



Making a Difference for Victims of Crime

On November 3, 2020, Kentucky voters overwhelmingly approved Constitutional Amendment 1 (Marsy's Law), which ensures the inclusion, participation and respect of crime victims and their families as they navigate the criminal justice system. With that vote, the Commonwealth joined more than 35 states that provide constitutional level rights to victims of crime.

Constitutional Rights for Victims of Crime

1. Reasonable right, upon request, to timely notice of all proceedings.
2. Right to be heard in any proceeding involving a release, plea, sentencing, or other matter involving the right of a victim other than grand jury proceedings. Also the right to be heard and notified in the consideration of any pardon, commutation of sentence, or granting reprieve.
3. Right to be present at the trial and all other proceedings, other than grand jury proceedings, on the same basis as the accused.
4. Right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay.
5. Right to consult with the attorney for the Commonwealth or the attorney's designee.
6. Right to reasonable protection from the accused and those acting on behalf of the accused throughout the criminal and juvenile justice process.
7. Right to timely notice, upon request, of the release or escape of the accused.
8. Right to have the safety of the victim considered in setting bail, determining whether to release the defendant and setting conditions of release after arrest and conviction.
9. Right to full restitution to be paid by the convicted or adjudicated party in a manner to be determined by the court.
10. Right to fairness and due consideration of the crime victim's safety, dignity and privacy.
11. Right to be informed of these enumerated rights.
12. Standing to assert these rights.

Resources

- Kentucky Constitution: [Section 26A, Rights of Victims of Crime](#)
- Office of the Attorney General: [Justice for Crime Victims](#)

For more information, please visit www.victimrights.org or email Kentucky@marsyslaw.us

Paid for by Marsy's Law for Kentucky