
GOAL OF THE JUVENILE COURT

The goal of Lucas County Juvenile Court is to effectively, efficiently and equitably administer justice in all matters brought before it. Due process, responsible administration of the law, humane consideration and social awareness are imperative. The reasonable and responsible balance of society's just demands and the individual's rights are implicit.

Simply put, the goal of the Court is to ensure that the children and people who come before it receive the kind of care, protection, guidance and treatment that will serve the best interest of the community and the best welfare of the child. The judges and administrative staff have concern not only for resolving cases in court but also for improving family life, personal relationships, and education and social services for families within the community. With this in mind, the Juvenile Court proceeds with the confidence to achieve its goal; realizing that it is not within human power to achieve total success, but nonetheless committed to its ideal.

Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program

The Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program provides reimbursement for certain out-of-pocket expenses caused when people are physically injured, emotionally harmed or killed by violent criminal acts.

Victims can only use the program as a "payer of last resort," which means they must apply to all other available sources of financial assistance to include: medical or dental insurance, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, welfare, worker's compensation, civil recovery and restitution from the offender.

The maximum amount of compensation available from the program is \$50,000.00 per victim, per incident.

The Victim **MUST** file a claim for compensation within two (2) years of the date of the crime. Minor victims have until their 20th birthday to file a compensation claim.

Applications for compensation are available at victim assistance programs, prosecutor's offices, most police stations, county common pleas courts, or by calling the Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program

There is a \$7.50 fee to file the application. Those who cannot afford this fee must file an affidavit of indigency.

For more information about the Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program call:

1-800-824-8263.

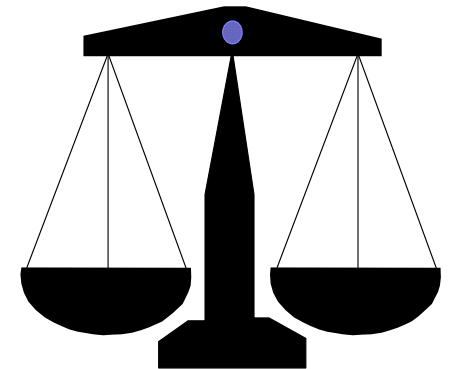
ALSO, victims can file a civil action to recover monetary damages and costs from the delinquent child's parents for willful and malicious assault, willful damage to property, or damage due to a theft offense. (O.R.C. 3109.09, 3109.10).

LUCAS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

1801 Spielbusch Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43604

VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

*We care about
YOUR RIGHTS!*



A Guide for Victims

Honorable Denise Navarre Cubbon
Administrative Judge

Honorable Connie F. Zimmelman
Judge

LUCAS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT CASE FLOW

An illustration of how cases are handled within the Court.

ARREST

After arrest, law enforcement officers, victims, parents, school officials & school agencies file most petitioner complaints.

JUVENILE EITHER DETAINED PENDING HEARING OR RETURNED TO PARENTS

INTAKE

A court intake officer collects information and makes a decision on how the case is to be handled, either formally or informally. If a case is handled formally, the juvenile will have several hearings as outlined below.

DETENTION HEARING

The detainee is arraigned and a decision is made by the judge or magistrate regarding detention status (hold or release). Juveniles can only be released to a parent or legal guardian. Juveniles are not eligible for bond or bail.

ARRAIGNMENT

The juvenile is read the formal complaint and read his/her legal rights to have an attorney, remain silent, etc.

PRE-TRIAL

Attorneys review the facts of the case and try to resolve the case through an agreement. If the case is not settled at this point it will be set for trial.

TRIAL IF NOT GUILTY PLEA

Juveniles are not entitled to a jury trial. A judge or magistrate will hear the evidence at a bench trial. A victim may need to testify at this hearing. The victim will be formally notified if his/her testimony is necessary.

ADJUDICATION

At adjudication, the juvenile may be found guilty and declared to be delinquent or unruly by plea or by a finding after trial. Adjudication can also result in dismissal if the State fails to prove its case.

DISPOSITION

After the juvenile is adjudicated a dispositional hearing will be held. At the dispositional hearing, the juvenile may be removed from his/her home and placed in a foster home, group homes or specialized treatment facility. The delinquent or unruly child may also return home with a set of strict court orders to follow (i.e. probation). A victim may provide a written or oral victim impact statement to be taken into consideration at this hearing at the discretion of the judge.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A VICTIM

- To be notified of the date, time and location of all courtroom proceedings and any changes in scheduling of those proceedings.
- To be informed of any motion or request that may result in a substantial delay of the case.
- To be informed of a dismissal of the charge, or to be notified of the crime for which the juvenile is ultimately found delinquent.
- Upon a finding of delinquency, you have the right to be notified of the date, time and location of the dispositional hearing, if it is not held on the day of adjudication.
- To provide a victim impact statement to the Juvenile Court Victim Assistance Program or to the Probation Department which will be taken into consideration during the pre-dispositional investigation, and to make a statement (written or oral) at disposition, at the discretion of the judge.
- To be informed of the disposition, any request for change of that disposition and the ruling on the request. If the juvenile is sent to a secure institution, you have the right to have the name of the specific institution and the method of contacting the institution for information regarding escape, release and placement upon return to Lucas County.

YOUR RIGHTS Continued

- To be informed if the juvenile files an appeal, and receive a brief explanation of the appellate process (including time, date and location of hearings), the juvenile's status while the appeal is pending and the results of the appeal.
- To appoint a representative to receive information on your behalf. If the victim is a minor child, a custodial parent or guardian will be designated as the representative unless an alternative representative is specified.
- To be free from threats of intimidation. **If you are threatened or harassed by the juvenile offender, you should immediately call 911 and promptly make a police report.**
- To utilize the Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program, if eligible.
- To be treated with respect and dignity throughout the Court process.

In order to activate these rights you must complete the Victim's Rights Notification Response Form and return it to Lucas County Juvenile Court Clerk's Office.

For further information about the Victim Assistance Program or Juvenile Court Services call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (419) 213-6945.