

Victim Services Division
San Francisco District
Attorney's Office



OVERVIEW OF VICTIM SERVICES

Mission: Our goal is to ensure safety; help victims of crime mitigate trauma, navigate the criminal justice system, and rebuild their lives.

Consists of three units: Advocacy, Victim Compensation Claims, and Restitution.

SERVICES OFFERED

Work closely with victims and their support system

Navigation of Criminal Justice System

Marsy's Rights

CA Victim Compensation Board

Community Resources

Community Outreach & Education



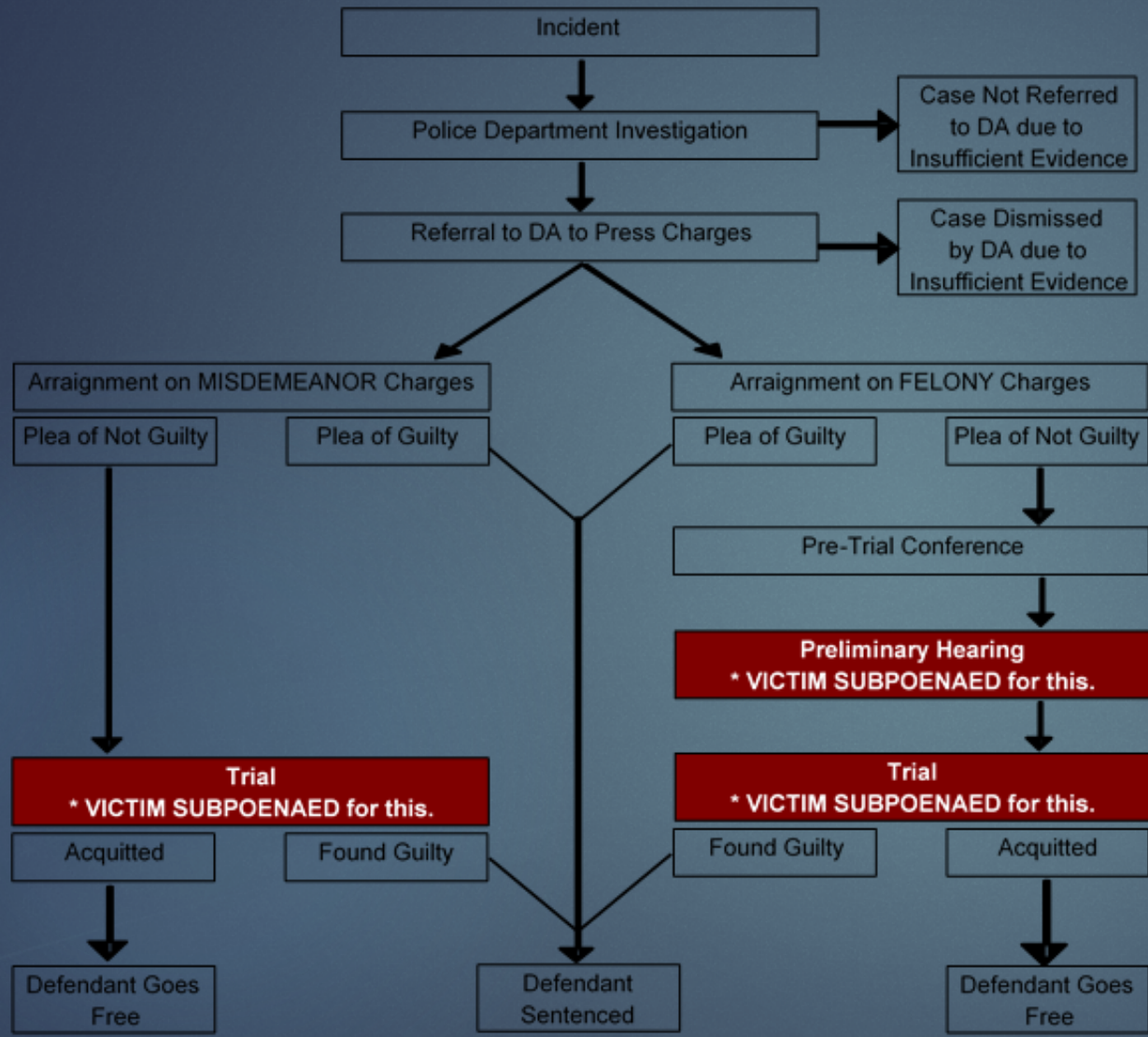
ADVOCACY UNIT

- Misdemeanor (uncharged and misdemeanor charged cases)
- General Felonies (suspect arrested and charged)
- Community & Vulnerable Victims
- Critical Incidents
- Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Child Abuse Sexual Assault (CASA)
- Human Trafficking
- Juvenile



COLLABORATION WITH SUPPORT SYSTEM & OUTSIDE AGENCIES

- ▶ Collaboration with law enforcement such Special Victims Unit (SVU), Traffic Collision Investigation Unit, Homicide, and local precincts.
- ▶ Contact with family, friends or identified support system
- ▶ Collaboration with city and community-based agencies such as Adult Protective Services, San Francisco General Hospital and San Francisco Housing Authority
- ▶ Field Visits



NAVIGATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



MARSY'S RIGHTS

On November 4, 2008, the People of the State of California approved Proposition 9, the Victim's Bill of Rights Act of 2008 known as Marsy's Law, a measure that amended the California Constitution to include a Bill of Rights for crime victims in California. The amendment aims to provide victims with rights and access to justice

Marsy's Rights

- ▶ Fairness and Respect
- ▶ Information About These Rights
- ▶ Protection from the Defendant
- ▶ Victim Safety Considerations in Setting Bail and Release Conditions
- ▶ The Prevention of the Disclosure of Confidential Information
- ▶ Refusal to be Interviewed by the Defense
- ▶ Conference with the Prosecution and Notice of Pretrial Disposition*
- ▶ Notice of and Presence at Public Proceedings*
- ▶ Appearance at Court Proceedings and Expression of Views*
- ▶ Speedy Trial and Prompt Conclusion of the Case
- ▶ Provision of Information to the Probation Department
- ▶ Restitution
- ▶ The Prompt Return of Property
- ▶ Safety of Victim and Public are Factors in Parole Release
- ▶ Receipt of Pre-Sentence Report*
- ▶ Information About Conviction, Sentence, Incarceration, Release, and Escape*
- ▶ Notice of Parole Procedures and Release on Parole*

CALIFORNIA VICTIM COMPENSATION BOARD

CalVCB may reimburse claimants for specified qualifying expenses incurred due to the crime, which are not reimbursed by other sources.

- ▶ It is recommended that claimants file a police report & complete a CALVCB application.
- ▶ The Victim Compensation Board will review the application to determine eligibility and approval.
- ▶ Property crimes are not covered.

Who is Eligible for CalVCB?

Direct Victim

- Victims who suffer death, physical injury or a threat of physical injury and, in some cases, emotional injury resulting from a violent crime
- Victims of crimes that occur in California
- California residents who become victims while in another state or country
- Minor Witnesses

Derivative Victims

- Children
- Grandchildren
- Grandparents
- Legal Guardians
- Persons Legally Liable
- Parents
- Roommates
- Siblings
- Spouse or Domestic Partners

Crimes Covered Under CalVCB

- ▶ Assault with a deadly weapon
- ▶ Battery
- ▶ Child abuse
- ▶ Child sexual assault
- ▶ Child endangerment and abandonment
- ▶ Domestic violence
- ▶ Driving under the influence
- ▶ Elder abuse
- ▶ Hate crimes
- ▶ Homicide
- ▶ Human trafficking
- ▶ Hit and run
- ▶ Kidnapping
- ▶ Murder
- ▶ Online harassment
- ▶ Rape
- ▶ Robbery
- ▶ Sexual assault
- ▶ Stalking
- ▶ Sexual battery
- ▶ Terrorism
- ▶ Vehicular manslaughter
- ▶ Other crimes that result in physical injury or a threat of physical injury to the victim

CaIVCB Covered Expenses

- Crime scene clean up
- Dental
- Funeral and burial
- Home or vehicle modification
- Income loss
- Loss of support for dependents
- Medical
- Medical equipment
- Mental health services
- Relocation

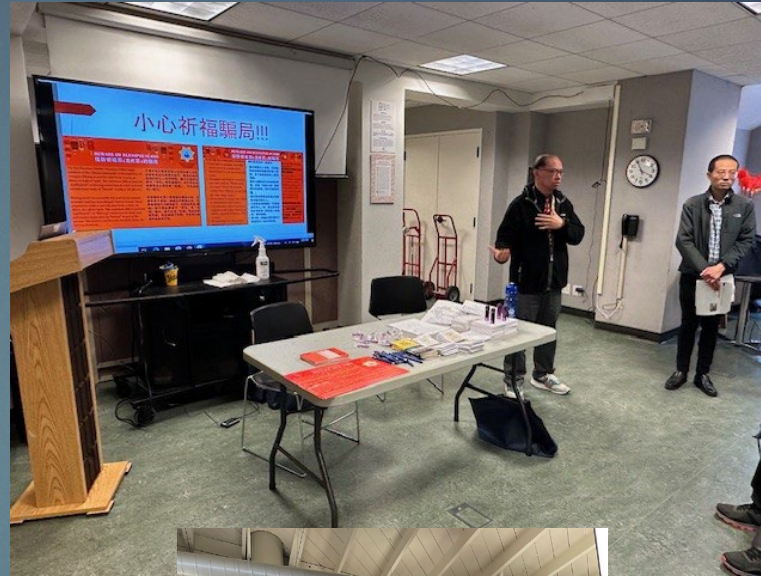
Restitution

- ▶ The court can order a defendant to pay restitution to the victim. The victim can request that the court award restitution to the named victim(s) in the full or partial amount of the economic loss, including but not limited to:
 - ▶ Stolen or damaged property
 - ▶ Medical expenses
 - ▶ Mental health counseling expenses
 - ▶ Wages or profits lost due to injury incurred by the victim, and if the victim is a minor, wages or profits lost by the minor's parent(s) or guardian(s) while caring for the injured minor
 - ▶ Expenses to install or increase residential security incurred, relating to the crime

Community Engagement

Our division participates in tabling opportunities, presentations, parades, town halls, and other community engagement efforts.

- Sunday Streets
- National Night Out
- Aging Your Way
- Bayview Black History Month and Lunar New Year Celebration
- MNC Community Resource Fair
- De Marillac Academy Family Council Presentation
- SFDA & SFPD Clement Street Merchant Walk
- Town Halls (Richmond, Tenderloin, Bayview, Chinatown)



Common Misconceptions of the Division



Investigate

We do not investigate. This is the role of SFPD Investigators for uncharged cases and/or our DA Investigators (DAI) for charged cases.



Statements

We do not take statements made by Victims/Witnesses. This is also a job for SFPD or DAI.



Translation

We do not provide translation services, but we do aim to provide victim's an advocate who speaks their preferred language when available.



Counseling services

We do not provide direct counseling or therapy. We do make referrals to counseling agencies.

Victim Services Contact Information

San Francisco District Attorney's Office

Victim Services Division

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North Building, Suite 400N

San Francisco, CA 94103

Telephone: 628-652-4100

Email Address: victimservices@sfgov.org