

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INFORMATION

Physical abuse by one person against another is a crime.

YOU CAN GET HELP:

- Police Emergency.....911
- Campus PD Line.....240-500-2308
- State’s Attorney.....240-313-2000

Police can accompany you back into the family home to retrieve personal belongings for yourself and your children (clothing, medications, personal hygiene items and tools of a trade).

YOU CAN FILE CRIMINAL CHARGES

To file charges, go the District Court Commissioner’s Office or call their number (address and numbers are listed below).

YOU CAN REQUEST A CIVIL ORDER OF PROTECTION (COP)

A Civil Order of Protection is a court order that offers certain remedies to victims of domestic violence, including:

- Ordering the abuser to stop the violence;
- Removing the abuser from the home;
- Giving temporary child custody; and/or,
- Order counseling.

During normal business hours you can go to the District Court or Circuit Court Clerk’s Office to fill out the paperwork. During non-business hours, go to the District Court Commissioner at Central Booking (addresses and numbers are listed below). To be eligible, you must either be married, separated, divorced, have a child in common, cohabited for 90 days in the last 12 months, or be related by blood or marriage.

District Court – 36 W. Antietam St.
 Hagerstown, MD – 240-420-4600
 Circuit Court – 95 W. Washington St.
 Hagerstown, MD – 301-733-8660
 District Court Commissioner at Central Booking (24/7) –
 500 Western Maryland Parkway
 Hagerstown, MD – 240-313-2840

You will receive notification from the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services within 3 hours after the civil order of protection is served.

PEACE ORDER

A peace order is another remedy if you are not eligible under a Civil Order of Protection. If you are experiencing problems with an individual, including someone in a dating relationship, a neighbor, a stranger or anyone else, you must file within 30 days of an incident. Remedies available under this law can include:

- Order other person (respondent) to refrain from threatening or committing a prohibited act against petitioner;
- End all contact with petitioner;
- Stay away from petitioner’s home, place of Employment or school;

Go to the District Court Clerk’s office to fill out paperwork Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm. A \$50.00 fee will be charged for filing a Peace Order.

MAKE A SAFETY PLAN

This plan should only be used if it is safe to do so. Do nothing that will jeopardize your safety.

Gather:

- Cash;
- Apparel for you and your children;
- Financial records, bank books important Papers (birth certificates, school records, and health records);
- Extra house and car keys;
- Telephone numbers where you can get Help (see information within); and,
- An escape plan (police, motel, friends, and **SHELTER**).

CASA, Inc. (Citizen Assisting and Sheltering the Abused) can assist you with:

- Information and referral
- Crisis shelter for abused women and their Children;
- Counseling for women, men and children;
- Legal Advocacy Services – provides counseling, information and accompaniments concerning divorce, child custody and support, property settlement, protection from domestic violence and criminal prosecution.

CASA, Inc.....301-739-4990
 CASA Hotline.....301-739-8975

If you have any questions about police investigations in which you are a victim or witness, or if you have additional information, you may call the HCC Police Department at 240-500-2308. Please provide the following information:

Initial Contact Officer

Date & Time of Incident

Incident Case Number: _____

In an emergency, dial 911. At that time, advise the police dispatcher of the nature of the emergency and your location. The police dispatcher may also need additional information. Your cooperation will enable us to assist you more efficiently.

VICTIM, WITNESS, AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSISTANCE



**HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 POLICE DEPARTMENT**
 “To Protect and Serve”

11400 Robinwood Dr. Hagerstown, MD 21742
 240-500-2308
 Emergency - 911

COUNSELING SERVICES

You may find the need to acquire counseling for yourself or others who have been affected by the impact of a crime. Listed below are a few of the agencies, which can be contacted for counseling services.

Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence & Legal Advocacy Assistance

CASA, Inc. 116 W Baltimore St., Hagerstown, MD
301-739-4990 – TDY 301-739-1012
CASA Hotline: 301-739-8975

Child Abuse Assistance

Child Protective Services-WCDSS
122 N. Potomac St., Hagerstown, MD
240-420-2222
Child abuse/Adult abuse hotline – 240-420-2222

Substance Abuse and Addictions Services

Washington County Health Department
1302 Pennsylvania Ave, Hagerstown, MD
240-313-3200

Bereavement Services

Hospice of Washington County, Inc.
20 S. Prospect St., Hagerstown, MD
301-791-6360

Family and Personal Counseling Services

Catholic Charities
229 N. Potomac St., Hagerstown, MD
301-733-5858

Additionally, you may request the following, in writing, from the State's Attorney's Office:

- The reading of victim impact statements at any hearing that considers release;
- To know when the convicted offender is scheduled to be release from prison or jail; and,
- To know when the offender escapes or receives a mandatory release from prison.

STATE CRIME VICTIM SERVICES VINE

“Victim Information and Notification Everyday” (VINE) is a free, anonymous, automated telephone service that provides victims of crime with two important services: information and notification. VINE will provide you with vital court case, custody, parole and probation information for an offender currently involved in the criminal justice system in Maryland.

Toll Free.....1-888-679-9347
Website.....www.dpscs.state.md.us

HARASSMENT

As the victim or witness of a crime, you have the right to be free from harassment because of your involvement. If you are threatened, harassed, or otherwise intimidated by a suspect or the suspect's companions or family, immediately notify the HCC Police Department. In an emergency, call 911. Otherwise you may call 301-790-3700.

HIV EXPOSURE

A victim of an offense which may have resulted in an exposure to HIV (AIDS) may request in writing to the **State's Attorney's Office**, a hearing to determine if probably cause exists for the court to order a person charged, within one year from the day of the offense, to submit to a blood sample to test the presence of HIV. If the person is convicted or probation before judgement, the court may order a blood sample be taken for the purposes of testing for HIV or any other indicator(s) of AIDS, upon written request to the **State's Attorney's Office**. A victim who is notified of the rest results may only disclose the results to protect the health and safety of the victim, victim's family or victim's sexual partner. Any other disclosure is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Your case will be followed-up by our Department until all leads are exhausted or it is cleared by arrest. A criminal investigator will contact you if your case can be followed-up.

If an arrest is made in your case, you may be needed to testify in court. You will receive notification as to when and where to appear.

Services provided by the Washington County State's Attorney:

The Washington County State's Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Coordinator is also available to provide you with assistance, information and referrals. This person may be contacted by visiting the State's Attorney's Office at 33 W. Washington St. in Hagerstown, or by calling 301-791-3120 and requesting the Victim/Witness Coordinator.

Some of the services available to you from the State's Attorney's Victim/Witness Coordinator include:

- Notification of court dates or cancellation of those dates;
- Providing a waiting area apart from the accused during the trial;
- Helping identify and obtain available Financial assistance, or social services and aid in obtaining such assistance.
- Assisting with prompt return of stolen property;
- Providing for participation through a written statement and/or oral address in the sentencing phase of the trial;
- Providing information and assistance on obtaining restitution; and,
- Assisting in ensuring speedy handling of the case in which you are involved.

HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

VICTIM, WITNESS, AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSISTANCE

You have witnessed or been victimized by crime, and it is at this time that our agency becomes the first contact you will have with the Maryland Criminal Justice System. Until an arrest is made in the case, we will continue to be that contact for you. After an arrest is made, the Washington County State's Attorney's Office becomes your main contact.

Regardless of whether an arrest has been made in your incident there are still areas in which you may need assistance. The HCC Police Department provides you with this brochure to inform you of the forms of assistance available to you.

VICTIM AND WITNESS SERVICES & INFORMATION

Services provided by the HCC Police Department: As the victim or witness of a crime, you can expect to be treated with dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity by the police. Departmental guidelines have been set forth to ensure this. These guidelines conform to Title 11 of the Maryland Criminal Procedure Article.

In accordance with these guidelines, every crime victim or witness will:

- Receive emergency help as needed;
- Be kept informed of the status of his/her case upon request
- Be advised of law enforcement protection available from harm arising out of prosecution and law enforcement efforts;
- Receive assistance with prompt return of property where permitted by laws or rules of evidence.