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Youth Justice Victims Register

Victim Support Services

The impact a crime has on an individual is unique, as is the assistance a victim requires. There are a wide variety of information, counselling, support and referral services available to crime victims in the ACT. Some of these are:

Australian Federal Police

Emergency 000 Attendance 131 444

Victim Support ACT – provides information, support and counselling services, and advocacy and assistance with the criminal justice system.

Telephone 1800 822 272 Email vocc@act.gov.au

Victims of Crime Assistance League ACT Inc. –

Provides practical assistance, emotional support, court and compensation support and counselling.

Telephone 02 6295 9600 Email vocalact@gmail.com

Victims of Crime Coordinator (VoCC) – appointed under the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*, can provide assistance, receive complaints and act as an advocate for victims.

Telephone 1800 822 272 Email vocc@act.gov.au

How do I register?

To find out how to be placed on the register, or for more information, please contact:

Register Administrator
Youth Justice Policy Team, Youth Directorate
Office for Children, Youth and Family Support
Department of Disability, Housing and
Community Services

Mail GPO Box 158
Canberra 2601 ACT

Telephone 02 6207 0443 or 02 6205 3568

Email YJVictimsRegister@act.gov.au

Fax 02 6205 3386

After making contact with the Register Administrator, a registration form will be sent.



ACT Government – committed
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receive appropriate support.

What is the Youth Justice Victims Register?

The purpose of the Youth Justice Victims Register is to give a registered victim access to information about a sentenced young offender and the administration of their sentence (where relevant).

A registered victim may only be provided with non-identifiable information about the young offender, unless the offence is a personal violence offence.

The Youth Justice Victims Register records names and contact details of victims of offences committed by a young offender. A young offender is a person who has been convicted or found guilty of an offence by a court and was under 18 years of age when the offence was committed.

Information kept on the Youth Justice Victims Register is used for contacting and informing the registered victim about a sentenced young offender.

The Register Administrator within the Youth Directorate, Office for Children, Youth and Family Support maintains the Youth Justice Victims Register. The Youth Justice Victims Register is strictly controlled by authorised staff.

Who can be placed on the register?

A person can be placed on the register if:

- they have suffered harm because of an offence by a young offender. Harm includes physical injury, mental injury or emotional suffering (including grief), pregnancy, economic loss or substantial impairment of rights accorded by law
- they were financially or psychologically dependant on the victim immediately before that person died as a result of a criminal act committed against them by a young offender
- they have been nominated by the victim to act on their behalf.

Who *cannot* be placed on the register?

A person cannot be placed on the register if they are:

- not directly involved in the offence for which the young offender is currently sentenced
- a witness or bystander who was not caused harm as a result of the offence
- a member of the victim's family (unless registered as the victim's representative or unless the victim has died)
- an unrelated individual interested in following the progress of the order.

Can someone else register on a victim's behalf?

A victim may nominate a person to act on their behalf to register their details and to receive information in relation to the sentenced young offender.

A person with parental responsibility for a victim who is a child or young person under 15 may register the victim's details and receive information in relation to the sentenced young offender on behalf of the victim.

What information can a registered victim receive?

A registered victim of a young offender, or person acting on their behalf, may only receive information about the young offender who has been sentenced for a crime against the victim.

In most cases a registered victim **will** receive:

- the name of the order the young offender is subject to, including any combination sentence
- the length of the order including dates of imprisonment and release
- the name of the detention place the young offender will be detained if on a custodial order
- if applicable, the name of the detention centre or correctional centre a young offender may be transferred to
- any changes in the supervision of the young offender, for example a transfer to another state
- the conditions of the order the young offender is subject to
- a general description of the nature of supervision by Community Youth Justice and any programs the young offender is participating in as a condition of their sentence
- the escape, death, or any other exceptional event relating to the young offender
- any information that relates to the safety of the victim.

A registered victim **cannot** receive information about:

- any unrelated sentence the young offender may be serving concurrently with the sentence for the offence/s committed against the victim
- any sentence imposed on the young offender after the completion of the sentence for the offence/s committed against the victim
- a young offender's prior criminal history.