from victims of violent crimes who are asking for compensation for loss of earnings and out-of-pocket medical expenses as a direct result of the incident. You should contact CVCB, 120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor, Topeka, KS 66612-1597 or call 785-296-2359 for an application or for further information.

Incident Log

Date:
Time:
Place:
Witnesses:

Description: