

VICTIM RIGHTS COMPLIANCE EFFORTS

State	NAME/AGENCY	Date started	DESCRIPTION	Telephone
AK	Office of Victim Rights Agency of the legislature	2001	Investigates complaints of violations of victim rights, and assists victims in obtaining these rights. Also provides free legal services to victims, such as appointing an attorney to represent them at sentencing and speak for them, if the victim wants such representation.	907-272-2620
AZ	Victim Rights Enforcement Officer Attorney General's Office		It functions like an ombudsman by conducting investigations and auditing/evaluating the operations of government providers of mandated victim services.	602-542-4911
CO	Victims' Compensation and Assistance Coordinating Committee Department of Public Safety, Department of Criminal Justice	1993	18 member board that reviews complaints of violations of victims rights (in addition to reviewing funding for victim assistance programs). Can make recommendations to the Attorney General of how to respond to violations.	888-282-1080, 303-239-5719
CT	The Office of the Victim Advocate (OVA) Independent State Agency	8/99	The OVA receives and reviews complaints regarding agency actions and conducts investigations to see if victims rights have been violated. OVA can advocate in court on behalf of victim when rights have been violated. Also, it provides public education and recommends changes in state policies.	860-550-6632
MD	Compliance Initiative Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention and Maryland State Board of Victim Services		Phoneline for victims to voice their concerns about victim mistreatment within the criminal justice system. There is a Compliance Coordinator who works with agents in the criminal justice system as a resource for victims to ensure that their rights are upheld.	877-927-4632
MN	Crime Victim Justice Unit Office of Justice Programs, Department of Public Safety	1986	Investigates victim complaints about statutory rights violations or victim mistreatment. Provides telephone assistance to victims.	651-205-4821, 800-247-0390
NM	New Mexico Victims' Rights Project Affiliate of the DWI Resource Center, Inc.		It established a tracking system of victims' rights violations and provides pro bono legal assistance to help victims navigate the criminal justice system.	505-292-2838
SC	Crime Victims' Ombudsman Office of the Governor	11/96	Provides referrals, acts as a liaison between victims and justice system elements, and reviews complaints in an attempt to resolve any conflicts.	888-238-0697
TX	Communications Director (ombudsman role) Attorney General's Office		ombudsman	800-983-9933 or 512-936-1200

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UT	Victim Rights Committee A committee is appointed for each judicial district		A committee for each judicial district that meets semiannually to review victim complaints.	
WI	Crime Victim Rights Board Department of Justice assists the Board, but the Board is not subject to review by the Attorney General.	1998	It functions as a liaison between victims and agencies. It can issue private/public reprimand of agencies/officials that violate victim rights, refers violations by judges to a judicial committee, seeks relief to protect victims rights, and can bring civil actions to assess a forfeiture - intentional violations are subject to a forfeiture up to \$1000.	608-264-9497

Website
www.officeofvictimsrights.legis.state.ak.us
www.azag.gov/victims_rights/enforcement.html
http://dcj.state.co.us/ovp/CoordCommBd.htm
www.ova.state.ct.us
www.goccp.org/victims/victims_compliance_initiative.php
www.ojp.state.mn.us
www.nm_victimrights.org
http://www.govoep.state.sc.us/cvo.htm
Through the AG's website - no real info

Website
http://www.doj.state.wi.us/cvs/