

42nd Annual InterCourt Conference



Session 3E: Effectively
Working with Victims and
Marsy's Law

March 12, 2026
Hilton Columbus at
Easton Town Center
Columbus, OH

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

EDWIN BIBLER is the Morrow County Prosecutor 1st Assistant at the Morrow County Prosecutor's Office.

RICHELLE ETTEL is a Juvenile Probation Officer who has been with the Morrow County Court of Common Pleas for over 4 years. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice/Justice Administration from Tiffin University.

Richelle is certified in motivational interviewing, is a Thinking for a Change Facilitator, and is trained in several evidence based interventions. Richelle has been a part of the InterCourt Conference Committee for the past two years.

Effectively Working with Victims and Marsy's Law

Edwin Bibler, Esq.

*Morrow County Prosecutor 1st Assistant
Morrow County Prosecutor's Office*

Richelle Ettel

*Director of Crime Victim Services
Morrow County Prosecutor's Office*



Morrow County Crime Victim Services

Richelle Ettel

Director of Crime Victim Services

Mary Kelty

Victims of Crime Advocate

Abbey Larson

Victims of Crime Advocate

Richelle Ettel

Director of
Crime Victim
Services

- Richelle came to the Morrow County Prosecutor's Crime Victim Services Office in August of 2024. Richelle has completed her Master's of Science Degree in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Justice Administration from Tiffin University in 2015. Richelle has worked in the criminal justice field for over 12 years, being a part of Morrow & Knox County Juvenile Probation Departments, and as a Juvenile Parole Officer for the State of Ohio. Richelle has been trained in Evidence Based Practices, Cognitive Based and Trauma Informed Therapies, taught Cognitive Behavioral Classes, trained staff on best/most effective use of evidence-based practices with clients, as well as being Adult Guardianship and Guardian Ad Litem certified.



Who was Marsy Nicholas?

Marsalee (Marsy) Ann Nicholas was born on March 6, 1962, in Cincinnati, Ohio

Marsy was completing her education at UCSB. It was prior to her graduation, on November 30, 1983, that Marsy was stalked and murdered by her ex-boyfriend. She was 21 years old.

Only one week after her murder and on the way home from the funeral service, Marsy's family stopped at a market to pick up a loaf of bread. It was there, in the checkout line, that Marsy's mother, Marcella, was confronted by her daughter's murderer. Having received no notification from the judicial system, the family had no idea he had been released on bail mere days after Marsy's murder.

It took two years for Marsy's murderer to finally be brought to justice.

What is Marsy's Law?

Marsy's Law is designed to give victims a voice. The victim, victim's representative, and victim's attorney have the right to be heard orally, in writing, or both, at any public proceeding other than a grand jury proceeding, in which any right of the victim is implicated.

Marsy's Law ensures that victims of violent crime have the same co-equal rights as the accused and convicted – nothing more, nothing less.

Constitutional Amendment



Marsy's Law was passed during the November 2017 election



The law was passed at 83% to 17%



House Bill 343 -

Passed House 90 to 1

Passed Senate 32 to 0



Over \$10 Million was raised in support of this amendment



Ohio was the 6th State to adopt Marsy's Law



Signed by the Governor on January 5th, Effective April 6th, 2023



What Do Victims Look Like?



Victim Definitions

A Victim of Crime - is defined as a person who has suffered harm, including physical, mental, or emotional harm, or economic loss, as a direct result of a criminal offense. This includes individuals who experience substantial impairment of their fundamental rights due to acts that constitute crimes.



A Victim Representative - is defined as a person or persons designated by the victim to act on their behalf in legal matters or to represent them in various proceedings. This can include immediate family members such as spouses, parents, or children, or other relatives, or individuals who have had a close personal relationship with the victim. In cases where the victim is deceased, incapacitated, or under 18 years old, the victim representative may be a spouse, parent, child, sibling, or another family member, or someone designated by the court.

Who is Considered a Victim?

Proximal Victim

- Refers to an individual who is directly affected by a criminal act, such as assault or robbery. They experience immediate harm, including physical injury, emotional trauma, and financial loss. Understanding the concept of proximal victims is essential in examining victim typologies and their unique challenges, as they often face significant emotional and psychological impacts following a crime.

Distal Victim

- A distal victim refers to individuals who are affected by a crime in a more remote way, such as the community as a whole. This term is used in the context of victimology to describe the broader impacts of a crime on society, rather than the direct victims themselves.

Audrie and Daisy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1DUFZ4Fnd8>

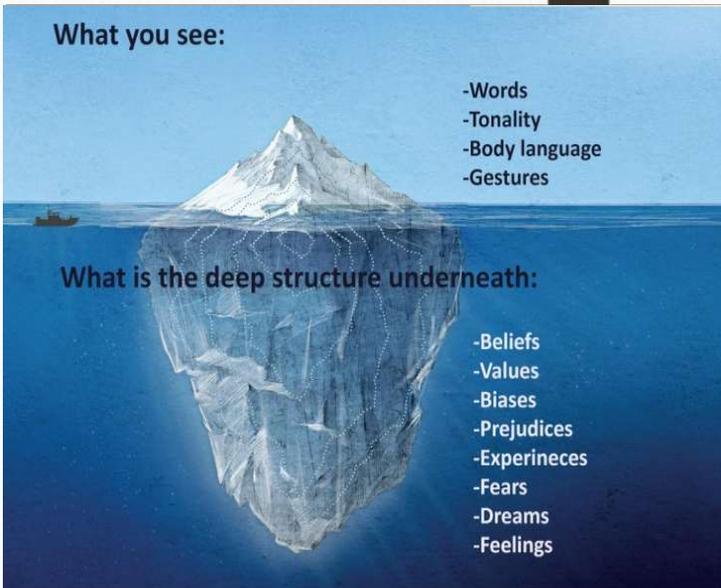
The documentary includes the stories of two American high school students, Audrie Pott of Saratoga, California, and Daisy Coleman of Maryville, Missouri, who were each victims of separate sexual assaults. At the time of their respective assaults, Pott was 15 and Coleman was 14 years old. After the assaults, the victims and their families were subjected to abuse and cyberbullying.

The documentary follows their outcomes through time, social media, court documents, and police investigations. For over two years, the filmmakers filmed Daisy Coleman and members of her family as they faced both the trauma of Daisy's assault and the hostile reaction of their community. The film also features Maryville sheriff Darren White and Maryville mayor Jim Fall, with the sheriff saying: "Girls have as much culpability" in cases like Daisy's.

Audrie Pott died by suicide in 2012, nine days after the sexual assault.

On August 4, 2020, Daisy Coleman also died by suicide after years of fighting depression and trauma. She was 23 years old. Four months later, Coleman's mother, Melinda, also died by suicide.

What you see:



- Words
- Tonality
- Body language
- Gestures

What is the deep structure underneath:

- Beliefs
- Values
- Biases
- Prejudices
- Experiences
- Fears
- Dreams
- Feelings

Iceberg Theory

The iceberg theory in life, as coined by Ernest Hemingway, suggests that much of what we perceive is only a small part of the truth. In life, this could refer to the vast majority of our experiences and emotions that are not immediately visible or known to us. The iceberg metaphor implies that we often overlook the deeper, more significant aspects of our lives.



Who Are We?

- In our program, we strive to empower our community to restore lives impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy. Our goal is to help individuals and families each year through crisis intervention, advocacy, and connecting victims and their families with local professionals in the community who can assist them.
- We want to support dignity and compassion for those harmed by crime and crisis.

Empowering Survivors, One Day At A Time.

What Do We Do?

Crime Victim Services works in partnerships to make a positive difference in the lives of crime victims, by affording them meaningful participation throughout the Ohio criminal justice process.

Crime Victim Services provides assistance to victims and witnesses of serious crime while they are involved with the criminal justice system. Advocates will also help victims understand how the criminal justice system works and assist with restitution and wraparound services.

Client Rights



- Clients have the right to reasonable notice, to be present and heard at all court proceedings, to be informed of the release of the offender, to offer input on negotiated pleas, to a prompt conclusion of their case, and to restitution for economic losses resulting from the criminal offense or delinquent act. Some rights are automatic; some must be requested to be exercised.
- Clients will be treated with fairness and respect for his or her privacy and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment, and abuse, throughout the criminal or juvenile justice process. Clients have the right to be reasonably protected from the defendant and persons acting on behalf of the defendant.

Why do we need a Victims Rights Form?



- Victim rights forms are essential tools for victims of crime to exercise their constitutional rights. These forms are designed to ensure that victims are informed about their rights and can request the protections they need during the criminal justice process. The forms are not public records and are provided by law enforcement or the Ohio Attorney General's Office Crime Victim Services. Victims can choose to exercise all, some, or none of their rights, and they can change their mind at any time about which rights they choose to exercise. It is crucial for victims to keep their information updated with the criminal justice officials working on their case.

<p>FORM COMPLETED BY: <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Victim <input type="checkbox"/> Prosecutor</p> <p>Report No.: _____ Case No.: _____ Reporting Agency: _____ County: _____ Reporting Officer: _____ Badge No.: _____ Reporting Agency Phone: _____ Defendant/Suspect's Name: _____ Charges: _____ Arraignment: _____ <small>Date, Time, and Location, if known</small></p> <p><u>AUTOMATIC RIGHTS—YOU DO NOT NEED TO REQUEST THESE RIGHTS</u></p> <p>The right to be informed of your rights. The right to be treated with fairness and respect for your safety, dignity and privacy. The right to reasonable protection from the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused. The right to information about the status of the case. The right to refuse a defense interview, deposition, or other discovery request. The right to object to defense requests for access to your confidential information, including medical, counseling, school or employment records, access to your personal devices or on-line accounts, or other personal information. The right to be present at all public proceedings. The right to have a support person with you during proceedings. The right to tell the court your opinion in public proceedings involving release, plea, sentencing, disposition, parole, and any other hearing that involves victims' rights. The right to object to unreasonable delays. The right to full and timely restitution from the offender.</p> <p><u>RIGHTS THAT MUST BE REQUESTED</u></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">YES</td> <td style="width: 10%;">NO</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT my name, address, and identifying information to be redacted (removed) from: <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement records <input type="checkbox"/> Prosecutor records <input type="checkbox"/> Court records</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT notice of the arrest, escape, or release of the offender.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT reasonable and timely notice of all public proceedings.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT to be notified of subpoenas, motions, or other requests to access any of my personal information.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT to appoint a Victim's Representative.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT to confer with the prosecutor at certain points in the case, including before pretrial diversion is granted, before the prosecutor amends or dismisses an indictment, information, or complaint, before the prosecutor agrees to a negotiated plea, and before a trial or adjudicatory hearing.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I WANT interpretation services during contacts with criminal justice system officials. <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign language interpreter in _____ language <input type="checkbox"/> American Sign Language interpreter</td> </tr> </table>	YES	NO		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT my name, address, and identifying information to be redacted (removed) from: <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement records <input type="checkbox"/> Prosecutor records <input type="checkbox"/> Court records	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT notice of the arrest, escape, or release of the offender.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT reasonable and timely notice of all public proceedings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT to be notified of subpoenas, motions, or other requests to access any of my personal information.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT to appoint a Victim's Representative.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT to confer with the prosecutor at certain points in the case, including before pretrial diversion is granted, before the prosecutor amends or dismisses an indictment, information, or complaint, before the prosecutor agrees to a negotiated plea, and before a trial or adjudicatory hearing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I WANT interpretation services during contacts with criminal justice system officials. <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign language interpreter in _____ language <input type="checkbox"/> American Sign Language interpreter	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OHIO VICTIMS' RIGHTS FORM</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>As a victim, you must keep law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, and custodial agencies up to date with your current contact information.</i></p> <p><u>LAW ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTOR USE ONLY</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Victim of violation of protection order, offense of violence, or sexually oriented offense was presented the form, but the victim was unable to complete the form. Victim is opted in to all rights until the victim completes the form or is contacted by the prosecutor and provided the opportunity to complete the form. The public records division and custodial agency was provided the victim's and/or victim representative's information for redaction and notification.</p> <p>Victim Name: _____ Ohio Victims' Rights Request form provided to me by <input type="checkbox"/> law enforcement officer OR <input type="checkbox"/> prosecutor's office on _____ (date). Email: _____ Phone: _____ Address: _____</p> <p>Preferred method of contact (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> phone call <input type="checkbox"/> email</p> <p>I can be reached between ____ and ____ at _____ (best method of contact) Date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please provide my name and contact information, and that of my representative, if applicable, to the custodial agency, if any.</p> <p>If requested by victim: Victim Representative Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____ Address: _____ Date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> As the victim, I do not wish to receive notices about this case. Please provide notices to my representative.</p>
YES	NO																								
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Information for Judges

- Judges need to be aware of the rights and protections provided under Marsy's Law to ensure that victims are treated fairly and respectfully throughout the criminal justice process. They must be informed of these rights and be able to recognize when they have been violated. Additionally, judges should be aware of the procedures established to protect these rights and ensure that victims are not subjected to unnecessary delays or unreasonable treatment.
- The court should allow a 10-day period between hearings, if possible and exceptions do apply, for proper victim notification.



Understanding Marsy's Law Quick Reference Guide for Judges*

Ohio Constitution Article I, Section 10a(D) guarantees certain rights to victims of criminal offenses and delinquent acts, known as "Marsy's Law." R.C. 2930.01 et seq. codified these rights and establishes procedures for criminal justice entities to ensure victims' rights are protected from the time law enforcement makes its initial contact with the victim through prosecution, sentencing or disposition, and any post-conviction proceedings.

Automatic Rights Given To Crime Victims

Victims are automatically entitled to:

- Be informed of their rights.
- Be treated with fairness and respect for their safety, dignity, and privacy.
- Reasonable protection from the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused.
- Receive information about the status of the case.
- Refuse a defense interview, deposition, or other discovery request unless ordered by the court.
- Object to defense requests for access to their confidential or personal information.
- Be present at all public proceedings, other than grand jury proceedings.
- Have a support person with them during proceedings.
- Make statements in certain public proceedings involving victims' rights.
- Object to unreasonable delays in the case.
- Full and timely restitution from the offender.

Rights That Must Be Requested By Crime Victims

A victim **MUST REQUEST** the right to:

- Receive notice of the arrest, escape, or release of the offender.
- Have personal identifying information redacted from case documents before public release.
- Receive reasonable and timely notice of all public court proceedings.

Questions for the Prosecutor in All Court Appearances

- Did the court notify the prosecutor at least 10 days prior to the proceeding (or a shorter time if otherwise required, reasonable under the circumstances, or agreed upon by the parties)?
- Did the victim and victim's representative receive notice, if requested?
- Did the prosecutor confer with the victim, if requested?
- Does the victim or victim's representative have a statement for the court to consider?
- Was the Victim's Rights Request Form filed with the court?
- Does the victim have an attorney? If so, has that attorney received notices/motions and been included in sidebars, conferences, etc.?
- Does the victim need an interpreter?

Court's Responsibility to Assist in Ensuring Notice

The court must inquire of the prosecutor and make a record regarding:

- Whether the victim, victim's representative, or victim's attorney is present.
- Whether the victim and victim's representative requested notice.
 - If yes, ask how and when the victim, victim's representative, and victim's attorney were notified.
 - If not, ask how and when the prosecutor attempted notice.
- Whether the prosecutor conferred with the victim and the victim's representative. If the prosecutor did not, a recess or continuance may be necessary.

Considerations for Granting a Continuance

The victim has a right to a speedy disposition of the case, free from unreasonable delay. Continuances are appropriate where the court finds the interests of justice require a delay and makes a record. If the court grants a continuance over a victim's objection, it must state the specific reason on the record or in a judgment entry. [R.C. 2930.08(C)]

Considerations When Setting or Modifying Bond

- The victim has a right to be present and heard at post-arrest proceedings and on the conditions of release including arraignment or initial appearance. [R.C. 2930.09(E)]
- If the crime was an offense of violence involving family or household members, the court must consider the factors in R.C. 2919.251.
- Does the victim have safety concerns? The victim has the right to request a protection order, or the court may issue *sua sponte*. [R.C. 2919.26(D), R.C. 2903.213(D)]

Considerations for Pretrial Diversion, Dismissal/Amendment & Plea Hearings

- The court must inquire of the prosecutor if the victim or victim's representative requested to confer and whether the prosecutor conferred and gave timely notice if requested at the following:
 - Before pretrial diversion.
 - Before amending or dismissing an indictment, information, or complaint (unless due to a procedural defect).
 - Before agreeing to a negotiated plea.
 - Before trial or an adjudicatory hearing.
- If the prosecutor failed to confer, the court must note the reasons on the record. [R.C. 2930.06(A)(3)]
- The court cannot rule or impose a sentence if reasonable efforts to give notice or confer were not

Ensuring Notice

When the Victim Is Not Present [R.C. 2930.09(A)(2)]

If, for a court proceeding where a victim's right is at issue, the court determines that timely notice was not given, the prosecutor failed to confer with the victim, or the victim was not adequately informed of the nature of the proceedings, the court cannot rule on any substantive issue including, accepting a plea, and must continue the hearing. The matter may proceed if the prosecutor states that the victim has been notified.

Victim's Right to be Heard [R.C. 2930.09, R.C. 2930.161]

The victim, victim's representative, and victim's attorney have the right to be heard at any public proceeding, other than a grand jury proceeding, in which any right of the victim is implicated.

This includes:

- Plea hearings;
- Hearings on post-arrest release of the person or the conditions of that release;
- Proceedings involving probation or community control revocation disposition; and
- Proceedings to terminate or modify the terms of probation or community control of a person if the change would affect the defendant's contact with or the safety of the victim, restitution, or incarceration status.

• Before balancing the victim's and defendant's constitutional rights regarding discovery, the defendant must articulate the specific purpose for the discovery request and how the personal records will lead to relevant evidence. Relevance must pertain to a material issue. [*State v. Counts*, 2022-Ohio-3666, 201 N.E.3d 942 (8th Dist.).]

- The victim has a right to interlocutory appeal of a decision regarding discovery the victim feels violates his or her rights.

Considerations for Evidentiary Hearings & Trials

- Consider how to handle the order of witnesses in light of the victim's right to be present and any request for separation of witnesses. [*State v. Montgomery*, 169 Ohio St.3d 84, 2022-Ohio-2211, 202 N.E.3d 616.]
- Personal identifiers of the victim and victim's representative are inadmissible unless the court finds it necessary for the administration of justice. [R.C. 2930.07(B)]

Considerations Regarding Sentencing & Judicial Release

- Was the victim contacted to provide input?
- Did the victim, victim's representative, and victim's attorney have the opportunity to review the presentence investigation?
- Was the victim or victim's representative given the opportunity to be heard orally in writing, or both?

- Is the economic loss documented? Are there future economic losses?
- Is the restitution amount disputed? If so, a hearing is necessary.
- Did counsel have the opportunity to review documents?
- Is redaction of confidential information necessary?

Considerations for Sealing & Expungement Hearings

- The court must notify the prosecutor of the hearing on an application at least 60 days prior for an adult record and at least 30 days prior for a juvenile record.
- The victim, victim's representative, or victim's attorney may make a statement regarding the effects of the offense and whether the record should be sealed or expunged.

Who is Involved?

Parents/Families

Victims

Law Enforcement

Job and Family
Services

Courts

Victim Services

Probation

Parole

County
Services/Resources

Morrow County Victim Contact Procedures

- When victim forms are received, we make contact via phone, or email, as soon as possible.
- 24-hour contact made with any victims/victim's family that are involved in a violent crime.
- Follow-up letters with time and dates of the next scheduled event.
- Follow-up calls after each hearing with an update to the victim if they are not present at the hearing.
- Field visit to meet the victim in their space if needed.

Advocates who are on call, and depending on the situation, are going to be responding to scenes as needed:

**Hospitals
Homes
Police Departments, etc.**

Participate in **"Quick Contacts"** –

Officers are to call the victim advocate that is on call to discuss the current situation.

Text/email the victims information to the assigned advocate to make contact within 24 –hours -

Name
Address
Phone Number
Defendant
Charge

Civil Protection Orders

- A civil protection order (CPO) is a legal order issued by a court to protect individuals from harassment, domestic violence, stalking, or other forms of abuse. It allows victims to seek relief from their abusers by prohibiting them from contacting or coming near the victim. CPOs are designed to hold abusers accountable and provide a legal framework for victims to ensure their safety. These orders can be in effect up until 5 years.

1st Violation – Misdemeanor Charge

2nd Violation – Felony Charge

No Contact Orders

- No-contact orders are legal directives issued by a court that forbid an individual from having any communication or physical proximity with another person. These orders are often used in criminal cases to maintain safety and prevent further contact between parties involved in a dispute or crime.

No Contact Orders are in effect until the conclusion of the case. Once the case is closed, the no contact order is no longer in effect.

WHAT IS MARSY'S LAW

▶ BACKGROUND

Marsy's Law is designed to give victims a voice. The victim, victim's representative, and victim's attorney have the right to be heard at any public proceeding other than a grand jury proceeding, in which any right of the victim is implicated. Marsy's Law ensures that victims of violent crime have the same co-equal rights as the accused and convicted – nothing more, nothing less.

♥ AUTOMATIC RIGHTS

Be informed of your rights;
Be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity;
Updates on the status of the case;
Be present at all public proceedings;
Have a support person present during all proceedings;
Make a victim impact statement;
Full and timely restitution

Ⓢ REQUESTED RIGHTS

A victim must request:
Notice of release, arrest, and escape of the offender;
Redaction of Personal Information;
Timely Notice of Public Proceedings;
The right to confer with the Prosecutor;
Appointing of a victim representative;
Notification of subpoenas, motions, or other requests to access personal data

WE CAN BE YOUR VOICE

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE MORROW COUNTY PROSECUTOR AND VICTIM SERVICES OFFICES TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE PUBLIC IN THE SERVICE OF THE OFFICE, PROVIDE SWIFT AND SAGE GUIDANCE TO OFFICIALS, TOWNSHIPS AND BOARDS, TO EXCEL AND BE ACKNOWLEDGED AS A LEADER IN PROVIDING QUALITY PROSECUTION, EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO VICTIMS, AND FOR OUR WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY IN PROVIDING EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR JUVENILES, CONSISTENT WITH THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PUBLIC.

IT IS THE VISION OF THE MORROW COUNTY PROSECUTOR AND VICTIM SERVICES OFFICES TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF OFFICIALS, TOWNSHIPS AND BOARDS THAT RELY UPON THE MORROW COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE, TO PURSUE VIGOROUS AND FAIR PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL CASES, WITH A COMMITMENT TO SERVE AS AN ADVOCATE FOR THE RIGHTS OF ALL VICTIMS, AND PROMOTE THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PUBLIC.



MORROW COUNTY VICTIM SERVICES

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WHAT IS A CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER?

TYPES OF ORDERS

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CPO
DATING VIOLENCE CPO
SEXUALLY ORIENTED OFFENSE CPO
CIVIL STALKING PROTECTION ORDER**

WHAT DOES A CPO DO?

A civil protection order (CPO) tells an abusive person that they cannot contact you, be within 500 feet of you, and can keep them out of your home in certain circumstances. CPO's are reserved for situations resulting in "imminent danger" to your person. If the order is granted, any further contact from the abuser could result in criminal charges.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

The first step in being granted a CPO is to file a petition with the court. You will need to testify in front of a judge or magistrate at an emergency hearing. This could result in a temporary order. The magistrate will then set a "Full Hearing," to determine if an extended order is needed.



OUR SERVICES

- Notifications of hearing dates and any updates on your case.
- Answer questions about the judicial process, victim rights, and how to access other services.
- Help ease concerns and assist in connection with community resources.
- Assist with Victim Impact Statements, Crime Victim Compensation Applications, Restitution paperwork, VINE registration, and Safe at Home applications.
- Assist in filing CPO Petitions.
- Act as a liaison for the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case.
- Accompaniment to court proceedings.
- Acting as your representative in Court when you are unable to be present.



VISIT US



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ACCESSIBLE PARKING AVAILABLE

A PROGRAM OF THE MORROW COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
ANDREW WICK, PROSECUTOR

Advocate Education

- All Morrow County Victim Advocates will be certified through the Summit Victim Assistance Academy in Akron, Ohio.
- The Essentials of Victim Advocacy Program is a nationally approved comprehensive in-person and online training offered four times a year in the State of Ohio. Essentials is designed to offer trauma-informed knowledge and skills to individuals serving survivors of crime and other traumatic events in our communities. Participants who complete the course, may apply to become a **National Credentialed Advocate** through the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA).
- This 44-hour comprehensive course will equip attendees to use the (NOVA) crisis intervention model, and learned skills, to assist individuals impacted by crime, victimization, or other traumatic events.

Importance of Advocacy

Advocacy seeks to ensure that all people in society are able to:

- Have their voice heard on issues that are important to them
- Protect and promote their rights
- Have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives

Advocacy is a process of supporting and enabling people to:

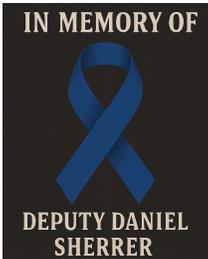
- Express their views, thoughts and concerns
- Access information, advice and guidance
- Explore choices and options for services and care





**Morrow County
Deputy Killed
While Responding
to a Domestic
Violence Call**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GuaW0OzvSi4>



How Can We Help?

- Notification of all upcoming court hearings, and updates on any status changes.
- Accompanied to all court hearings.
- Answer any questions about the criminal justice/court process.
- Assist with Victim Impact Statements, Financial Forms and restitution if applicable.
- Provide a liaison between the victim and the Prosecutor's Office, Probation Office and the Court.
- Referrals to community agencies for assistance.
- Assistance in filing Civil Protection Orders and Temporary Protection Orders.
- Additional services and supports as needed.

Let's Get the Conversation Started!

Bridging the gaps between agencies:

Law Enforcement
Court
Probation
Job and Family Services
Local Resources

Be open to tough conversations

Form your team

Make professional/personal connections

Find common ground

Take one step at a time

Bring ideas to the table

Build relationships

Listen!



Community Connections



Who are Drug Endangered Children?

National DEC defines drug endangered children as children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of legal and/or illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation, or distribution.

They may also be children whose caretaker's legal and/or illegal substance abuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment.

1 in 8 children live in households with at least one parent who has a substance use disorder.

1 in 10 children live in households with at least one parent who has an alcohol use disorder.

1 in 25 children live in households with at least one parent who has an illicit drug use disorder.



Get more information at:
National DEC website: www.nationaldec.org
DEC Roadmap and Toolkit: <https://nationaldec.org/resources-to-download/>





Motivation and support comes in many forms, including a cold nose and warm heart!

Meet Mayor!

Morrow County
Prosecutor's Office
Facility Dog

Resources

<https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/>
<https://helplinedelmor.org/>
<https://www.ocvjc.org/marsys-law-summary>
<https://oh.marsyslaw.us/>
<https://canine.org/>
<https://courthousedogs.org/podcast/>
<https://www.morrowcountyfair.org/>
<https://morrowcountysheriff.com/>
<https://www.mountgilead.net/police.htm>
<http://www.cardington.org/>
<https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/>

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**Morrow County
Prosecutor's Office**

Transparency, Service, Justice

Andrew Wick, Prosecutor

