

MORE RESOURCES

OVC Resource Center

Office for Victims of Crime
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
(800) 851-3420 (TDD: 301-240-6310)
www.ovc.gov/resourcecenter

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Office of Justice Services
Victim Assistance Program
(202) 208-5787
www.bia.gov/bia/ojs/victim-assistance

International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators

(855) 442-2532
www.iaclea.org

2-1-1

Call this number nationwide for 24/7 help in locating community agencies that may offer emergency assistance.
www.211.org

7-1-1

Call this number nationwide for 24/7 telecommunications relay services that enable people with a hearing or speech disability who use text phones and people who use voice phones to communicate through a third person.



National Sheriffs' Association
1450 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3490
www.sheriffs.org
(800) 424-7827

It's Not An "Accident," It's A Crime
can be downloaded at:
www.sheriffs.org/programs/domestic-violence-crime-victim-services

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It's Not An "Accident" It's A Crime!

Drunk driving crashes kill thousands of people each year. Thousands more are injured.

DUI is a crime and its perpetrators are criminals.

Victims of drunk driving crashes should be treated no differently by you than any other crime victim. They need the same referrals for services, support, and resources as other victims of a violent crime.

Law enforcement is usually the first to arrive on the scene. You should look at a DUI crash not as a motor vehicle crash but as a crime involving a motor vehicle crash.

The officer who professionally, informatively and compassionately responds to victims of drunk driving crashes will forever be remembered by victims or their survivors as a first responder who made a difference!

FIRST RESPONSE

Drunk driving victimization is usually severe and its consequences long-lasting. This makes the role of law enforcement critical.

The way people cope as victims of crime depends largely on their experiences and on how others treat them after the crime. As a first responder, you are in a unique position to assist victims immediately after the crime.

Law enforcement's initial response to a DUI crash is a key factor in whether or not a victim ultimately receives crime victim services and assistance.

Finally, always encourage victims to get immediate medical attention even if no signs of injury are present. Drunk driving crashes are a leading cause of traumatic brain injury (also known as closed head injury), in which the brain is injured without the skull being fractured. Victims with such an injury may exhibit no symptoms and interact normally with you.

VICTIM COMPENSATION

In addition to referring DUI crash victims to a crime victim services provider, another responsibility of law enforcement is providing victims or their survivors with written contact information for State crime victim compensation programs.

Program funds are available to ensure crime victims obtain the financial assistance needed to pay for medical care, counseling, lost income, funeral bills and many other expenses DUI victims or their survivors incur.

Compensation program staff rely on investigative reports to determine the facts of a case. Those facts may influence a victim's eligibility. Thus, it is important that your report be completed and filed promptly.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds are also available via a State's VOCA administering agency for local law enforcement agencies to assist DUI crash victims through their own agency-based crime victim assistance units.

RESOURCES

DUI Crashes: Real Crimes, Real Victims (roll call video)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=z46wkhWILSE

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

24-Hour Victim Help Line

(877) 623-3435

www.madd.org/victims

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

<http://nacvcb.org/index.asp?sid=5>

National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators

www.navaa.org/statedirectory.html

National Center for Victims of Crime

VictimConnect Resource Center

(855) 4-VICTIM (842846)

www.victimconnect.org

National Crime Victim Bar Association

Civil Attorney Referral Service

(844) LAW-HELP (529-4357)

www.victimbar.org

Concerns of Police Survivors

(573) 346-4911

www.nationalcops.org