

# RIGHTS & INFORMATION

## Assistance for Victims of Traffic Crashes

- *drunk driving*
- *aggressive driving*
- *road rage*
- *inattentive driving*
- *etc.*



## AFTER THE CRASH

*Where to go & What to do*

## Rights of Crime Victims

- ◆ The right to be notified of the content of any plea agreement recommendation.
- ◆ The right to object to a plea agreement or proposed disposition.
- ◆ The right to be notified of changes in the schedule of court proceedings.
- ◆ The right to attend the offender's sentencing hearing. You may submit a victim impact statement orally or in writing at the hearing, or have the prosecutor present it orally on your behalf.
- ◆ The right to request the court to order the defendant to pay for the actual loss you suffered (restitution). You have a right to ask the offender's probation officer to request a probation review hearing if the offender fails to pay the restitution as ordered.
- ◆ The right to apply for financial assistance for losses resulting from a violent crime.
- ◆ The right to a safe waiting area, separate from the defendant during court.
- ◆ The right not to give your home or work address in open court unless the judge deems necessary.
- ◆ The right to take time off from work to testify without your employer disciplining you.

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*Not all traffic crash victims are afforded these rights. Please call our office for detailed information: 952-238-0970*

# Financial Help for Victims of Crimes

If you have suffered a physical or psychological injury as direct result of a crime, AND you have expenses not covered by insurance or medical assistance, you may be eligible for financial help through the Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board. 651-201-7300 or 1-888-622-8799.

Injured victims or the immediate family of a homicide victim may recover up to \$50,000 for:

- Funeral expenses
- Medical costs
- Mental health costs
- Lost wages
- Loss of support
- Substitute childcare

*Victims of certain types of traffic crashes are not eligible for reparations. Call us for a detailed list of eligibility qualifications.*

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## INFORMATIONAL PHONE NUMBERS

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**Department of Public Safety**      651-296-6911  
(Drivers License Records)  
dvs.dps.mn.gov

**Crime Victim Justice Unit**      651-201-7310  
1-800-247-0390, ext. 3

**Office of Justice Programs**      651-201-7300  
ojp.dps.mn.gov      1-888-622-8799

**VINE**      1-877-664-8463  
(Offender Release Information & Notification)  
www.vinelink.com

**Grief Support Referrals**      952-238-0970

### MINNESOTANS FOR SAFE DRIVING

8700 W. 36th Street, Suite 1E  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

Office      952-238-0970  
Toll Free      1-877-870-7466  
Cell      952-221-7393  
Fax      952-238-0720

Email: [info@mnsafedriving.com](mailto:info@mnsafedriving.com)  
[www.minnesotansforsafedriving.com](http://www.minnesotansforsafedriving.com)

## Advocates at *Minnesotans For Safe Driving* are available to assist you in the following ways:

- ☛ send to you a complete Victim Rights packet and all other pertinent information relative to your case.
- ☛ make grief materials and books available upon request.
- ☛ listen.
- ☛ make phone calls for you.
- ☛ research and/or supply you with further information.
- ☛ refer you to professionals and appropriate agencies.
- ☛ meet with a Victim Advocate or concerned citizen who has experienced similar tragedies.
- ☛ explain the legal process associated with your case if criminal charges are involved.
- ☛ attend all court hearings with you or for you.
- ☛ be available to you 24 hours a day 7 days a week, call 952-238-0970 for assistance.

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*The core members of Minnesotans For Safe Driving have been involved in assisting victims and educating the public against drunk driving for the past 17 years. Several of these members are victims of drunk driving. Over the years they realized there was a need to expand their focus to include not only drunk driving but the dangerous behavior of inattentive, careless and reckless driving, excessive speed and road rage. To meet this need, this organization was founded.*

*Minnesotans For Safe Driving's mission is to assist the victims of all driving crashes, educate the public about the dangers of irresponsible driving, and educate the offenders of these crimes about the consequences of their behavior.*

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