



Victims' Rights (Advocate)

By law victims of crime have rights. In Maryland, a crime victim is a person who suffers direct or threatened physical, emotional, or financial harm as a result of a crime. In 1984, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was passed in Maryland to improve the treatment of victims of crime.

11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland (Watch 00:55 – 01:30)

- Watch *11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Review the first six crime victims' rights and how the rights relate to them.
 - Ask them if they have any questions.

Criminal Injury Compensation Board (CICB) (Watch 01:30 – 02:27)

- Watch *Criminal Injury Compensation Board (CICB)* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Review what services the CICB provides.
 - Explain how to access the application and discuss the eligibility requirements together. If needed, print a copy of the application for them.
 - Review what the CICB may pay for and what it will not pay for. Determine together if they may qualify for any CICB benefits. If needed, you may help them complete the application.
 - Ask them if they have any questions.
- If they ask for resources, you can direct them to the following:
<http://goccp.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/cicb-application-instructions-english.pdf>

11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland (Continued) (Watch 02:27 – 02:47)

- Watch *11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Review the next three victims' rights and how the rights relate to them.
 - Ask them if they have any questions.

2201 Argonne Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218 • **24 Hour Hotline:** 410-889-RUTH (7884)

Administrative Office: 410-889-0840 • **Linea en Español:** 410-889-7889 Oprima 8

www.hruth.org • **Facebook:** facebook.com/houseofruthmaryland • **Twitter:** @houseofruthmd



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Maryland's Automated Systems (Watch 02:45 – 03:14)

- Watch *Maryland's Automated Systems* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Review the information the VINELink system provides and how they can use it.
 - Review the information the VPO system provides and how they can use it.
 - If needed, you may offer help them register for VINELink or VPO.
 - Ask them if they have any questions.
- If they ask for resources, you can direct them to the following:
 - <https://vinelink.com/#state-selection>
 - <https://www.registervpo.com/>

11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland (Continued) (Watch 03:15 – 04:04)

- Watch *11 Crime Victims' Rights in Maryland* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Review the final two victims' rights and how the rights relate to them.
 - Review what a victim impact statement is. Ask them if they would like to prepare a victim impact statement.
 - Ask them if they have any questions.

Information Specific to Your Case (Watch 04:04 – 04:35)

- Watch *Information Specific to Your Case* together.
- Pause and review the following concepts with the victim to check their understanding:
 - Ask them if they have any questions about how to find out more information about their case. If so, remind them that their law enforcement agency or state's attorney can provide this information.
 - Ask them if they have any more questions about their rights and/or other crime victims' services. If so, remind them that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services and the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center provides this information and resources.



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- If they ask for resources, you can direct them to the following:
 - <https://www.mdsaa.org/maryland-states-attorneys>
 - <http://goccp.maryland.gov/victims/>
 - <https://www.mdcrimevictims.org/>

Online Resources

**Governor's Office of Crime Prevention,
Youth, and Victim Services:**

<http://goccp.maryland.gov/victims/>

**Victim Information & Notification
Everyday (VINELink):**

<https://vinelink.com/#state-selection>

**Maryland Crime Victims' Resource
Center:**

<http://www.mdcrimevictims.org>

VINE Protective Order (VPO):

<https://www.registervpo.com/>

**Maryland State's Attorneys'
Association:**

<https://www.mdsaa.org/maryland-states-attorneys>

House of Ruth Maryland Hotline: 410-889-RUTH (7884) | www.hruth.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 | www.thehotline.org