

# MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Coweta Judicial Circuit's District Attorney's Office is to pursue justice on behalf of the community and victims of crime, to uphold the law, and to maintain the trust of the people we serve. This office will accomplish this mission by being motivated to do what is right in each case, by being fair, respectful, and honest to all people with whom we interact, and by executing our duties with humility.

## A WORD FROM YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY



## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

### CRIME VICTIMS BILL OF RIGHTS

(O.C.G.A. TITLE 17, CHAPTER 17)

#### Victims have the right to:

- Be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.
- Be reasonably protected from the accused offender.
- Be notified of court proceedings.
- Be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense, unless the court determines that testimony by the victim would be materially affected if the victim heard other testimony at trial.
- Confer with [an] attorney for the Government in the case.
- Restitution
- Information about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender.

The duty of the District Attorney in the criminal justice system is to pursue justice for violations of the laws of the State of Georgia. For victims and survivors of crime, justice means safety and restitution as well as accountability and punishment for the offender. The Coweta Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office is passionate about achieving justice for the victims and survivors whose cases come before our office.

We have a dedicated Victim Assistance Program staffed by multiple Victim Advocates whose primary responsibility is to communicate with victims, care for victims, and advocate for their perspective throughout the criminal justice process. The court system is often confusing and frustrating, especially for those who are not familiar with it. For those who have been wronged, the system almost always works too slowly. However, victims in the State of Georgia have rights, and we want to make sure every victim's rights are honored.

If you are a victim and survivor of crime in the Coweta Judicial Circuit, please contact our Victim Assistance Program to help you in your pursuit of justice.



**JOHN H. CRANFORD, JR.**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COWETA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

#### WEBSITE

[www.dacowetacircuit.org](http://www.dacowetacircuit.org)



**Herb Cranford**  
District Attorney  
Coweta Judicial Circuit

#### OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS

CARROLL COUNTY	(770) 830-2171
COWETA COUNTY	(770) 254-7300
HEARD COUNTY	(706) 675-0955
MERIWETHER COUNTY	(706) 672-1302
TROUP COUNTY	(706) 298-3708

# SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The court process can be time-consuming and confusing. The Victim Witness Program provides services to help victims through the system by:

- Explaining the steps of the court process and providing the victim with notice of hearings and status updates on the progression of the case;
- Assisting in completing restitution and compensation paperwork;
- Assisting in preparing victims for court appearances and providing orientation and accompaniment when necessary;
- Matching the victim needs with available community services and resources;
- Assisting the return of the victim's property when allowed;
- Interceding with employers and creditors when necessary;
- Providing a place for victims to wait before testifying;
- Assisting with solving problems caused by the necessity of court appearances; for example, contact your employer if you need to miss work;
- Helping the victim if they feel intimidated, harassed or afraid;
- Providing supportive counseling and being an understanding, caring listener;
- Informing the prosecuting attorney of your feelings about the case and any financial losses you have suffered;
- Providing you with information regarding parole of defendant.

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS

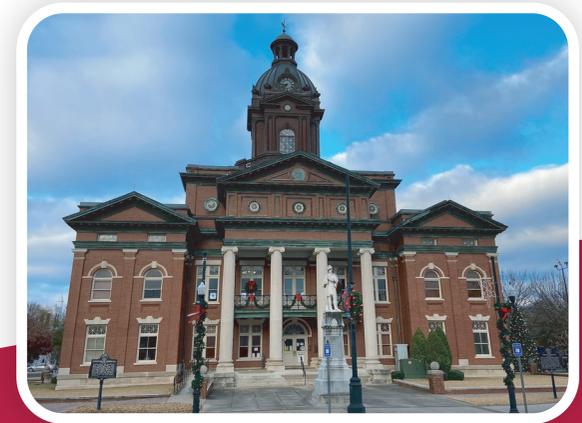


# A VICTIM'S RESPONSIBILITY

Victims must provide to the law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, and custodial authority a current address and telephone number to be notified of specific actions in a criminal case against the accused, the arrest of the accused, and the accused's release from custody, or any judicial proceeding wherein the release of the accused will be considered.

## PLEASE UPDATE EACH AGENCY OF CHANGES TO YOUR ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE NUMBER

Failure to do so may result in the lack of notification to you about any step in the criminal case.



## "ON-CALL" SUBPOENA

Your subpoena may indicate that you are "on-call" and your presence may not be required. **Call the District Attorney's Office at the number listed on your subpoena to be placed "on-call".** You must leave a day time and night time phone number where you can be reached during trial week. Do not come to the courthouse unless someone from the District Attorney's Office or a Law Enforcement Agency calls you.