

Types of Crimes

- Domestic Violence
- Homicide
- Attempted Homicide
- Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- Human Trafficking
- Hate Crimes
- Elder Abuse

Hours of Availability

Mon. – Fri.: 8 am to 5 pm

Victim Assistance Advocate Contact Information

Elizabeth Aguilar
Main: (831)223-5126
Cell: (831)348-1806
Email:
eaquilar@cityofsoledad.com



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What Are Victim Services?

Within law enforcement agencies, victim services personnel are specifically trained in and tasked with serving victims, witnesses, and survivors.

Victim services personnel are designated to provide crisis intervention, criminal justice support, safety planning, assessment of needs, and community referrals on behalf of those impacted by criminal events.

Resources

Local Resources

Crime Victims' Compensation - CalVCB
<https://victims.ca.gov/>
Phone: 1-800-777-9229

District Attorney, Victim/Witness Unit
Salinas Office
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/district-attorney-old/victim-witness-unit>
142 West Alisal Street, Suite A
Post Office Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902
Phone: (831)755-5072
Fax: (831)755-5003

Monterey County Rape Crisis Center (MCRCC)
<https://www.mtryrapecrisis.org/>
Salinas Office
P.O. Box 2401 Salinas CA 93902
Phone: (831)771-0411
Fax: (831)771-0105
24 Hours Hotline: (831)375-4357 or (831)424-4357

YWCA
<https://www.ywcamc.org/>
11 Quail Run Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
Phone: (831)422-8602
Fax: (831)422-8608
24 Hours Hotline: 1-831-382-6300 or 1-831-757-1001
Toll-Free Information & Referral 2-1-1

National Resources

Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
CA Vine: 1-877-411-5588
<https://vinelink.vineapps.com/state/CA>

National Child Abuse Hotline
www.childhelp.org
1-800-422-4453

National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.thehotline.org
1-800-799-7233

National Human Trafficking Hotline
www.humantraffickinghotline.org
Text: 233-733 (Be Free) or Call 1-888-373-7888

Victim Assistance Advocacy

Soledad Police Department
236 Main St. Soledad CA 93960
(831)223-5120



Victim Services

The Soledad Police Department provides services for victims of violent crimes in the City of Soledad. The Advocate provides information about victims' rights and the criminal legal system and makes referrals to local agencies according to your specific needs. The advocate works with the officers to ensure that all victims of violent crimes are treated with fairness and respect.

What Can Victim Services Do?

- **Crisis Intervention**—Victim services personnel can provide an immediate and short-term response to mental, emotional, physical, and behavioral distress.
- **Criminal Justice Support**—Victim services personnel can assist victims in navigating the multiple complex processes within the criminal justice system and understanding their rights.
- **Safety Planning**—Victim services personnel can help victims create safety plans to prepare for and access help when future victimization or crises occur, or to reduce the risk of harm.
- **Assessment of Needs**—Victim services personnel can help victims identify what assistance or services victims may need in order to heal from their victimization.
- **Community Referrals**—For those identified needs that victim services personnel cannot meet; they can provide referrals to local community organizations.

Crime Victim Compensation

Crime Victim Compensation is a state-based reimbursement program for victims of crime. Every state and territory in the United States has a reimbursement program for victims of crime. The California Victims' Compensation Board (CalVCB) covers crime-related costs such as counseling, medical treatment, funeral arrangements, and loss of income not paid by other sources. Each eligibility criteria and specific benefits are unique to each state program.

[Visit the CalVCB Website <https://victims.ca.gov/> for more information on eligibility for the state of California and to download the application [forms](#)].

Victims' Rights Information

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

- To be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.
- Attend and be present at the criminal proceedings.
- To have your safety considered before setting a defendant's bail amount and conditions as well as prior to the defendant's parole or post-judgment release.
- To protect their confidential and identifying information.
- To refuse or place reasonable limits on interviews, dispositions, or other discovery requests.
- To be informed of proceedings and events in the criminal justice process, including the release or escape of the offender, legal rights and remedies, and available benefits and services, and access to records, referrals, and other information.
- To speak at any post-arrest release hearing, sentencing, post-conviction release decisions, or any time their victims' rights are at issue.
- To a speedy trial and final resolution of the case (including post-judgment proceedings).
- Protection from intimidation and harassment.
- To receive **victim restitution** from the offender.
- Apply to Crime Victim Compensation
- To have their property returned promptly once it is no longer needed as evidence.
- To be informed of your **rights** and other available remedies.

Helpful Legal Terms to Know

- **Suspect**—a person who is thought to have committed a crime(s).
- **Charge**—a formal legal accusation of criminal activity. A charge is determined when the conduct documented in a police report is believed to be a crime according to state law.

● **Defendant**—a person formally accused of committing a crime. A suspect becomes a defendant in a court case after a charge is brought against them.

● **Defense Attorney**—the lawyer for the defendant. If the defendant cannot afford to hire his own attorney a Public Defender is paid by the state to represent him or her.

● **Victim**—"a person who suffers direct or threatened physical, psychological, or financial harm as a result of the commission or attempted commission of a crime or delinquent act. The term 'victim' also includes the person's spouse, parent, children, siblings, or guardian, and includes a lawful representative of a crime victim who is deceased, a minor, or physically or psychologically incapacitated. A 'victim' does not include a person in custody for an offense, the accused, or a person whom the court finds would not act in the best interest of a minor victim." (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28(c)(1).)

● **Witness**—a person who has personal knowledge of information or actions that are related to the incident being investigated.

● **Prosecutor**—a lawyer who, on behalf of the state, conducts the court case against a defendant.

● **Arraignment**—a hearing before a trial in which the person charged with a crime is told about the charges against them, asked if they plead "guilty" or "not guilty" and their right to have a lawyer.

● **Bail**—a sum of money from a suspect or defendant that is deposited with the court as a promise that if he is released, he will return to court.

● **Protection Order**—a document issued by a court and signed by a judge that directs one person to stop harming and having contact with another person or come within a specified distance. The court may order an abuser to move out of the residence shared with the victim. Also referred as a restraining order.