

Violence Prevention Coalition



Family Support Advocates

FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE





Our deepest condolences go out to those who are mourning the loss of a beloved son, husband, daughter, wife, mother, father, cousin or friend. The Family Support Advocacy Group (FSA), is comprised of family members who have also lost loved ones due to violence. Because we share an understanding of the pain that you are going through right now, we have created the Family Resource Guide to assist you through this difficult time.

In this guide, you will find helpful information to help you navigate through the initial days immediately following the loss of your loved one, but also how to get through the weeks, months and years to follow. Our hope is that you will be able to connect with the groups and resources within these pages to receive help and support for you, your extended family, and anyone who was touched by the life and loss of your loved one. While at times you may feel very isolated as you try to cope with an event that is far outside the scope of so-called normal, everyday life, it is important to know that many types of assistance are available to you. You are not alone.

The Violence Prevention Coalition

Family Support Advocates

Marilyn Harris

Florence McCrary

Annette Miller

Brenda Grisham

Tonya Lancaster

Antoine Towers

Daryle Allums

Lynette McElhaney

Brigitte Cook

Grief & Loss

The violent, unexpected assault or death of a family member, intimate partner, or close friend is one of the most traumatic experiences a person can face, and it prompts a wide range of emotional reactions.

There is no right or wrong way to feel when someone close to you is hurt or murdered.



The traumatic grief that you may feel in response to the sudden loss of a loved one can be intense. Each person may experience unique feelings toward the situation. These feelings can vary with each family member and it is important to recognize and respect the differences. While trying to cope with the traumatic death of your loved one, you may experience many different emotional and physical reactions. Sadly, there is no guidebook on how you should feel.

Be patient with yourself during this time because you may feel differently every day.

You may feel overcome with disbelief, anger, and sadness with an intensity never experienced before, or you may feel emotionally numb. It is normal for adults and children to experience such intense feelings in the days and weeks following a homicide, and then periodically over time. Resources are available to help family members and friends cope after the death of a loved one due to homicide.

Physical Reactions to Traumatic Grief

Some examples of physical reactions may be, but not limited to:

Sleeping

Problems

Nightmares, inability to sleep, sleeping too much

Health Problems

Stomach aches, headaches, chest pain, frequent colds or sensitivity to noise or sudden movements

Trouble eating

Loss of appetite or over eating

Activity

The feeling that you are unable to stop and relax or lethargy (*you just don't care*)

Flashbacks

Memories of your loved one or an event surrounding their death

Memory

Disturbances

Short term memory issues or forgetfulness

REMEMBER:

All of these are **NORMAL** reactions to **ABNORMAL** circumstances.

Emotional Reactions to Traumatic Grief

Emotional reactions may become very intense at times. It is important to remember that your emotional reactions are a part of healing. It may be helpful to talk with a men-

Guilt or Self Blame

You may experience what is described as survivors guilt.

Emotional numbing

You may feel like it is too difficult to experience the full magnitude of the pain

Sensitive

You may feel like you are become upset or anger easily.

Feeling of

Helplessness

You may feel constant worry and stress about the future

Shock

You may feel hysterical, remain calm, feel numb, laugh or even appear to function "normally" This is your body's way of protecting itself from fully experiencing the trauma of this event. Shock can last for several days to weeks.

Fear

You may be fearful for yourself or other family members. You may feel like "if this happened once, it could happen again.

Denial

You may experience moments of recognition (where you believe for a moment you just saw your loved one). Even though your mind knows they are gone, emotionally you may be having a hard time accepting this has happened. This is another way that your body protects itself from the full impact of the event

Coping With Your Loss

During this difficult time, it is very important for you to take care of yourself. Make sure you are eating, sleeping, and drinking plenty of water. It is okay to ask for help. As human beings, we are not equipped to automatically know how to deal with the traumatic death of a loved one.

Frequently Asked Questions

When will I feel “normal” again?

Your “normal” may never be the same as before, but you can create a new normal.

How long will I feel like this?

Everyone’s experience is different. Be patient with yourself and ask for help and support when you need it.

Why haven’t I cried?

Not everyone shows pain by crying; many show it in other ways. Allow yourself to cry if it happens, but do not put pressure on yourself if you do not have the urge to cry

Why are people avoiding me?

Many people just do not know what to say or how to respond to your traumatic loss.

Will I need mental health counseling?

When your loved one is murdered, it is often very helpful to get professional counseling to assist in dealing with the trauma. It may be more helpful to go to someone who is trained in trauma and loss.

Some suggested strategies for coping with loss

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Writing | Keeping a journal can be very helpful and a way to keep track of your feelings |
| Talking | It may be helpful to talk with someone you can trust (counselor, clergy, friend) |
| Counseling | You may want to speak to a counselor that has been specifically trained to work with loved ones of homicide victims |
| Exercise | Exercise can be a good way to relieve stress and reduce tension. Try to exercise three times a week. |
| Crying | Give yourself permission to cry. It is the body’s natural way of releasing stress. |
| Self-Care | Take time to do something for you, like meditation, gardening, massage, reading, or aromatherapy. |

Helping Children with Grief

Just like adults, children respond to grief. Emotional reactions for children are very similar to those of adults. It is helpful to talk with children and young adults about these feelings and why they are having these feelings, thoughts, reactions, and emotions.

What Adults Need to Know



Children may have any of the following reactions:

- Wanting to talk about the person who died
- Having overwhelming thoughts about the person who died
- Sharing with friends thoughts and images about the death
- Not wanting to be alone
- Being fearful of the dark or doing things that normally were not a problem before
- Needing constant reassurance
- Experiencing sleep problems
- Having a loss of appetite
- Having physical discomforts
- Participating in increasingly risky behavior
- Having difficulties with school work and childhood friendships

Sharing positive memories of your loved one

with your children is a starting point for many conversations on how the children are feeling. Maintaining positive ways for children to engage physically and mentally are important for healing.

What Can You Expect

When your loved one is assaulted or murdered

The investigation and criminal justice process following a shooting or homicide may be confusing and traumatic. Family and friends may have many questions about the manner in which their loved one was shot or killed and how the death will be investigated. It is important for you to remain in contact with the investigators and assigned to the case in order to receive periodic updates about the investigation and court hearings, if there is an arrest.

A Victim Advocate may contact you to offer assistance to the family after your loved one has been murdered. These professionals can help connect you to the investigators working on the case, provide information about crime victims' compensation, other victims' rights, and explain what to expect during various stages of the criminal justice process. They can also provide referrals for other services that may be helpful to you and your family in the aftermath of the crime.

Initial Crime Scene

The location where the homicide happened becomes a crime scene. It is important that investigators collect as much evidence as possible in order for the case to be successfully prosecuted and for the offender to be held accountable. This may take time. You will not be allowed to enter the scene until the evidence collection has been completed.

Crime Scene Cleanup

If the incident occurred in a home or a vehicle that is being used as a residence, and there is biohazard at the crime scene, the Victim Advocate can assist you in arranging for a company to remove the material. If you qualify, the Cal Victim Compensation Program will pay for the crime scene clean up .



Photo by Sergei Bachlakov/Shutterstock

Official Death Notification

The Alameda County Coroner is authorized to confirm the identity of the victim and establish the official next of kin. In some situations, the victim may have identification that allows the investigators to confirm identity at the crime scene.

Autopsy

Once your loved one can be removed from the crime scene or the hospital where they died, they will be taken to the Medical Examiner's Office for an autopsy. An autopsy **MUST** be done in all homicide cases as it is a very important and necessary part of the investigation. It documents and determines: the cause of the death and the manner of the death.

An autopsy is necessary in order to prosecute any homicide and to hold the offender accountable. If the case goes to trial, the prosecutors **MUST** prove that one person took the life of another and what caused the death of that person. Once the autopsy has been completed, the investigator will be notified of the

Funeral Arrangements

It is up to you to choose a mortuary or funeral home to handle your loved one's final arrangements. Once the autopsy has been completed, the funeral home will transport your loved one from the Medical Examiner's Office to their location.

In most cases, this is when you will be able to view your loved one.



A Victim Advocate can help you navigate through questions from the funeral home about payment through insurance or the Victims' Compensation Program if you qualify.

The Investigative Process

Family members and friends often feel that they have little control over the criminal justice process or results. Investigations do not always lead to an arrest, arrests do not always end in prosecution, prosecutions do not always end in convictions, and convictions do not always lead to stiff sentences.

If there is an arrest, the length of time from arrest to final disposition varies from case to case.

Personal Effects & Property

Every effort will be made to promptly return the personal effects of your loved one, provided these items are not considered evidence. In criminal investigations, items will be released only when they are no longer needed as evidence. The prosecuting agency usually makes this decision. This can be days, weeks, months, or even years after the death. The Case Investigator can provide you with the details regarding the condition of the property, when it will be released and the process for the return.

The Records Division can provide copies of reports and release of vehicles. Most reports will not be immediately available due to the sensitivity of the case.

If your vehicle or the vehicle of a loved one was towed for evidence, you may qualify for a Victim of Crime Tow Fund Waiver. Confirm with the Homicide Investigator that property or a vehicle being held by OPD has been released before contacting the Property Section.

Access to the Homicide Case File

At the conclusion of a homicide case and after the appeal process is over, you may request the homicide case file if your request is for the purpose of gaining as much information as you can about the homicide to meet your emotional needs and promote healing. Any confidential information will be removed from the file. If the file is being requested by an attorney or other entity, a Need to Confirm—formal Right-to-Know request must be filed with the Attorney General's Office in order to access the case file.

What Are Your Rights

Court rules and continuances can be very frustrating. It is important to know that California guarantees certain fundamental rights for crime victims, and you can exercise your rights throughout the criminal justice process.



The Marsy's Law Criminal Victims Bill of Rights Act of 2008 provides additional rights to victims and co-victims of crime:

- 1. To 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.
- 2. To be reasonably protected** from the defendant and persons acting on behalf of the defendant.
- 3. To have the safety of the victim and the victim's family** considered in fixing the amount of bail and release conditions for the defendant.
- 4. To prevent the disclosure of confidential information or records to the defendant,** the defendant's attorney, or any other person acting on behalf of the defendant, which could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family or which disclose confidential communications made in the course of medical or counseling treatment, or which are otherwise privileged or confidential by law.
- 5. To refuse an interview, deposition, or discovery request by the defendant,** the defendant's attorney, or any other person acting on behalf of the defendant, and to set reasonable conditions on the conduct of any such interview to which the victim consents.
- 6. To reasonable notice of and to reasonably confer** with the prosecuting agency, upon request, regarding, the arrest of the defendant if known by the prosecutor, the charges filed, the determination whether to extradite the defendant, and, upon request, to be notified of and informed before any pretrial disposition of the case.
- 7. To reasonable notice of all public proceedings,** including delinquency proceedings, upon request, at which the defendant and the prosecutor are entitled to be present and of all parole or other post-conviction release proceedings, and to be present at all such proceedings.

8. To be heard, upon request, at any proceeding, including any delinquency proceeding, involving a post-arrest release decision, plea, sentencing, post-conviction release decision, or any proceeding in which a right of the victim is at issue.

9. To a speedy trial and a prompt and final conclusion of the case and any related post-judgment proceedings.

10. To provide information to a probation department official conducting a pre-sentence investigation concerning the impact of the offense on the victim and the victim's family and any sentencing recommendations before the sentencing of the defendant.

11. To receive, upon request, the pre-sentence report when available to the defendant, except for those portions made confidential by law.

12. To be informed, upon request, of the conviction, sentence, place and time of incarceration, or other disposition of the defendant, the scheduled release date of the defendant, and the release of or the escape by the defendant from custody.

13. To restitution.

- It is the unequivocal intention of the People of the State of California that all persons who suffer losses as a result of criminal activity shall have the right to seek and secure restitution from the persons convicted of the crimes causing the losses they suffer.
- Restitution shall be ordered from the convicted wrongdoer in every case, regardless of the sentence or disposition imposed, in which a crime victim suffers a loss.
- All monetary payments, monies, and property collected from any person who has been ordered to make restitution shall be first applied to pay the amounts ordered as restitution to the victim.

14. To the prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence.

15. To be informed of all parole procedures, to participate in the parole process, to provide information to the parole authority to be considered before the parole of the offender, and to be notified, upon request, of the parole or other release of the offender.

16. To have the safety of the victim, the victim's family, and the general public considered before any parole or other post-judgment release decision is made.

17. To be informed of the rights enumerated in paragraphs (1) through (16).



Alameda County Coroner's Bureau

2901 Peralta Oaks Court Oakland CA 94605 (510) 382-3000

The Alameda County Coroner establishes the official identity, determines a deceased person's time and cause of death, and creates death records that can be used in criminal investigations, or to resolve insurance claims. Fees for the Death Certificate may be covered under the California Victim Compensation Program.

Who establishes the identity of the victim?

In the case of homicide, the official identity of the victim must be identified by scientific means by the Coroner's office using DNA, fingerprints, etc.

Will an autopsy be performed?

The Alameda County Coroner will perform an autopsy when there is a need to establish cause of death or in cases where criminal proceedings may follow. If religious or cultural practices should be considered, please speak to the investigator and victim services specialist.

Who can authorize the release of the decedent (e.g., to a funeral home)?

The decedent's body will be available for release after completion of the examination. Your Funeral Director will coordinate the release on your behalf. Upon receipt of a signed authorization from the legal next-of-kin, the decedent's body will be released to a mortuary/funeral home. The release may be signed by the legal next-of-kin authorized by law to direct disposition of the remains; this person sometimes differs from persons authorized to handle other aspects of the decedent's affairs. Next of kin is established by hierarchy—spouse, children, parents, siblings, etc.

Who can obtain a copy of the autopsy report?

At the conclusion of a homicide case and after the appeal process is over, you may request the autopsy report.

When will a death certificate be issued?

The Alameda County Coroner will work with the designated funeral home to complete a "pending" death certificate. A final death certificate may take six weeks or more if the death is being investigated.

Where can I obtain a copy of the death certificate?

Death certificates may be obtained from the selected funeral home or in final records.

Are viewings allowed at the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau

No, viewings can only be done at the selected funeral home.

Dealing with the Media

Some crime victims find media attention helpful, beneficial and in their best interests while others prefer privacy. The choice to engage with the media is solely yours, but a trained victim advocate can help you weigh the pros and cons. When considering requests to be interviewed, here are some points to keep in mind:



1. You can appoint a spokesperson to speak on your behalf if you do not want direct contact with the media such as a family member, friend, attorney, religious leader, or victim advocate. The role of the spokesperson is to represent you and your family in a positive way, seek to protect your privacy and dignity, release written statements at your request, and accompany you to interviews if you decide to speak to the media.
2. You and your family are entitled to grieve in private and can refuse permission for reporters and cameras to be present at a funeral or burial.
3. Know that if you share photos or images, they may be shared with other media outlets.
4. You have no obligation to agree to be interviewed. However, choosing privacy cannot guarantee that there will be no publicity about your family. Journalists usually have several sources from which to gather information, including social media accounts. Consider setting your social media accounts, including past posts, to private.
5. If a report contains inaccurate information, you can contact the journalist or his or her supervisor to seek a correction.
6. Be careful about speaking “off the record.” Not all journalists will treat what you say as confidential.
7. Agreeing to a single interview does not mean you must agree to follow-up interviews or to interviews with other reporters.
8. If at any time you feel harassed by reporters, you can file a complaint with their employers, victim service providers, or the police .
9. If you decide to grant an interview, you can set conditions. The media may be unwilling or unable to agree to your terms, but if they refuse, you can withdraw from the interview.

State of California

When a homicide occurs, the last thing a survivor wants to think about is dealing with all of the logistical and financial burdens that this crime can bring. The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) was established to reduce the impact of crime on victims' lives by reimbursing crime-related expenses, connecting victims with services and support, and informing and empowering victims.

<https://victims.ca.gov/>

Under the California law (Government Code Sections 13959-13969.3), qualifying victims of crime may receive financial assistance for losses resulting from a crime when they cannot be reimbursed by other sources.

Regional Victim Witness Assistance Center advocates work directly with CalVCP to assist victims in applying for compensation and navigating the criminal justice system. The Alameda County District Attorney's Victim-Witness Assistance Division provides a variety of services for crime victims, witnesses, and their families, as they work through the emotional trauma of their loss.

There are many problems that crime victims, witnesses and their families experience weeks, months or even years after the crime. The Alameda County District Attorney Victim Witness office is dedicated to and designed to alleviate some of these issues.



Alameda County District Attorney
(510) 272-6180 (510)272-6878
www.alcoda.org/victim_witness
Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm
1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 80
Oakland, CA 94612

https://www.alcoda.org/victim_witness/

Victim Compensation Program

Who is Eligible?

- Victims of crime who have been injured or threatened with injury.
- Anyone legally dependent upon the victim for support.
- Anyone who was present during the crime and who has a close relationship with the victim.
- Anyone who must receive psychological treatment as a result of the crime or who should be included in the psychological treatment of the victim.
- Anyone who takes legal responsibility and/or pays for a victim's medical or burial expenses.

The following losses may be covered by the Program:

- Emergency Funeral/Burial
- Emergency Relocation
- Medical/Dental expenses
- Mental Health Counseling
- Wage/Income Loss
- Crime Scene Clean Up
- Financial Support
- Job Retraining
- Home Security
- Home or Vehicle Modifications for Disabled Crime Victims
- Medically necessary equipment including wheelchairs, walkers, eye glasses, hearing aids and prosthetic devices.

Losses NOT covered under CalVCB:

Though not covered under the CalVCB program, these losses may be recoverable through court – ordered restitution during the defendant's sentencing or a civil lawsuit:

- Personal property losses, including cash
- Pain and suffering

Family Support Resources

You may also want to seek the support and understanding of others who have gone through similar experiences. Many survivors report that a homicide support group, or talking one-on-one with a person who has had a loved one murdered, helps them in their grieving process. The Family Support Task Force has partnered with various groups across the Bay Area that can assist with the process of laying your loved one to rest, navigating the law enforcement system and to help you get the support that you and your family need. You are not alone!

Crisis Response



**Their Lives Matter Advocacy Division of the
Christopher Lavell Jones Foundation**

PO Box 5804, Oak CA 94606 (510)875-0050 www.cljfoundation.com

The Christopher LaVell Jones Foundation is dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of each and every life they come in contact with. The Foundation does the following:

- Assist families with vital information;
- Bridge the gap with city officials and victims families
- Grief Counseling;
- Provide support to those with unsolved cases and discuss issues concerning the handling of their cases.



Catholic Charities East Bay

433 Jefferson Street (510)768.3100 www.cceb.org

ijean@cceb.org

Grief Counseling and Family Support is available for relatives and extended families of homicide victims, including friends, witnesses, classmates and others directly affected by homicide in Oakland and throughout Alameda County to support healing and recovery from trauma. The Crisis Response Program works with adults, youth, children and families in homes, schools or community settings to promote healing. Catholic Charities also provides rental and utilities assistance to help eligible families remain in their homes.



Khadafy Washington Foundation for Non-Violence

(510) 839-1706 www.khadafyfoundation.org tkwf35@yahoo.com

The Khadafy Washington Foundation was formed by Marilyn Harris after the murder of her son Khadafy. This program provides critical response services to aid families and create a foundation to heal such as:

- First response to scenes of homicides;
- Home visits to family and friends;
- Grief counseling
- Memorial planning and preparation
- Referrals to needed services
- Financial assistance to families facing loss of income and funeral expenses
- Monthly survivor groups;
- Lobbying and Advocating for survivors



Youth Alive - Khadafy Washington Project

3300 Elm St, Oakland (510)594-2588 www.youthalive.org
intervention@youthalive.org mail@youthalive.org

Youth Alive provides critical response to families and friends of homicide victims to prevent retaliation and promote healing through the Khadafy Washington Project. Caught in the Crossfire is Youth ALIVE!'s hospital-based violence intervention program provides case management services to victims of violent injuries such as gunshots, stabbing or physical assault.



CITY OF OAKLAND

Oakland Department of Violence Prevention

<http://oaklandunite.org/gunviolenceresponse/>

Shooting and Homicide Response starts with community-based responders that connect with individuals and families at the hospital or in their homes and walk with them as they navigate crisis. Families and individuals will be connected to immediate resources and long-term mental healthcare and healing support.

Grief and Healing Resources

King David Respect for Life

www.kingdavidrespectforlife.org

PO Box 27294 Oak CA. 94602 510-415-6408

King David Respect for Life provides crisis response and support to families after a homicide - home visits, healing circles, community gun violence awareness events, and referrals to other therapeutic services.

LAO Family Community Development, Inc.

<http://www.LFCD.org>

2325 E. 12th St #226, Oak CA 94601 (510)533-8850

LFCD victim advocates work to ensure that all crime victims are treated fairly, with dignity and respect by providing the following services to victims of crime: Resource and referral assistance, and court escort and support.

Casa Del Sol – La Clinica

<https://laclinica.org/location/casa-del-sol>

1501 Fruitvale Ave, Oak, CA 94601 (510) 535-6200

Casa del Sol provides counseling, crisis intervention services and behavioral health services to Alameda County's Spanish speaking communities.

Asian Health Services

<https://asianhealthservices.org/specialty-mental-health-clinic/>

101 8th Street, Suite 100, Oak CA 94607 Community Healing Unit (510)735-3940

ahshealingunit@ahschc.org

Asian Health Community Mental Health Services provides individual and family therapy, group counseling, and psychiatry for Cantonese, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Mandarin, Mien, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Burmese and English speakers.

Global Communication Education & Art

<https://www.globalcommunicationservices.org/> (510) 560-5520

info.gcsinc@gmail.com

GCEA assists African immigrants with counseling, emergency shelter, legal needs and referrals.

Oakland LGBTQ Community Center

<https://www.oaklandlgbtqcenter.org/>

3207 Lakeshore Ave, Oak CA 94610

Support: (510) 781-2919 Front Desk: (510) 882-2286

Provides a monthly LGBTQ-Friendly Grief & Loss support group and referrals to therapist and counselors.

1000 Mothers Connected

(510) 583-0100 www.1000mothers.org

1,000 Mothers to Prevent Violence is a grassroots 501(c)3 nonprofit organization devoted to serving families and friends who have been impacted by violence.

Jewish Family and Community Services

<https://jfcs-eastbay.org/counseling-therapy/>

470 27th Street, Oak CA 94612 (510) 704-7480, ext 235 info@jfcs-eastbay.org

Weekly Bereavement Support Group offers guidance through the feelings of loss, isolation, and anger, and helps participants learn how to live with grief.

The Compassionate Friends of Alameda County

<https://www.compassionatefriends.org/>

4101 Park Boulevard, Oak CA 94602-1206 (510) 835-3579

Meeting Info: 2nd Tues of each month, 7pm - 9pm

Provides friendship, understanding, and hope to those going through the grieving process.

Circle of Care - East Bay Agency for Children

<https://www.ebac.org/services/circle.asp> (510) 531-7551 x3195

CircleofCare@EBAC.org

EBAC's transformational programs help children, youth, and families recover from trauma; build upon existing resilience to protect against long-term harm from past or future exposure to adversity.

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County

www.crisissupport.org/resources/bereavement

P.O. Box 3120, Oak CA 94609 (510) 420-2460

24 Crisis Line: (800) 273-8255

The CSS programs provide individual and group counseling for people who have lost a loved one. The Bereavement Therapy Group is a safe and confidential therapy group that provides education, therapy, and practical strategies to help individuals move toward healing in their personal grief experience.

Carl B. Metoyer Center for Family Counseling

www.cbmcffc.org 9925 International Bl. Ste 6 Oak, 94603 (510) 562-3731

Provides no-cost, time-limited counseling and case management services to families in Alameda County, primarily in the East Oakland community.

Alameda County Family Justice Center

<http://www.acfjc.org> 470 27th Street, Oak, CA 94612 (510) 267-8800

Provides treatments, and recovery services to crime victims: mental health treatment services; coordination of care among medical and mental health care providers; and services to family members and loved ones of homicide victims.

Housing and Financial Assistance



CITY OF OAKLAND

Keep Oakland Housed

KeepOakandHoused@bayareacs.org

(510)899-9289 or (510)759-4877 (text)

Keep Oakland Housed is committed to preventing Oakland residents from losing their housing by providing legal representation, emergency financial assistance and supportive services.

National Support & Resources

Directory of Crime Victim Services

Office for Victims of Crime Office of Justice Programs

U.S. Department of Justice

<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices>

National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children

<https://pomc.org/>

1-888-818-POMC or 1-888-818-7662

Provides on-going emotional support to help parents and other survivors facilitate the reconstruction of a “new life”, deal with their acute grief and the criminal justice system.

Actively Moving Forward® (AMF)* HealGrief

<https://healgrief.org/amf-app> (888) 489-9654

The AMF App provides young adults access to facilitated virtual support groups, tools, and resources via direct messaging, group chats, posts & interactive comment.

Other Support Resources

Family Violence; Intimate-Partner Violence Services

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| A Safe Place | 24/7 Emergency | (510) 536-7233 (510) 986-8600 |
| Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach | | (510) 567-6255 |
| Family Violence Law Center | | (510) 208-0220 |
| 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline | | (800) 947-8301 |



Oakland Police Department

455 7th Street Oakland, CA 94607

Homicide Section (510)238-3821

Oaklandhomicide@oaklandca.gov

Felony Assault (510)238-3426

Records Division (510)238-3021

Property Unit (510)238-3874

Reports

The Records Division can provide copies of reports. You can submit a request in person, by phone or online www.oaklandpolice.com. Most reports will not be immediately available due to the sensitivity of the case.

Towed Vehicles

The Investigator must provide release of a vehicle that is held as evidence. In order to recover the vehicle the recipient must have a valid Driver's License, be the registered owner or next of kin, have current registration and pay applicable fees. Some cases may be eligible for a Victim of Crime Tow waiver.

Personal Property

Confirm with the investigator that property or belongings that is being held for evidence has been released before contacting the property unit.

Tip Lines

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Homicide | (510) 238-7950 |
| Oakland Crime Stoppers | (510) 777-8572 |
| Illegal Drugs | (510) 238-3784 |
| Firearms | (510) 535-4867 |
| 24 Hour Sex Assault Tip Line | (510) 637-0298 |



Violence Prevention Coalition

Our Mission

To work directly with victims, and those most likely to be future victims or perpetrators of violent crime, to dramatically reduce violent crime and end the cycle of trauma affecting communities impacted by violence.

oakviolenceprevention@gmail.com

<https://www.oaklandvpc.org/>



Family Support Advocacy Task Force

The mission of the Family Support Advocacy Task Force, a committee of the Violence Prevention Coalition, is to advocate for local, state and federal policies and legislation to enhance and expand support to families and friends of those who experienced violence; for more compassionate and transparent communication between law enforcement, the district attorney with the family of homicide victims and to push for the elimination of all violence, but particularly gun violence and homicides.