

UTAH VICTIM'S RIGHTS



In Utah victims of sexual assault have certain rights. (Utah Code Section 77-37 and 77-38) If you would like to exercise the following rights, it is your responsibility to request the information from the law enforcement agency handling your case.

You have the right to:

- Be treated with fairness, dignity and respect.
- Freedom from threats and intimidation, which includes a safe waiting area during court proceedings.
- Information about criminal justice proceedings and to have those proceedings explained to you.
- Be present in the courtroom for important criminal justice hearings.
- Speak to the Court regarding the defendant's bail, sentencing, or any plea offers.
- Compensation for your financial losses in the form of reparations and/or restitution.
- The return of any personal property taken as evidence after it is no longer needed for investigation.
- A speedy resolution of the case.
- Request an HIV test for yourself and the defendant.



Upon request, you or your designated representative are entitled to the following information regarding DNA testing:

- Whether a DNA profile was obtained as a result of the evidence collected in your case.
- Whether the DNA profile (if found) was entered into the Utah Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).
- Whether there was a DNA profile in the CODIS system matching the DNA evidence collected in your case, as long as disclosure would not interfere with an ongoing investigation.

Children who are victims of a crime have these additional rights:

- Investigation and other proceedings should be done in the least traumatic or intrusive way possible.
- Interviews related to the investigation should be age-appropriate and kept to a minimum.
- Information should be provided regarding programs, assistance, and other resources that can help with the process.

