

Support for Crime Victims

The Nevada County Victim Witness Assistance Center has existed since 1984 and is a part of the Nevada County District Attorney's office.

If you, or someone close to you is affected by crime, advocates at the Nevada County Victim Witness Assistance Center can help. Our program is part of a statewide effort to provide crime victims with emotional support in the aftermath of crime, guidance through the criminal justice process and awareness of victims' rights (679.02 of the Penal Code and Article 28 of the California Constitution). All services are confidential and free of charge.

California was one of the first states to pass legislation addressing victims needs and rights by providing funds through the California Office of Emergency Services to establish comprehensive Victim Witness Assistance Centers in each county (13835 of the Penal Code, et seq.).

Further rights were granted to victims with passage of the California Constitutional Amendment known as Marsy's Law.

The Effects of Crime

Although crime is routinely reported in the news, it may come as a shock to discover how seriously one is affected when personally touched by crime. Victims experience a variety of emotional and physical symptoms, which can be long lasting. While one may have a general understanding of court proceedings, the system can be confusing and intimidating when participation is required. Advocates are trained to assist victims with these and related issues to minimize emotional, physical, and financial trauma. The advocate also acts as a liaison with the prosecutor to keep the victim apprised of the case status.

Primary Services for Victims

- Crisis intervention
- Paraprofessional counseling
- Referrals to licensed therapists, victim services and other resources
- Updates on case status
- Orientation to courtroom and criminal justice system
- Assistance with testimony procedures
- Court support during hearings
- Assist with Victim Impact Statements
- Assist with restitution
- Assist with return of property

Financial Assistance

Victims who meet certain requirements may be eligible to receive financial assistance from the California Victim Compensation Board. This program can help qualifying victims with medical expenses, mental health counseling, wage loss, funeral/burial expenses, moving/relocation expenses and home security improvements directly related to the crime. The program's funds come from fines and penalties paid by convicted offenders.

To meet general eligibility standards, victims must cooperate reasonably with law enforcement and court officials in the arrest and prosecution of the offender, must not have contributed to the crime by their own behavior, and must first submit expenses to their own insurance.

Victim Witness advocates are trained to assist with applications, but do not make decisions on approval. If you think you may be eligible and need this type of assistance, please contact our staff for more details.

Nevada County Community Services

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| Adult Protective Services | 265-1639 |
| Behavioral Health Department | 265-1437 |
| 24-Hour Crisis Line | 265-5811 |
| California Highway Patrol | 477-4900 |
| Truckee | 582-1242 |
| Child Welfare Services | 273-4291 |
| Community Resources & Information | 211 |
| District Attorney | |
| Nevada City Office | 265-1301 |
| Truckee Office | 582-7841 |
| Community Beyond Violence | 272-2046 |
| 24-Hour Crisis Line | 272-3467 |
| Grass Valley Police Department | 477-4600 |
| Nevada City Police Department | |
| Business | 265-4700 |
| 24 hour line | 265-2626 |
| Probation | |
| Adult | 265-1200 |
| Truckee | 582-7804 |
| Public Law Center | 470-2594 |
| Sheriff's Office | |
| Emergency | 911 |
| Nevada City Business | 265-1471 |
| Nevada City 24 Hour Hot Line | 265-7880 |
| Truckee Business | 582-7804 |
| Superior Court Office | |
| Nevada City Criminal | 362-4309x7 |
| Nevada City Civil | 362-4309x8 |
| Nevada City Family | 362-4309x8 |
| Truckee | 362-5324 |
| Sierra Community House, Truckee | 546-0952 |
| 24-Hour Crisis Line | 1-800-736-1060 |
| Truckee Police Department | 550-2323 |
| District Att Victim Witness | |
| Nevada City Office | 265-1301 |
| Truckee Office | 470-2528 |
| Women of Worth | 272-6851 |

Nevada County VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE CENTER



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Please call for an appointment