

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

In the cases that I have prosecuted I have had the opportunity to get to know and help many crime victims. I have not lost sight of crime's devastation and human cost. My office and I are dedicated to assisting victims and their families in healing; to obtain services; in the court process; and to seek restitution.

If you or someone you care about has become a victim of a crime, please call us. We provide services countywide. We have offices in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria and Lompoc.

**SANTA BARBARA / SOUTH COUNTY**  
**(805) 568-2400**

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### **NORTH COUNTY VW NUMBER**

**SANTA MARIA / LOMPOC / SOLVANG / SANTA YNEZ**  
**(805) 346-7529**

### **Website**

[www.countyofsb.org/da](http://www.countyofsb.org/da)



**Victim-Witness Assistance Program**  
Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office

Victim Advocate: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Case #: \_\_\_\_\_

Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office

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# HELP FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

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RESPECT

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SUPPORT

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ADVOCACY



**Victim-Witness Assistance Program**  
Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office

## VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE

A violent crime can impact many aspects of a person's life. Not only does crime affect the victim but also loved ones and sometimes even, an entire community. A crime can have long lasting physical, emotional, and financial effects.

Often the needs of crime victims can appear to be overshadowed by the focus on the investigation and prosecution of the accused. The Santa Barbara County Victim-Witness Assistance Program seeks to make the criminal justice system more understandable, accessible and responsive to the concerns of victims and witnesses.

Our Victim Advocates are available to ensure that crime victims and their family members are kept informed and supported throughout the criminal justice process.

We have specially trained advocates to assist victims of elder and dependent adult abuse.

Legal Residency is not required in order to receive Victim-Witness Assistance Services.

## PROGRAM SERVICES

- Crisis Intervention
- Emergency Assistance
- Orientation to the Criminal Justice System
- Case Status Information
- Court Support and Escort
- Investigative Interview Accompaniment
- Crime Prevention Information
- Temporary Restraining Order Assistance
- Property Return
- Referral to Community Resources
- Compensation for Crime Related Expenses
- Creditor Intervention
- Employer Intervention
- Restitution Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- Witness Protection
- Confidential Address Program Information

## VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The California Victim Compensation Program (VCP) can assist crime victims and their loved ones with expenses that result from certain violent crimes. If you have been injured or threatened with injury, or if someone in your family has been a victim, you may be eligible for financial help. The VCP can assist victims when the crime occurs in California and can also help California residents who are victimized outside the state and/or country.

Among expenses that may be covered are:

- Medical and Dental
- Mental Health Services
- Relocation Assistance
- Income and Support Loss
- Funeral and Burial costs
- Home Security Upgrades
- Crime Scene Clean Up
- Home or Vehicle modifications
- Job retraining
- Medical/Dental Devices

*The program requires cooperation with law enforcement and VCP program staff. The victim cannot have participated in or been involved in the commission of the crime.*