

Resources

Local Providers

Family Life Center of Butler County	316-321-7104
Kansas Dept. for Children & Families	316-321-4200
South Central Mental Health	316-733-5047
Butler County Attorney	316-321-6999
Butler County Sheriff	316-322-4254
Kansas Medical Center	316-300-4000
SBA Hospital	316-321-3300
Suicide Hotline	316-660-7500
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	316-733-5047
Sunlight Children's Advocacy Center	316-313-4107

State-Wide Providers

Child/Elder Abuse Hotline	800-922-5330
Kansas VINE Services	866-574-8463
Domestic Violence	888-END-ABUSE
Crime Victim's Information & Referral	800-828-9745
Kansas MADD	800-228-6233
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children	800-843-5678
Lawyer Referral	316-265-9681

Augusta Department of Public Safety

Information for Victims and Witnesses of Crime



OFFICER:

CASE #:

**2100 N. Ohio Street
Augusta, Ks. 67010**

316-775-4500

www.augustaks.org

Dial 911 for Emergencies

Victim's Rights

K.S.A. 74-7333 and 74-7335 provides specific rights to victims of crime, including but not limited to:

- Victims should be treated with courtesy, compassion, and with respect for their dignity and privacy and should suffer the minimum of necessary inconvenience from their involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Victims should receive, through formal and informal procedures, prompt and fair redress for the harm which they have suffered.
- Information regarding the availability of criminal restitution, recovery of damages in a civil cause of action, the crime victims compensation fund and other remedies and the mechanisms to obtain such remedies should be made available to victims.
- Information should be made available to victims about their participation in criminal proceedings and the scheduling, progress and ultimate disposition of the proceedings.
- The views and concerns of victims should be ascertained and the appropriate assistance provided throughout the criminal process.
- When the personal interests of victims are affected, the views or concerns of the victim should, when appropriate and consistent with criminal law and procedure, be brought to the attention of the court.
- Measures may be taken when necessary to provide for the safety of victims and their families and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation.

- Victims should be informed of the availability of health and social services and other relevant assistance that they might continue to receive the necessary medical, psychological and social assistance through existing programs and services.

Victims of violent crimes may be eligible for compensation for loss of earnings and other expenses. For more information, call/write:

Crime Victim's Compensation Board
700 S.W. Jackson
Jayhawk Tower, Suite 400
Topeka, Ks. 66603-2359
1-800-828-9745

Criminal Justice System

Once you have reported a crime to a police officer the report will be investigated. If a suspect is identified and sufficient evidence exists, the case will proceed to the courts. Details of the crime may become public. There are several steps in the criminal justice system:

- Arrest (or citation)
- Arraignment
- Preliminary Hearing (for felonies)
- Trial
- Sentencing

The court the offender must appear in depends on the location of offense and specific charge. You can call the appropriate court for information regarding the case:

- **Butler County Attorney: 316-321-6999** handles all felony and juvenile criminal cases.
- **Augusta Municipal Court: 316-775-4500 ext. 105:** Handles misdemeanor & traffic cases inside the city of Augusta.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a crime. If a police officer has probable cause to believe a crime has been committed, the officer **shall** make an arrest. It's the law. As the victim, you do not sign the complaint against the offender. The police are the complaining witnesses and the prosecutor files charges.

Your safety is important – if an arrest has been made, and the department learns of the offender's release from jail, the police make a reasonable effort to notify you. **If you are being threatened by the offender or others, call 911 immediately.**

A Family Life Center advocate is available to assist you to help you plan for safety and discuss options available to you. You may be eligible for a **Protection from Abuse Order**. A Family Life Center advocate can assist you with this process. **The Family Life Center is available to victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault.**

What is Stalking?

Criminal stalking is engaging in "a course of conduct targeted at a specific person which could cause a reasonable person to fear for such person's safety or the safety of a member of such person's immediate family and the targeted person is actually placed in fear." K.S.A. 21-3438

"Stalking" is defined differently for purposes of the Kansas Protection from Stalking Act. Under this Act, "stalking" is the "intentional harassment of another person that places the other person in reasonable fear for that person's safety." K.S.A. 60-31a01 et. Seq.

What you can do if you are being stalked

First and foremost, you should think about your safety. Keep in mind, different stalkers respond differently. Actions taken that increase safety for one victim can, in different circumstances, increase risk for another. An advocate can assist you in developing a safety plan that takes into consideration your specific circumstances. You can contact your local domestic violence/sexual assault program in Kansas for this service. The following suggestions are recommended by experts to increase the safety of victims:

***Report each incident of stalking to your local law enforcement agency.** While officers may not have enough evidence to arrest the stalker, it is important to develop this "official" record of the stalking behavior. Keep in mind that if a law enforcement report is made, the information may become public.

***Be clear and firm.** Some stalkers believe there are hidden messages within conversations they have with their victims that encourages them to continue the stalking. If your stalker is a former intimate partner or someone who believes you want to be in a relationship, it can be helpful to be clear and firm early on about wanting to end the relationship. The longer the relationship goes on, the harder it is for the stalker to get the message that you are not interested.

***Cease communication.** Instead, let the "system" communicate with the stalker through a law enforcement officer, probation officer, or through a protection order.

What to do continued

***Avoid contact.** Try to avoid mediation, joint therapy, shared custody, face-to-face child exchanges, or other forms of contact.

***Consider obtaining a protection from stalking order.** A protection from stalking order may or may not be effective in ending the stalking. These orders tend to be most effective if issued when the stalking behavior first begins, and where violations of the order are taken very seriously by law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges. Keep in mind that the face-to-face hearing contact could be detrimental contact.

***Keep a log of all stalking behaviors,** including: date of incident; times and places occurred; description of stalking behavior; and witnesses to the incident.

***Retain and record all communications possible,** including, but not limited to: phone calls; phone and text messages; e-mail messages.

***Prepare for your safety, taking into consideration the following:**

-Critical phone numbers, such as law enforcement, friends, domestic violence or sexual assault programs, and other important people or services you may need after reaching a safe location.

-Keep a reserve of necessities in case you have to leave your home quickly, such as a suitcase in the trunk of your car or at a friend's house; include money, medication, etc.

-Consider having important documents such as passports, immigration documents, birth certificates, social security numbers readily available.

-Alert people who may be part of your safety plan, such as law enforcement, employers, co-workers, family, friends, neighbors, or security personnel.

What to do continued

-A cell phone for 911 access (if you do not have one, it can be provided to you by your local domestic violence/sexual assault program).

Warning: If your cell phone was purchased by your stalker, or their name is on the account, your stalker might be able to use the GPS features to locate you.

VINE

Victims Information and Notification Everyday

VINE is an automated service that lets you track the custody status of offenders in county jails over the phone and internet. You can also register to be notified by phone, text, email and/or TTY if the custody status of an offender changes.

To access offender custody information

-Call **1-866-574-8463**

-Visit www.vinelink.com

-Download the **VINELink app**

-TTY users, call **1-866-847-1298**

If the offender is in custody, you can register to receive VINE notifications.

If you register a phone number, you must create a four digit personal identification number (PIN) that you will need when you receive notifications. Make sure you PIN is easy to remember. Write it down and keep it in a safe place.

Email registrations do not require a PIN