

# County of San Bernardino Office of the District Attorney

# JASON ANDERSON, District Attorney Bureau of Victim Services

### **Crime Victims**

- Domestic Violence
- Juvenile Crimes
- Stalking
- Assault
- Elder Abuse
- Human Trafficking

- Rape
- Murder
- Vehicular Manslaughter
- DUI with Death or Injury
- Child Abuse (Physical/Sexual)
- Gang Violence

## Marsy's Law

The voters passed the "Victim's Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy's Law" on November 4, 2008. Marsy's Law changes the constitution of California to provide a general Victims' Bill of Rights during criminal, juvenile and parole matters. Among these rights are:

- To be reasonably protected from the defendant.
- To prevent the disclosure of confidential information or records to the defendant.
- To be informed, upon request, of the conviction, sentence, place & time of incarceration, or other disposition and the scheduled release date of the defendant.

#### Criminal Justice Process - The Advocate's Role

- Advise victims of charges filed by DA's Office & future updates on court dates
- Advise of plea agreement offers
- Request CPOs for victims upon request
- Requests for Restitution advise victims of what documentation is needed
- Schedule meetings with victim and assigned DDA
- Provide court support (sometimes Advocate can sit on stand w/victim, K9 Unit)
- Sentencing Victim Impact Statements

#### **Financial Resources**

- Emergency Purchase Cards
  - Stater Bros.
  - Walmart
  - Target
- Emergency Hotel Stay
- CalVCB Victim Compensation Claims
  - o Funding comes from restitution paid by criminal offenders through fines & orders.
  - o Benefits Available through CalVCB
    - Medical bills/co-pays
    - Counseling
    - Loss of Income Time off work due to crime related injuries
    - Relocation up to \$3,418 Law Enforcement Verification form needed
    - Home Security up to \$1000
    - Funeral / Burial up to \$12,818 In Lieu of Crime Report form needed
    - Crime Scene Clean-up up to \$1,709
  - Qualifications
    - Crime Occurs in California
    - Law Enforcement Report
    - Cooperate with Law Enforcement
    - Victims on active Felony Probation or Parole for a violent felony are not eligible
    - Contribution
    - 7 Year Time Frame for filing a claim