



Victim Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions:

What Is a Victim Impact Statement?

As a crime victim, you have the opportunity to use this Victim Impact Statement to describe how this crime affected you and others close to you. This statement has space for you to write about the physical, emotional, and financial effects of this crime, as well as any other changes in your life that you may have experienced as a result of the crime. If the defendant pleads guilty or is found guilty after a formal hearing, your impact statement will help the judge understand how this crime has affected you and those close to you.

Is this voluntary?

Yes, however, if you fill this out the Victim Impact Statement, it may be helpful to the judge when he or she decides what sentence the defendant should receive and any money the defendant may have to pay in restitution for expenses you have paid or owe because of this crime.

Who is going to read this statement?

Your statement will become an official court document after it is given to the court. The judge, prosecutor, defense counsel and probation officer will read your statement.

What do I do if I need more room to write everything?

Please feel free to put the statement in any format you would like; you are not obligated to use the enclosed form.

If you have any questions, comments and/or concerns please feel free to call, CVC's Juvenile Court Victim/ Witness Office (during business hours) at (610) 344- 6720 or 4478 or The Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Inc, (24 hours a day) at (610) 692 -7420.

No one knows better than you how this crime may have changed your life. Those of us involved in your case believe that it is very important for you to help the court understand all the ways this crime has affected you and those near you. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with this information.

Victim Impact Statement

Your Name _____

Defendant's Name (s) _____

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1. How has this crime affected you and those close to you? Please feel free to discuss your feelings about what has happened and how it affected you're general well being. Has this crime affected your relationship with any family members, friends, co-workers, and other people? Please do not write in-depth details about the crime.

2. What physical injuries or symptoms have you or others close to you suffered as a result of this crime? How long did the injuries last or how long are they expected to last? What changes if any have you made in your life as a result of these injuries?

3. Has this crime affected your ability to perform your work, make a living, run a household, go to school or enjoy other activities you previously performed or enjoyed?

