



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Andrew Pazuchowski Director of Public Safety

Victim & Witness Rights

Victims or witnesses requesting assistance between the point of victimization and the preliminary investigation will be able to contact the Huntington Woods Department of Public Safety, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. Victims or witnesses can call 911 and reach the 911 center (City of Berkley Department of Public Safety/Dispatch), or call (248) 541-1180 to reach a supervisor depending on the severity of the request.

The following is a listing of victim/witness assistance programs offered throughout the Department's service area by outside victim/witness assistance agencies.

HAVEN (Help Against Violent Encounters Now) - is funded to provide assistance with the PPO process and counseling services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Oakland County. HAVEN's Advocacy Program provides two services:

First Response - available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer pages from hospitals and police agencies. Advocates provide crisis intervention, information, referrals, safety planning and emotional support to victims, family and friends. Twenty-four hour crisis & support hotline - (248) 334-1274.

Court Advocate - serves as a specialist at a specific District Court and provides information relative to the courts operation. They inform victims about their rights, criminal procedures and safety planning. Advocates accompany victims to the criminal proceedings as well as to personal protection order violations or show cause hearings.

Common Ground - receives funding through the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and provides 24 hour emergency advocacy accessed through Common Ground Sanctuaries' crisis hotline @ 800-231-1127. They provide such services as:

- Access to 24 hour emergency advocacy;
- Short term face-to-face counseling;
- Criminal justice system and court accompaniment;
- Temporary shelter referrals;
- Partners with police in notifying survivors of the death of a loved one lost to drunken driving, suicide or homicide;
- Support groups;
- Assistance in filing Michigan Crime Victim Compensation applications.

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) - provides the following services:

- Literature to help you cope emotionally and to guide you through the criminal justice system;
- Information about drunk driving law and victim rights in your state;
- Introduction to other families whose victimization is similar to yours;
- Victim Support Groups;
- Information and assistance in applying for Crime Victim Compensation benefits to cover expenses related to the crash;
- Information about professional counselors who work with victims of crashes;
- Information about civil attorneys specializing in wrongful death and personal injury cases;
- Court-accompaniment.

Crime Victim's Rights Act Card & Domestic Violence Victim Information Forms - provided by the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office and are available for distribution at the Huntington Woods Department of Public Safety.