

## WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES

- Describe what happened in as much detail as possible
- Show any injuries or damaged property that happened as a result
- Identify any witnesses who saw the incident when it happened
- Provide any relevant documentation, such as your ID or court documents
- Request the incident number of the report and a follow-up phone number

## WHAT LAW ENFORCEMENT MAY DO

- Make an arrest if there is probable cause or if the law allows for such
- Write a detailed report about the incident
- Encourage you to describe what happened to a magistrate
- Assist you by arranging for aid or transportation as needed
- Provide you with information on victim/witness resources

## YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO REQUEST

- An emergency protective order (EPO) from a magistrate, if necessary
- A warrant from a magistrate if law enforcement do not make an arrest
- Possible reimbursement for expenses incurred as a result of the crime
- Assistance with transportation to a hospital or other safe location
- Assistance with transportation to a magistrate

## YOUR RIGHTS AS A VICTIM/WITNESS

- Protection from further harm or threats of harm – call 911 if threats occur
- Information about the subsequent steps in the processing of the case
- Employer intercession when required to appear in court for proceedings
- Separate waiting area from the accused during court proceedings
- Access to an interpreter, if needed
- Return of property and/or restitution for damages or loss
- Notice about the release or status changes of a defendant/prisoner

## EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS

- Are issued by a judge or magistrate and are valid for up to 72 hours
- Can order the abuser to stay away from you
- Can order the abuser to stop abuse of you and other household members
- Can grant temporary possession of a vehicle, residence, or companion animal
- Can grant temporary custody of children

## IMPORTANT STATE CONTACTS

- Virginia Victim Notification Program – (800) 370-0459
- Virginia Crime Victim Assistance Info Line – (888) 887-3418
- Virginia Family Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline – (800) 838-8238
- Virginia Victim Assistance Network – (855) 433-5782
- Virginia Victims Fund – (800) 552-4007
- Virginia State Police – (804) 674-2000

## NATIONAL HOTLINE CONTACTS

- National Child Abuse Hotline – (800) 422-4453
- National Domestic Violence Hotline – (800) 799-7233
- National Elder Abuse Hotline – (866) 363-4276
- National Sexual Assault Hotline – (800) 656-4673
- National Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Hotline – (800) 662-4357
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline – (800) 273-8255

## OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Department of Criminal Justice Services Publications
  - [www.dcjs.virginia.gov/publications](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/publications)
- National Center for Victims of Crime
  - [www.victimsofcrime.org/getting-help](http://www.victimsofcrime.org/getting-help)
- Office for Victims of Crime Search Directory
  - [www.ovc.ojp.gov/directory-crime-victim-services/search](http://www.ovc.ojp.gov/directory-crime-victim-services/search)

# OFFICE OF THE STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL

## VICTIM / WITNESS INFORMATION



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agent's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Office of the State Inspector General  
219 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
(804) 625-3255