

*Clayton State University Department of Public Safety
2000 Clayton State Blvd., Morrow GA 30260
Phone (678) 466-4050, (770) 960-5151 FAX (678) 466-4269*

Case #

Officer/ Investigator:

Important Numbers

Clayton County District Attorney's Office	(770) 477-3450
Victim Witness Assistance	(770) 603-4110
Clayton County Solicitor General's Office	(770) 477-3380
Victim Services	(770) 473-5808
Clayton County Magistrate Court	(770) 477-3444
Clayton County Jail	(678) 479-5390
Clayton County Juvenile Court	(770) 477-3270

Other Important Numbers

Southern Regional Medical Center	(770) 991-8000
Southern Crescent Sexual Assault Center	(770) 477-2177
United Way first call for help	211
Department of Family and Children Services	(770) 603-4602
Suicide Hotline	(800) 827-7571

Clayton State University Resources

Department of Public Safety	(678) 466-4050
University Health Services	(678) 466-4940
Counseling Services	(678) 466-5406
Disability Services	(678) 466-5445
Department of Student Affairs	(678) 466-5420



CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

"Crime Victims
Have Rights Too"

Bobby Hamil
Chief of Police

The accused in a criminal case has many rights. As a victim of a crime, you may also have certain legal rights afforded to you under the law. This information sheet is provided to you by the District Attorney's Office and the law enforcement agency that is investigating this crime.

Victims of crimes, including the following, have substantial rights under the law:

- homicide
- assault and battery
- kidnapping, false imprisonment, etc.
- reckless conduct
- cruelty to children
- feticide/feticide by vehicle
- stalking
- sexual offenses
- burglary
- arson
- theft
- armed robbery
- sexual exploitation of children
- vehicular homicide
- serious injury by vehicle

In order to be notified of the accused's arrest, release from custody and any judicial proceeding where the release of the accused will be considered, you must provide the investigating law enforcement agency, the prosecuting attorney and custodial authority a current phone number other than one for a pager or cellular phone. You must make a request in writing to the prosecuting attorney in order to be notified of the following:

- (1) whether the accused has filed a motion for a new trial;
- (2) whether the accused has filed an appeal of his/her conviction;
- (3) whether the accused has been released on bail or own recognizance pending the disposition of the above-described motion or appeal; and
- (4) the time and place of any appellate court proceedings relating to a motion or appeal and

any changes in the time and place of those proceedings.

It is your right and responsibility if you desire notification under the law to keep the following informed of your current address and phone number:

- (1) The investigating law enforcement agency;
- (2) The prosecuting attorney, until final disposition or completion of the appellate and post-conviction process, whichever occurs later;
- (3) As directed by the prosecuting attorney, the sheriff's office if the accused is in the sheriff's custody for pretrial, trial or post-conviction proceedings; the Department of Corrections if the accused is in the custody of the state; or any county correctional facility if the defendant is sentenced to serve time in a facility that is not a state facility; and
- (4) The State Board of Pardons and Paroles.

You have the right to waive any of the information, notification or other obligations under this Bill of Rights.

A victim also has a right to designate a spouse, adult child, parent, sibling or grandparent to act on his/her behalf, when the victim is physically unable to personally assume the rights under the law.

If you are a victim of one of the previously listed crimes, you have additional rights during the various stages of the criminal justice process. Additional information about the process can be obtained by contacting the pertinent state or local agency involved, or by contacting the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council at (404) 559-4949 {(404) 559-4177 for TDD}.

If you have suffered economic loss and out-of-pocket expenses related to your crime, you may qualify for monetary compensation from the State's Crime Victims Emergency Fund which is administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Additionally, there may be available to you certain community-based victim services programs. More information on this may be obtained by calling (800) 358-6745.

If an arrest of a suspect is made in your case, the arresting law enforcement agency should inform the investigating law enforcement agency who, in turn, should promptly notify you.

Once a suspect is arrested, he/she may be released before trial. In felony cases, most persons will be released from custody prior to trial once bond is posted; in most misdemeanor cases, the accused will be released immediately. If this is not the case, the accused remains in a detention facility while awaiting and during trial. Upon conviction, the offender may be sentenced from a variety of alternatives which may require that he/she be incarcerated. The great majority will be paroled before the time period for confinement has lapsed.

Throughout the stages of an accused's incarceration, you have additional rights. If the custodial authority is the county jail, it must provide prompt notification by making a telephone call to the number supplied by you informing you of the release of the accused. There are also notification requirements applicable to state and county correctional facilities.

If the State Board of Pardons and Paroles considers making a decision to grant parole or any other clemency action to release a defendant for a period of more than 60 days, they must provide you with 20 days advance notice and allow you to file a written objection to such action, if you have expressed objection to release or requested notice.

During the prosecution phase of the case, the prosecuting attorney will keep you informed of the steps in the judicial process, if you make such a request in writing and provide all appropriate information.

Upon initial contact with you, the prosecuting attorney will explain the procedural steps in processing a criminal case and inform you of your rights under the law, and suggest certain procedures you may utilize if you are subjected to threats or intimidation. Whenever possible, you will be notified on any proceeding in which the release of the accused will be considered and offered the opportunity to express

your opinion on the release of the accused pending a judicial proceeding.

Upon a court granting pretrial release on bond and receipt of a written complaint from you, the prosecutor may move the Court to revoke such action.

Most cases are disposed of without the necessity of a trial. However, if your case proceeds to trial, every effort will be made for you to wait during judicial proceedings in an area separate from the accused and his/her relatives, friends and witnesses. If such an area is not practical or available, you may request that the prosecutor ask the judge to order a minimization of such contact.

Under certain circumstances, the Court may order that your current address, telephone number, or place of employment not be released to the defendant by anyone-including defense counsel.

You must be offered the opportunity to express your opinion regarding the disposition of an accused's case.

If a warrant is issued for a misdemeanor case, it will be processed by the State Court Solicitor's Office in the State Court of Clayton County.

If a warrant is issued for one or more felony offenses, those cases—as well as any accompanying misdemeanor charges—will be processed by the District Attorney's Office in the Superior Court of Clayton County.

Any questions you have concerning your rights or the criminal justice system should be directed to the appropriate agency listed below.

For Felony Cases, the District Attorney's Victim Assistance Division at (770) 477-3450
For Misdemeanor Cases, The State Court Solicitor's Office Victim Assistance at (770) 477-3380
For Custodial Information, the Clayton County Sheriff's Dept. Victim Assistance (770) 473-3800