

SERVICES PROVIDED



Crisis Intervention & Emotional Support

Provide crisis assessment and intervention to address immediate needs and offer a listening ear during times of distress. May be called to respond on-scene to assist victims of crime. Includes safety planning.



Information & Access

Inform victims of their legal rights and available options, provide case status updates, help victims understand the investigation/criminal justice process, and link them to appropriate services.



Practical Assistance & Advocacy

Serve as a liaison between the victim, law enforcement and community service providers. Provide guidance and support to victims and families in the aftermath of crime and trauma.



Resources & Referrals

Connect individuals to appropriate community resources to address their individualized needs. Referrals may include counseling, support groups, legal aid, domestic violence services, sexual assault services, and other community resources.



Criminal Justice Support & Court Accompaniment

Assist victims in understanding their rights and navigating the criminal justice system. May accompany victims to court upon request.



Injunction Assistance

Help victims understand injunctions and assist with filing for legal protection against domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking.



Crime Victim Compensation

You may be eligible for victim compensation. We provide assistance with filing compensation claims, obtaining necessary documentation, and checking on claim status.



Assistance with U nonimmigrant status (U Visa)

You may be eligible for U nonimmigrant status and we can assist with U Visa certifications. For more information visit www.uscis.gov and speak with a victim advocate.

CONTACT US

The Victim Advocacy Unit is available to assist and offer support to victims of crime. For additional information, resources and referrals, contact us at (813) 276-3622 to speak with a victim advocate. Hours of availability are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. If you are unable to reach a victim advocate, you may leave a voicemail or send an email to TPD-VictimAdvocate@tampa.gov. For life threatening emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergency matters, please call (813) 231-6130.



(813) 276-3622



www.tampa.gov/police/advocate



TPD-VictimAdvocate@tampa.gov



Tampa Police Department
Headquarters
Victim Advocacy Unit
411 North Franklin St.,
Tampa, FL 33602



VICTIM ADVOCACY UNIT



VICTIM ADVOCATE:

PHONE:

OFFICER/INVESTIGATOR:

REPORT NUMBER:

ABOUT THE VICTIM ADVOCACY UNIT

The Victim Advocacy Unit of the Tampa Police Department was developed in efforts to increase victim support, mitigate trauma, and enhance its response to victims of crime in the City of Tampa. The Victim Advocacy Unit is committed to serving victims of crime utilizing a client-centered and trauma informed approach tailored to each individual's needs and circumstances. The victim advocate is trained to support victims, witnesses, and survivors, and is designated to stand alongside them in the aftermath of crime.

Advocacy services include providing information on victims' rights, crisis intervention and emotional support, assessment of needs, access to community resources and referrals, and practical assistance to include assistance with applications.

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

Crime victim compensation is offered through The Office of Attorney General, Florida Bureau of Victim Compensation which works to ease financial burden and out-of-pocket expenses related to the impact of a crime when there is injury or death, or threat to the victim. Some requirements and limitations may apply.

Compensation is provided to eligible victims to financially assist with medical and mental health expenses, loss of wages, loss of support, and funeral/burial costs. Victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and sexual battery may also be eligible for relocation assistance. For additional information, call to speak with a victim advocate.



CLIENT-CENTERED & TRAUMA INFORMED ADVOCACY

It is common to experience an array of emotional or physical reactions following a traumatic or distressing event. Although every person's experiences and reactions are different, these are some common reactions in the aftermath of trauma:

- Shock or numbness
- Disbelief, denial, and anger
- Confusion & helplessness
- Guilt
- Bad dreams
- Flashbacks

Counseling and support services are available to help you cope. You may find yourself having to deal with a complex web of people and systems which can be overwhelming and confusing. Victim advocates can assist by explaining the process, offering support, focusing on your needs and concerns and working in partnership to connect you with appropriate resources.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, CALL 9-1-1

24/7 HOTLINES

Crisis Center of Tampa Bay	2-1-1
The Spring of Tampa Bay	(813) 247-SAFE (7233)
National Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-SAFE (7233)
National Human Trafficking Hotline	(888) 373-7888
National Sexual Assault Hotline	(800) 656-HOPE (4673)
National Suicide Prevention Hotline	(800) 273-TALK (8255)

LOCAL RESOURCES

Non-Emergency Tampa Police	(813) 231-6130
Tampa Police Department Headquarters Victim Advocacy Program	(813) 276-3622
Tampa Police District 1 3818 W Tampa Bay Blvd, Tampa, FL	(813) 354-6600
Tampa Police District 2 9330 N 30th St., Tampa, FL	(813) 931-6500
Tampa Police District 3 3808 N 22nd St, Tampa, FL	(813) 242-3800
Hillsborough County Clerk of Court	(813) 276-8100
State Attorney's Office (SAO) www.sao13th.com	(813) 272-5400
SAO Victim Assistance Program victimassistance@sao13th.com	(813) 272-6472
The LIFE Center of the Suncoast Counseling for victims of crime	(813) 237-3114

STATE RESOURCES

Florida Council Against Sexual Violence	(850) 297-2000
Florida Attorney General's Office Bureau of Victim Compensation	(800) 226-6667

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Victim Information Notification Everyday (VINE) www.vinelink.com	(877) 846-3435
VictimConnect Resource Center www.victimconnect.org	(855) 484-2846