### VINE

VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) is a free, anonymous, computer based service that provides victims of crime with information and notification.

> 1-877-NE-4-VINE (1-877-634-8463)

Please contact your local domestic violence/sexual assault program if you have any questions.

### <u>If you are in</u> <u>immediate danger,</u> <u>call 9-1-1 or your local</u> <u>law enforcement.</u>

The information contained in this brochure should not replace the advice of an attorney. Information contained in this brochure is from Neb. Rev. Stat.§§ 81-1848 to 81-1850.

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Nebraska's coalition of domestic violence and sexual assault agencies provide access to safety and shelter across the state. To locate the program nearest you, visit www.nebraskacoalition.org.

Or Call:

1-800-656-HOPE (4673) Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network (RAINN)

1-800-799-SAFE (7233) National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-866-331-9474 National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline



Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence 402-476-6256 www.nebraskacoalition.org

# WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS?





# <u>Victim Rights</u> In Nebraska

## What Are Victim Rights?

Victims rights were created to help ensure:

- That crime victims are treated with fairness, respect, and dignity
- That victims know they have the right to be heard, especially during criminal justice (court) processes
- That crime victims are not nameless/faceless non-players within the criminal justice system

## What Are My Responsibilities?

In order to ensure that the County Attorney can keep you informed of your rights, Nebraska law requires that you provide the County Attorney with your current contact information. If the County Attorney does not have this information, you may not receive notices & information you are entitled to receive.

If you have a safe, alternate contact number to provide the County Attorney, it can help you receive these notices.

## What Rights Are Available?

The Constitution of Nebraska and Nebraska law state that victims of crime have certain rights based on the fact that they are a victim of a crime.

As a victim of a crime, you have the right:

- To look over public documents related to the crime. Generally this will include court documents but does not include police reports or any documents gathered as part of an investigation.
- To be notified of any scheduled court hearings.
- To be present during the trial unless the court determines that it would prevent your perpetrator from receiving a fair trial.
- To be notified which crimes your perpetrator is charged with as well as the crimes s/he is convicted of. You can also find out information about any bond that the courts set.
- To receive protection from harm or threats of harm because you have cooperated with law enforcement or the county attorney.
- To make a statement to the probation officer who prepares the pre-sentence investigation report about how the crime has changed/ affected you.
  - Remember anything you tell the probation officer will appear in the report & will be made available to the perpetrator.

- Even if you don't want to make a statement for the report, you have the right to know the contact information for the probation officer.
- To submit a written statement to the court (judge) at sentencing or to read the statement previously submitted to the probation officer.
- To be notified that an appeal has been filed, including an explanation of the appeal process and possible outcomes.
  - The notice should also contain information about the time and place of the appeal proceedings. You should also be notified of the results of the appeal.
- To be notified that the perpetrator has escaped.
- To receive information regarding financial assistance for victims of crime.
- To be notified of the tentative date of release of the convicted person and the earliest possible parole date.
- To be notified of parole hearings and any decision of the Board of Parole.
- To be notified when the convicted individual is released from custody (e.g., granted furlough) for more than 24 hours.
- To be notified when the convicted individual is released into a community-based program.