

## Palm Beach County Victim Services

### Vision

*Justice for all crime victims*

### Mission Statement

*With compassion and respect, we assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, homicide, and other violent crimes through crisis response, advocacy, therapy, and community awareness.*

Florida Statute 960 provides guidelines for fair treatment and specific rights for victims in the criminal justice system. Some of these include the following:

- Office of Attorney General Crime Victim Compensation, when applicable;
- To be informed, present, and heard, when relevant, at all crucial stages of a criminal or juvenile proceeding, to the extent that right does not interfere with the Constitutional rights of the accused;
- To be provided information concerning services available including Victim Compensation, community treatment programs, crisis intervention services, counseling and social services;
- To a prompt and timely disposition of the case, to the extent that this right does not interfere with the Constitutional rights of the accused;
- To have your property returned to you as soon as possible after the investigation and/or prosecution is completed, unless there is a compelling reason for its retention;
- Have a Victim Advocate present during depositions of the victim;
- Request, for specific crimes, an exemption prohibiting the disclosure of information to the public which reveals your identification.

## 24 HOUR HOTLINE

561-833-7273

Toll Free Hotline 1-866-891-7273

North County Courthouse  
3188 PGA Blvd., Suite 1436  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410  
561-624-6648

West Palm Beach Courthouse  
205 North Dixie Hwy., Suite 5.1100  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
561-355-2418

South County Courthouse  
200 West Atlantic Ave., Suite 1E-301  
Delray Beach, FL 33444  
561-274-1500

West County-Glades County Bldg.  
2976 State Road 15, 2nd Floor  
Belle Glade, FL 33430  
561-996-4871

24/7 Violent Crime Hotline  
Emergency Operations Center  
20 S. Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, FL 33415  
561-833-7273  
1-866-891-7273  
\*\*\*\*\*

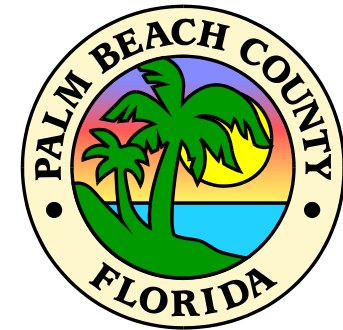
**Website:** <http://www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/victimservices>

Services are funded through  
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners  
with grants from the Office of the Attorney General  
and Florida Council Against Sexual Violence



Palm Beach County  
Board of County Commissioners

## PALM BEACH COUNTY VICTIM SERVICES CERTIFIED RAPE CRISIS CENTERS



## Serving Victims of Violent Crime

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

**Main Office**  
561-355-2418

**Toll Free Hotline**  
1-866-891-7273

**TTY**  
561-355-1772

Palm Beach County Victim Services and Certified Rape Crisis Centers provide the following assistance for victims and survivors of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Homicide and other Violent Crimes:

- **24 hour crisis response to hospitals, law enforcement agencies, & crime scenes**
- **Advocacy and accompaniment during medical and investigative procedures**
- **Criminal Justice advocacy and court accompaniment**
- **Assistance with filing orders of protection**
- **Individual therapy and support groups for children & adults**
- **Assistance with filing State Crime Victim Compensation forms**
- **Information about victims' rights**
- **Information & referral to community resources including shelter & Legal Aid**

Professional training and community presentations are also available.

**FOR HELP, CALL OUR HOTLINE**  
**561-833-7273**

**SEXUAL ASSAULT** is a violent crime including rape, incest, sexual harassment or any sexual contact without consent.

- Per Florida Statute 90.5035, a victim of sexual violence who consults a sexual assault counselor at a rape crisis center has the right to confidentiality of information shared with the counselor.
- No one except the victim can compel the sexual assault counselor to reveal information about their communications. Only the victim can waive the privilege, and this must be done in writing.
- If rape victims are not sure whether to report to law enforcement, Advocates will assist them through their decision making process, respecting whatever choices are made.
- Certified rape crisis counselors will provide
  - Crisis Intervention
  - Personal Advocacy
  - Accompaniment during forensic rape exams and investigations
  - Coordination of follow-up medical care, therapy, and referrals
  - Accompaniment during criminal justice and civil proceedings

**TOLL FREE**  
**1-866-891-7273**

**DOMESTIC ASSAULT** involves power and control tactics such as physical violence, emotional abuse, sexual violence, economic abuse, and isolation.

Trained Advocates will provide

- Crisis Intervention
- Safety Planning
- Assistance with filing protection orders
- Safe shelter referrals
- Personal and legal advocacy during criminal and civil justice proceedings

**HOMICIDE AND OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES** shatter the lives of injured victims and survivors causing severe emotional trauma and grief.

Trained Advocates will provide

- Crisis intervention and emotional support for victims, surviving family and friends
- Assistance with filing crime victim compensation for medical expenses, funeral costs, and loss of support
- Court accompaniment
- Referrals for individual therapy, support groups and community assistance