

6. A victim's property that is in the custody of the justice system officials should be returned promptly to the victim, where the property is no longer needed for the purpose of the justice system.

Limitations:

The principles set out in subsection (1) are subject to the availability of resources and information, what is reasonable in the circumstances of the case, what is consistent with the law and the public interest and what is necessary to ensure that the resolution of the criminal proceedings is not delayed.

No new cause of action:

No new cause of action, right of appeal, claim or other remedy exists in law because of this section or anything done or omitted to be done under this section.

For information call: Marathon 807-229-8877
Manitouwadge 807-826-4171



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Attorney General



An Act Respecting Victims of
Crime





Ontario Victims' Bill of Rights-1995

The following principles apply to the treatment of victims of crime:

1. Victims should be treated with courtesy, compassion and respect for their personal dignity and privacy by the justice system officials.

2. Victims should have access to information about:

- * The services and remedies available to victims of crime
- * The provisions of this Act and of the ***Compensation for Victims of Crime Act*** that might assist them.
- * The protection available to victims to prevent unlawful intimidation.
- * The progress of investigations related to that crime.
- * The charges laid with respect to that crime and, if no charges are laid, the reasons why no charges are laid.
- * The victim's role in the prosecution
- * The dates and places of all significant proceedings that relate to the prosecution
- * The outcome of all significant proceedings, including any proceedings on appeal
- * Any pretrial arrangement that are made that relate to a plea that may be entered by the accused at the trial
- * The interim release and, in the event of conviction, the sentencing of the accused
- * Any disposition made under section 672.54 or 672.58 of the Criminal Code (Canada) in respect of an accused who is found unfit to stand trial or who is found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder

* Their right under the Criminal Code (Canada) to make representations to the court by way of a Victim Impact Statement.

3. A victim of a prescribed crime should, if he or she requests, be notified of:

- * Any application for release or any impending release of the convicted person, including release in accordance with a program of temporary absence, on parole or on an unescorted temporary absence pass
- * Any escape of the convicted person from custody

4. If the person accused of a prescribed crime is found unfit to stand trial or is found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder, the victim should, if he or she requests, be notified of:

- * Any hearing held with respect to the accused by the Review Board established or designated for Ontario pursuant to subsection 672.38 (1) of the Criminal Code (Canada)
- * Any order of the Review Board directing the absolute discharge of the accused
- * Any escape of the accused from custody

5. Victims of sexual assault should, if the victim requests, be interviewed during the investigation of the crime only by police officers and officials of the same gender as the victim.

