

Victim Impact Statement Instruction Guide

Please be sure that your impact statement includes the following:

The Defendant's Name:

The Case Number:

The Victim's Name/Your Name:

Please feel free to use the following questions to guide you in writing your victim impact statement. It may be helpful to write your statement in the form of a letter. Your statement will not be used until sentencing so do not feel that you must complete this right away. When you have finished your statement please return it to Office of the State's Attorney for Harford County, Victim/Witness Unit, 20 West Courtland Street, Bel Air, MD 21014.

1. Describe how this crime has affected you and those close to you. How have your relationships with your family, friends, co-worker and others been affected?
2. Has this crime affected your ability to function in day-to-day circumstances, such as at work, school, or home?
3. Has it become difficult for you to meet your financial or other responsibilities? Please describe.
4. Are there any other difficulties that you have experienced as a result of this crime that you wish to mention?
5. Can you describe the emotional impact of the crime on you and other family members?
6. Describe any physical injuries you may have sustained. Describe how long these injuries lasted or are expected to last.
7. Describe any medical treatment you may have received or are expected to receive in the future.
8. A judge can order a defendant not to have any contact with you, your family or place of business. Do you desire a "no contact" order to be a condition of any sentence or probation?