

Your Rights As A Victim

It is important that victims of crime be given information about the criminal justice process, and, that victims of particular crimes understand their rights under law.

These rights include the following:

- In most cases a person arrested has the right to make bond and be released from jail prior to trial. Bonds are set by the county courts, acting under State law, not by the police.
- Misdemeanor Crimes - Many misdemeanor crimes have pre-set bonds. This means that if the person arrested can post property for, or pay the bond, they are released from jail without a hearing. Examples of misdemeanor crimes include, but are not limited to, simple assault, shoplifting (under a certain dollar amount), harassing phone calls, disorderly conduct, public drunk.
- Felony Crimes – Most felony crimes do not have pre-set bonds. This means that the person arrested has to wait for a hearing before a judge before they have the opportunity to pay or post property for a bond to be released from jail. If the judge grants bond and the person arrested can post property or pay the bond, they are released from jail. Examples of felony crimes include, but are not limited to, murder, aggravated assault, aggravated battery, rape, forgery, burglary, and armed robbery.
- In some cases, judges may refuse bond. This means that the person arrested cannot be released. In some cases, other agencies, such as another police or Sheriffs' Department, or U.S Immigration may place a "hold" on the person arrested. The person arrested should not be released until the "hold" is lifted by the agency that has placed it.

- You have the right to be notified when the accused person is arrested or released. If you wish to exercise this right, you must complete a brief form with your contact information. This form is available from the police agency responsible for your case, or from the county magistrate court.

- Upon receipt of your request for notification, you should be notified by means of the telephone numbers you provide, when the accused person is arrested, released, or when a judicial proceeding contemplating the accused person's release is scheduled. You may not always receive notification of a bond hearing, because of time limitations.

- State law allows compensation for victims of certain crimes. For more information about victim compensation, call the Governor's Victim Assistance Help Line at the number listed in the brochure.

- When you have questions or concerns about your case, use the telephone numbers in this brochure to call the appropriate agency or agencies.

Case # _____

Officer name: _____



Agency Telephone Numbers

Emory Midtown Police Department	404.686.2597
Atlanta Police Department	
24-Hour Emergency	911
Midtown Precinct	404.223-6105
Emory Women's Center	404.727.2003
Grady Rape Crisis Center	404.616.4861
Georgia Coalition against Domestic Violence	1.800.33.HAVEN
Fulton County Sheriff's Department	
County Jail	404.613.5100
Warrant Unit	404.612.5125
Municipal Court of Atlanta	404.658.6940
Fulton County Solicitor's Office	
Misdemeanor prosecutions	404.612.4800
Victim Assistance Office	404.730.6883
Governor's Victim Assistance Help Line	800.338.6745
Fulton County District Attorney	404.730.4981
Victim Assistance Office	404.730.4986
Applications for Victim Compensation	404.657-2222
(Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council)	

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EPD Midtown Campus
A Division of Emory Campus Services

550 Peachtree Street
Atlanta GA 30308

www.emory.edu/EPD