#### **Victim Witness Unit**

The Victim Witness Unit supports crime victims under the Georgia Crime Victims Bill of Rights through trained advocates who provide services such as:

- Keeping victims informed about court updates
- Offering courtroom support and preparation
- Providing crisis intervention and emotional support
- Assisting with victim rights and compensation forms
- Referring to community resources
- Advocating with employers and schools
- Helping recover property held as evidence
- Coordinating court appearances to reduce work absence.



### District Attorney Cobb Judicial Circuit

"Our office is committed to pursuing justice with integrity and transparency with our law enforcement partners."

JUSTICE WITH COMPASSION,
COMMITMENT TO SAFETY & COMMUNITY

## Victim Witness Mission Statement

- The Victim Witness
   Assistance Unit of the
   District Attorney's Office
   is responsible for
   providing direct support
   and notification services
   to victims and witnesses
   of felony criminal acts that
   occur in Cobb County.
- Our work allows victims of crime to have a voice in, participate in, and be notified of events related to the criminal case.

# Why Victim Advocacy Matters

- Victims often feel overwhelmed by legal procedures and may be unaware of their rights.
- Our advocates ensure victims are heard, supported, and informed throughout the legal process. Without advocacy, victims may struggle to have their voices represented in the criminal justice system.

# **Information for Victims of Crime**



Sonya F. Allen
District Attorney's Office
Cobb Judicial Circuit

**Victim Witness Unit** 

70 Haynes Street Marietta, GA 30090

770-528-3047 Fax: 770-528-3031

VictimAssistance@cobbcounty.gov

www.CobbDA.com

### **Know Your Rights as a Victim**

#### Stay Informed: Timely Notices of Court Proceedings

The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any scheduled court proceedings or any change to such proceedings.

#### **Timely Notification of Offender Status or Escape**

The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of the arrest, release, or escape of the accused.

#### Your Right to Be Present at Court Proceedings

The right not to be excluded from any scheduled court proceedings, except as provided in this chapter\* or as otherwise required by law. Delivering a Victim Impact Statement in Court

## The right to be heard at any scheduled court proceeding involving the accused's release, plea, or sentencing.

#### **Exercising Your Right to Object at Parole Hearings**

The right to file a written objection in parole proceedings involving the accused.

#### Your Right to Confer with the Prosecuting Attorney

The right to confer with the prosecuting attorney in any criminal prosecution related to the victim.

#### Your Right to Restitution and Compensation

The right to restitution and compensation as provided by law and when applicable.

#### Your Right to Timely Justice, Fair Treatment, and Dignity

The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay, and to be treated fairly and with dignity by all criminal justice agencies involved.

#### Your Right to File a Motion

The right to file a motion within 20 days of a court proceeding in a criminal case, requesting to be heard if the victim has properly requested notification and has not given notice of the court proceeding

# **Criminal Justice Process CRIMINAL ACT** INVESTIGATION **ARREST** PROBABLE CAUSE **HEARING** GRAND JURY/ACCUSATION INDICMENT **ARRAIGNMENT TRIAL**

<sup>\*</sup>General Information for Victims of Crime (O.C.G.A. Title 17, Chapter 17)