

# VICTIM COMPENSATION

If you are a victim of a crime, you may be eligible for compensation from your state's crime victim compensation fund. Crime victim compensation is a direct reimbursement to or on behalf of a crime victim. For more information, contact the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Victim Compensation Bureau at 602.506.4955.



## RESOURCES

**Maricopa Crisis Recovery Network** 602.222.9444  
**CHILDHHELP Hotline** 602.248.8336  
**Senior Helpline** 602.264.4357  
**Eve's Place/Domestic Violence Services** 623.537.5380  
**Community Information and Referral** 602.263.8856

Programs funded through Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and the City of Surprise, Arizona.

The Victim Assistance Unit exists to provide services to all victims of crime within the City of Surprise. Program staff does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or age. Accommodations can be made for non-English speaking victims. Please contact the Surprise Police Department if you have concerns or visit the U.S. Dept. of Justice website at [www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov), Arizona Department of Public Safety VOCA Civil Rights Coordinator at [www.azdps.gov/services/crime\\_victims](http://www.azdps.gov/services/crime_victims) or the Office of the Attorney General Civil Rights Division at [www.azag.gov/civil-rights](http://www.azag.gov/civil-rights)

If you are experiencing an emergency,  
**DIAL 9-1-1**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
**VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT**  
623.222.4031  
[VictimAssistance.police@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:VictimAssistance.police@surpriseaz.gov)  
**SURPRISE POLICE NON-EMERGENCY LINE**  
623.222.4000

6-2021 (MS)



**CITY OF SURPRISE**  
SURPRISE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT



**SURPRISE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT**  
**SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME**

# HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT?

Start the process by submitting your statement online at [www.mcso.org/Victim/InitialAppearance](http://www.mcso.org/Victim/InitialAppearance)

For questions about this process, call 602.876.8276 or email [vanu@mcso.maricopa.gov](mailto:vanu@mcso.maricopa.gov)

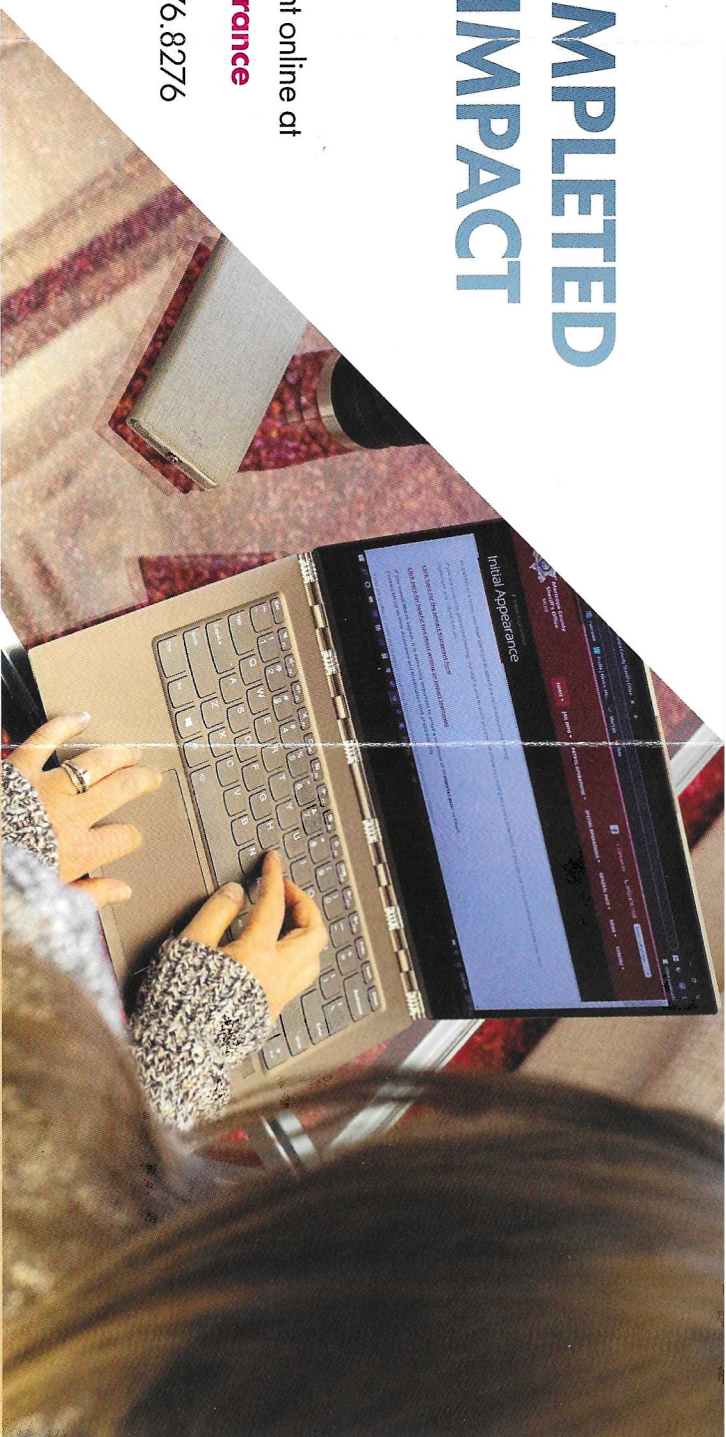
## HELP IS HERE

Victim Assistance is a free service provided by the City of Surprise to its residents and to victims of crimes which are investigated by the Surprise Police Department.

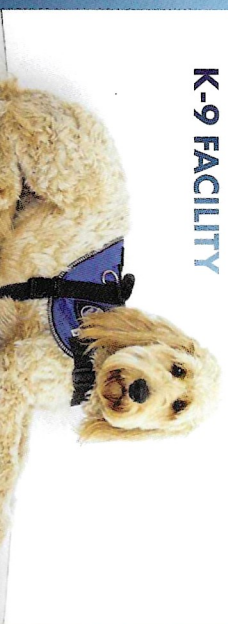
The Victim Assistance Unit can help with:

- Filing an order of protection
- Providing referrals to counseling and other service agencies
- Notifying the victim of court dates regarding their case and providing information about the court process
- Assisting with Victim Impact Statements
- Serving as a liaison between the victim and officers/detectives
- Follow-up contact for severe cases
- Timely return of property held as evidence

If you have been the victim of a crime and have not yet been contacted by an advocate, please call 623.222.4031 to learn more about assistance available to you.



## K-9 FACILITY



The Surprise Victim Assistance Unit utilizes specially trained K-9s like Hope, to assist in serving the emotional needs of victims who have experienced a traumatic event. Our therapy dog is available to meet with both children and adults who enjoy the comfort offered by therapy animals.

**CRIME CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE** regardless of precautions a person may or may not have taken. While a victim's world can be turned upside down by a traumatic event, victims can regain a sense of balance and strength as they heal.

In addition, victims may have questions about where to go for medical treatment; about what will happen if they report the crime to the police or how to find psychological or emotional support in the commu-

nity. These concerns are all normal, understandable responses to crime and it may be helpful to speak to a victim service professional or counselor to discuss the impact of the crime on your life.

### POSSIBLE COMMON SHORT TERM EFFECTS

- Feelings of numbness and concern of being or unemotional for some time after the event
- Self-blaming, insecurity and victimized again
- Disbelief, denial and anger

### POSSIBLE COMMON LONG TERM EFFECTS

- Nightmares or sleeping disorders
- Extreme tension and overwhelming anger
- Flashbacks; trouble with short or long-term memory
- Feelings of isolation or estrangement from others

If you are suffering from any of these symptoms, call us at 623.222.4031. A Victim Advocate can provide referrals to counseling agencies, support groups and other services as needed. A mental health professional may be able to help you identify ways to cope with the long-term impact of victimization.