

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE...

You can ask the city or the county prosecuting attorney to file a criminal complaint. You also have the right to file a petition in superior court requesting an order for protection from domestic abuse which could include any of the following:

- An order restraining your abuser from further acts of abuse;
- An order directing your abuser to leave your household;
- An order making residential provision for the minor child or children;
- An order restraining your abuser from molesting or interfering with minor children in your custody. The forms you need to obtain a protection order are available in superior court.
- A court order requiring the abuser to turn in any firearms and concealed pistol license in the abuser's possession or control to law enforcement and prohibiting possession or accessing firearms/CPL for the duration of the civil order.

VICTIMS OF STRANGULATION

If you are a victim of strangulation: It



is **critical** to understand that even though breathing changes and neck pain may be mild at first, **the underlying injury**

can lead to death up to 36 hours or more after the incident. This can occur **even if no injuries are visible** due to changes in the damaged neck structures. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you seek medical attention any time you are the victim of strangulation whether or not you report the incident.

VICTIM RESOURCES

Lakewood Police Department	
Emergency.....	9-1-1
Non Emergency.....	798-4721
Special Assault Unit.....	830-5090
Lakewood Municipal Court.....	512-2258
City Hall/Attorney's Office.....	589-2489
Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County.....	1-800-756-7273
Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney Domestic Violence Unit.....	798-7400
Pierce County Clerks Office Domestic Violence Protection Orders.....	798-7455
Crystal Judson Family Justice Center.....	798-4166
Pierce County Domestic Violence Helpline.....	798-4166
or toll free.....	1-800-764-2420
TDD.....	798-4620
National Domestic Violence Hotline 24-hour.....	1-800-799-7233
TTY.....	1-800-787-3224
Crisis Line.....	1-800-576-7764

SHELTER/PROGRAMS

YWCA Women's Shelter.....	383-2593
Family Renewal Shelter.....	475-9010
Family Shelter (24-hour number).....	272-1974
Salvation Army (24-hour number).....	627-3962
Korean Women's Association (24-hour number).....	359-0470
Centro Latino.....	572-7717
Indo Chinese Cultural Service Center.....	535-4202
Community Health Care.....	597-3813

Obtaining a Domestic Violence Order for Protection

If you are a victim of domestic violence, you can petition for a Domestic Violence Order for Protection. In Lakewood, a petition for a Domestic Violence Order for Protection can be submitted to Pierce County Superior Court electronically at the Lakewood Police Station, 9401 Lakewood Drive SW, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

You may also file for a Protection Order at the following Pierce County locations:

County-City Building

at 930 Tacoma Avenue South, Room #108
in downtown Tacoma 253-798-7455

Crystal Judson Family Justice Center

at 718 Court E, Tacoma (2 blocks from
County-City Bldg.) 253-798-4166

Gig Harbor Municipal Court

at 3510 Grandview Street
Gig Harbor 253-851-7808

University Place Police Department

at 3631 74th Avenue West, Suite #A
University Place 253-798-4058

You will need to have the respondent's first and last name and preferably a middle name or initial. You will also need to provide his/her date of birth and/or social security number. (If the respondent is in the military a social security number is required). You also must provide an address for service. If the respondent's home address is not known, a work address may be substituted but **the order cannot be served without an address.**

Lakewood Police Department

Victim's Rights



Officer Name: _____

Case Number: _____

What Happens Next?

When the police respond to an incident and make a police report, the report is forwarded to the appropriate prosecuting agency for review. Misdemeanor crimes that have occurred in Lakewood are generally forwarded to the Lakewood City Attorney's Office. Felony crimes that have occurred in Lakewood are forwarded to the Pierce County Prosecutor. You can contact the appropriate agency to find out if this incident will result in criminal charges.

Lakewood City Attorney's Office
253-589-2489

Pierce County Prosecutor's Office
253-798-7400

In Washington State, it is not up to the victim to decide whether or not criminal charges are filed. The prosecuting attorney will review all available case information to decide whether criminal charges should be filed. If criminal charges are filed, the victim cannot "drop charges."

If criminal charges result from a Domestic Violence incident, the Court may impose a No Contact Order at arraignment which prohibits the defendant from having any contact with the victim. This is done to protect the safety of the victim. A No Contact Order may be imposed even if the victim does not want one.

A victim advocate from the prosecuting attorney's office may attempt to contact you about this incident. It is important to let the advocate know of any changes in your address or telephone number. If criminal charges are filed, an advocate will keep you informed about the case. To contact an advocate or to make an appointment please call:

Pierce County Victim Advocate
253-798-7400

RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF VIOLENT OR SEX CRIMES

IF YOU HAVE BEEN A VICTIM OR WITNESS TO ANY VIOLENT OR SEX CRIME,
THEN YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

1. To be informed by local law enforcement agencies or the prosecuting attorney of the final disposition of the case in which the victim, survivor, or witness is involved.
2. To be notified by the party who issued the subpoena that a court proceeding to which they have been subpoenaed will not occur as scheduled, in order to save an unnecessary trip to court.
3. To receive protection from harm and threats of harm arising out of cooperation with law enforcement and prosecution efforts, and to be provided with information as to the level of protection available.
4. To be informed of the procedure to be followed to apply for and receive any witness fees to which you are entitled.
5. To be provided, whenever practical, a secure waiting area during court proceedings that does not require them to be in close proximity to defendants and families or friends of defendants.
6. To have any stolen or other personal property expeditiously returned by law enforcement agencies or the superior court when no longer needed as evidence. When feasible, all such property, except weapons, currency, contraband, property subject to evidentiary analysis, and property of which ownership is disputed, shall be photographed and returned to the owner within ten days of being taken.
7. To be provided with appropriate employer intercession services to ensure that employers of victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crime will cooperate with the criminal justice process in order to minimize an employee's loss of pay and other benefits resulting from court appearance.
8. To have access to immediate medical assistance and not to be detained for an unreasonable length of time by a law enforcement agency before having such assistance administered. However, an employee of the law enforcement agency may, if necessary, accompany the person to a medical facility to question the person about the criminal incident if the questioning does not hinder the administration of medical assistance.
9. To have a crime victim advocate from a crime victim/witness program present at any prosecutorial or defense interviews with the victim. This applies only if practical and the presence of the advocate does not cause any unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case. The role of the advocate is to provide emotional support to the crime victim.
10. To be physically present in court during trial, or if subpoenaed to testify, to be scheduled as early as practical in the proceedings in order to be physically present during trial after testifying and not to be excluded solely because they have testified.
11. To be informed by the prosecuting attorney of the date, time and place of the trial and of the sentencing hearing for felony convictions upon request by victim or survivor.
12. To submit a victim impact statement or report to the court, with the assistance of the prosecuting attorney if requested, which shall be included in all pre-sentence reports and permanently included in the files and records accompanying the offender committed to the custody of a state agency or institution.
13. To present a statement personally or by representation, at the sentencing hearing for felony convictions.
14. To entry of an order of restitution by the court in all felony cases, even when the offender is sentenced to confinement, unless extraordinary circumstances exist which make restitution inappropriate in the court's judgement.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

**Pierce County Prosecutors,
Victim Witness Assistance**
Room 946, County City Building
930 Tacoma Avenue South
Tacoma, Washington 98402
253-798-7400

RIGHTS OF CHILD VICTIMS OF VIOLENT, SEX CRIMES OR ABUSE

IF YOU ARE A CHILD AND HAVE BEEN THE
VICTIM OF A VIOLENT CRIME, A SEX CRIME
OR CHILD ABUSE, THEN YOU HAVE THE
FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

1. To have explained in language easily understood, all legal proceedings and/or police investigations in which you may be involved.
2. To have a crime victim advocate from a crime victim/witness program present at any prosecutorial or defense interviews with the child victim. This applies only if practical and the presence of the advocate does not cause any unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case. The role of the advocate is to provide emotional support to the crime victim.
3. To be provided, whenever possible, a secure waiting area during court proceedings and to have an advocate or support person remain with you prior to and during any court proceedings.
4. To not have the names, addresses, nor photographs of the living child victim or witnesses disclosed by any law enforcement agency, prosecutor's office, or state agency without the permission of the child victim, child witness, parents, or legal guardians to anyone except another law enforcement agency, prosecutor, defense counsel, or private or governmental agency that provides services to the child victim or witness.
5. To allow an advocate to make recommendations to the prosecuting attorney about the ability of the child to cooperate with the prosecution and the potential effect of the proceedings on the child.
6. To allow an advocate to provide information to the court concerning the child's ability to understand the nature of the proceedings.
7. To be provided information or appropriate referrals to social service agencies to assist the child and/or the child's family with the emotional impact of the crime, with subsequent investigation, and judicial proceedings in which the child is involved.
8. To allow an advocate to be present in court while the child testifies in order to provide emotional support for the child.
9. To provide information to the court while the child testifies in order to promote the child's feelings of security and safety.
10. To allow law enforcement agencies the opportunity to enlist the assistance of other professional personnel such as child protection services, victim advocates, or prosecutorial staff trained in the interviewing of the child victim.