

# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT PACKET

## For Victims of Juvenile Offenders

# It is your right!

*ATENCIÓN: Si Ud. requiere asistencia en español o tiene preguntas sobre este documento, favor de llamar al \_\_\_\_\_.*

### JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE

This Juvenile Victim Impact Statement (VIS) will be used throughout the criminal justice system (by the prosecutor, the judge, the Juvenile Probation Departments and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department) to better understand the emotional/psychological, physical, and financial impact of the crime.

The contact information you provide in this Juvenile Victim Impact Statement is important and will be used to contact you if you wish to receive information from:

- Juvenile Probation Departments;
- Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD); and
- Board of Pardons and Paroles if the offender has a determinate sentence.

***Return the***  
**Victim Contact Information Sheet and the**  
**Juvenile Victim Impact Statement Form** to the  
**county or district attorney's office**  
**that is prosecuting your case.**

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR	
Victim Assistance Coordinator:	
Agency:	
Address:	
City:	Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Fax:
E-mail:	
Offender/respondent(s) Name (Last, First MI)	Cause/Case #



# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT PACKET

## For Victims of Juvenile Offenders

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT IS USED THROUGHOUT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS

- 1. CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS:** You have crime victim rights if you are a:
  - Victim,
  - Parent/Guardian of a victim, or
  - Close relative of a deceased victim
- 2. CONFIDENTIAL VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION SHEET:**
  - Used by juvenile justice professionals to contact you throughout the process.
  - Used to elect and exercise your rights to notification of court proceedings, probation, parole, release, and/or discharge.
  - Used by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) to add adults who request victim notification from the TJJD Victim Services Division regarding the status of the offender/respondent while he/she is incarcerated in a TJJD facility or on parole supervision.
  - By law, the confidential Victim Contact Information Sheet cannot be seen by the offender/respondent or the defense attorney.

If any of your contact information changes, you must notify the following departments, as applicable, to make sure you are kept informed: **during the trial/prosecution phase**, contact your Victim Assistance Coordinator; if **the offender/respondent is adjudicated to juvenile probation**, contact the Victim Assistant Coordinator in your county \_\_\_\_\_; or if **the offender/respondent is adjudicated and committed to TJJD**, contact the TJJD Victim Services Division at 1-800-850-7369 or [tjjd@tjjd.texas.gov](mailto:tjjd@tjjd.texas.gov).

- 3. JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT FORM:** Victims have the right to submit a Juvenile Victim Impact Statement. The Juvenile Victim Impact Statement is a written, detailed account of the emotional/psychological, physical, and financial impact the crime had on the victims and/or family members. This document can be used to explain your feelings such as loss, frustration, fear, and/or anger, as well as any physical or monetary damages due to the crime. Only you can provide this vital information.

#### KNOW HOW YOUR JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT IS USED

##### **Prosecutor:**

- Considers your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement before entering into a plea arrangement.
- Considers your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement to determine the restitution amount (if applicable).

##### **Judge:**

- Considers your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement before imposing a sentence; the Juvenile Victim Impact Statement is not considered by a jury.
- Considers your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement before a plea bargain agreement is accepted.

##### **Defense:**

- Your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement, **excluding the confidential Victim Contact Information Sheet**, may be seen by the offender/respondent and/or his or her attorney.
- In certain circumstances, the offender/respondent or his or her attorney may comment on the Juvenile Victim Impact Statement and, with approval of the court, introduce evidence or testimony in regards to its accuracy.

##### **Juvenile Probation:**

- Juvenile Probation officers have access to your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement so they can notify you if the offender/respondent is placed on juvenile probation.

##### **Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD):**

- If the offender/respondent is committed to TJJD, your Juvenile Victim Impact Statement goes to the TJJD Victim Services Division to provide adults requesting notification with information regarding the offender/respondent. Adults can register for this service by completing the confidential "Victim Contact Information Sheet," which is a part of the attached Juvenile Victim Impact Statement.
- The Juvenile Victim Impact Statement will be considered prior to the release of the offender/respondent back into the community.





# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION SHEET

*This confidential Victim Contact Information Sheet will be used by juvenile justice professionals to contact you throughout the process. This includes notifying you about court proceedings, juvenile probation, and parole, release and/or discharge if the offender/respondent is committed to TJJD.*

***You may choose to complete only this page for notification purposes.***

ATENCIÓN: Si Ud. requiere asistencia en español o tiene preguntas sobre este documento, favor de llamar al \_\_\_\_\_.

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

OFFENSE:			OFFENSE DATE:	
OFFENDER/RESPONDENT(S) NAME (LAST, FIRST MI)	DPS State ID (SID)	DOB (mm/dd/yyyy)	Cause/Case #	TJJD #

### SECTIONS 1 & 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY VICTIM, PARENT/GUARDIAN OR CLOSE RELATIVE

#### SECTION 1. NOTIFICATION / NO CONTACT

If you are an adult, do you want to be notified about:

- relevant court proceedings, or
- the offender/respondent's status if the offender/respondent:
  - is placed on juvenile probation, or
  - is committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD), and is considered for parole, release, or discharge?  YES  NO

If the offender/respondent is committed to TJJD, do you want the offender/respondent to be prohibited from contacting you?  YES  NO

### IMPORTANT!

**BEFORE RETURNING THE VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION SHEET AND/OR JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT FORM TO THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR, BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR PREFERENCES IN SECTION 1 AND REVIEW AND SIGN THE FINAL DOCUMENT. IF YOU MOVE OR CHANGE ANY OF YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR, THE JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT, OR THE TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION.**

### SECTION 2. CONFIDENTIAL VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION (Please use black ink and print clearly)

Victim's Name:		Victim deceased <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Date of Birth:		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Name of Person Submitting this Statement:		
Driver's License No. and State:		
Address:		Date of Birth:
City:	State:	Zip:
Cell Phone:	Home Phone:	Work Phone:
Email Address:		Relationship to Victim:

#### Please provide the contact information of someone not living with you who will know how to contact you.

Full Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Cell Phone:	Home Phone:	Work Phone:
Email Address:		Relationship to Victim:



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# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR				
OFFENSE:			OFFENSE DATE:	
OFFENDER/RESPONDENT(S) NAME (LAST, FIRST MI)	DPS State ID (SID)	DOB (mm/dd/yyyy)	Cause/Case #	TJJD #

The Juvenile Victim Impact Statement is a written, detailed account of the emotional/psychological, physical, and financial impact the crime had on the victims and/or family members. It may be used at each phase of the juvenile justice process, from the prosecution of the offense, to placement on juvenile probation, or to commitment to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and through the release review process. **Please do not provide any information about the crime itself; those facts are available in other reports.** Please answer only as many questions as you wish. If you need more space, attach any additional page(s) to the Juvenile Victim Impact Statement Form.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICTIM, PARENT/GUARDIAN OR CLOSE RELATIVE OF THE VICTIM
<b>Victim's Name:</b>

**EMOTIONAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT.** Use this section to discuss your feelings about what has happened to you as a result of the crime and how it has affected your general well-being. Please check all the reactions you have experienced.

- Changes in sleep pattern       Lack of concentration       Fear of strangers       Loss of security/control
- Nightmares       Fear of being alone       Anger       Feelings of helplessness
- Difficulty trusting others       Anxiety       Cry more easily       Fear of leaving home
- Change in appetite       Job stress       Family not as close       Other
- Depression       Want to be alone       School stress
- Marital/Relationship problems

Has the victim or the victim's family sought counseling as a result of the crime?       Yes       No

How has the crime affected you, your family or those close to you? Please feel free to discuss your feelings, thoughts, and general well-being. (Please attach any additional page(s) if needed.)

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# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT FORM

**PHYSICAL INJURY.** Use this section to discuss any physical injuries suffered as a result of the crime. You may want to write about the extent of the injuries and how long the injuries lasted. (Please attach any additional page(s) if needed.)

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- Treated at \_\_\_\_\_ ( medical centers / clinics / physicians' offices)
- Hospitalized at \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ days

**FINANCIAL LOSS.**

Losses you have incurred as a result of the crime may include medical and dental care, emergency transportation, property loss or damages, loss of income from work, counseling, crime scene cleanup, moving or changing residence, funeral costs, and other costs of this nature.

You may want to begin keeping a log of your financial loss as soon as possible after the crime occurred to include any receipts and records you have. In the event of a conviction, the prosecutor or judge **may** use this information to determine if any restitution may be ordered or you may be contacted for more up-to-date information. PLEASE KEEP COPIES FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

Please provide a best estimate of your financial loss to date: \_\_\_\_\_ | \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Do you anticipate any future costs resulting from the crime?  Yes  No
- Were any expenses covered by insurance or other sources?  Yes  No
- Have you applied for Crime Victims' Compensation through the Attorney General's Office?  Yes  No

*If you have not, you may apply at [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov) or call 1-800-983-9933.*

The information in this Juvenile Victim Impact Statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY:**  Victim  Parent/Guardian  Close Relative  Other \_\_\_\_\_





# JUVENILE VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

## CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS

### TEXAS FAMILY CODE

- Sec. 57.002. VICTIM'S RIGHTS. (a) A victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a deceased victim is entitled to the following rights within the juvenile justice system:
  - (1) the right to receive from law enforcement agencies adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts;
  - (2) the right to have the court or person appointed by the court take the safety of the victim or the victim's family into consideration as an element in determining whether the child should be detained before the child's conduct is adjudicated;
  - (3) the right, if requested, to be informed of relevant court proceedings, including appellate proceedings, and to be informed in a timely manner if those court proceedings have been canceled or rescheduled;
  - (4) the right to be informed, when requested, by the court or a person appointed by the court concerning the procedures in the juvenile justice system, including general procedures relating to:
    - (A) the preliminary investigation and deferred prosecution of a case; and
    - (B) the appeal of the case;
  - (5) the right to provide pertinent information to a juvenile court conducting a disposition hearing concerning the impact of the offense on the victim and the victim's family by testimony, written statement, or any other manner before the court renders its disposition;
  - (6) the right to receive information regarding compensation to victims as provided by Subchapter B, Chapter 56, Code of Criminal Procedure, including information related to the costs that may be compensated under that subchapter and the amount of compensation, eligibility for compensation, and procedures for application for compensation under that subchapter, the payment of medical expenses under Section 56.06, Code of Criminal Procedure, for a victim of a sexual assault, and when requested, to referral to available social service agencies that may offer additional assistance;
  - (7) the right to be informed, upon request, of procedures for release under supervision or transfer of the person to the custody of the pardons and paroles division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for parole, to participate in the release or transfer for parole process, to be notified, if requested, of the person's release, escape, or transfer for parole proceedings concerning the person, to provide to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department for inclusion in the person's file information to be considered by the department before the release under supervision or transfer for parole of the person, and to be notified, if requested, of the person's release or transfer for parole;
  - (8) the right to be provided with a waiting area, separate or secure from other witnesses, including the child alleged to have committed the conduct and relatives of the child, before testifying in any proceeding concerning the child, or, if a separate waiting area is not available, other safeguards should be taken to minimize the victim's contact with the child and the child's relatives and witnesses, before and during court proceedings;
  - (9) the right to prompt return of any property of the victim that is held by a law enforcement agency or the attorney for the state as evidence when the property is no longer required for that purpose;
  - (10) the right to have the attorney for the state notify the employer of the victim, if requested, of the necessity of the victim's cooperation and testimony in a proceeding that may necessitate the absence of the victim from work for good cause;
  - (11) the right to be present at all public court proceedings related to the conduct of the child as provided by Section 54.08, subject to that section; and
  - (12) any other right appropriate to the victim that a victim of criminal conduct has under Article 56.02, Code of Criminal Procedure.
- (b) In notifying a victim of the release or escape of a person, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department shall use the same procedure established for the notification of the release or escape of an adult offender under Article 56.11, Code of Criminal Procedure.