



# Victim Impact Statement for Child Victims

To return forms or to get help in completing forms:

**Please note:** it is important the police receive this statement as quickly as possible so that it may be given to the crown prosecutor. Failure to do so may result in the judge not considering your Victim Impact Statement. When you finish writing your statement, please mail it or drop it off at the address stamped above.

<b>Date of Offence:</b> _____	<b>Investigating Police Service:</b> _____
<b>Location of Offence:</b> _____	<b>Incident/File number:</b> _____



## Only you know how this crime has affected you.

Anyone who is a victim of a reported crime can complete a Victim Impact Statement.

### What is a Victim Impact Statement?

A Victim Impact Statement is an opportunity for you and your child to tell the court how this crime has affected you and those around you. You write out your statement in your own words. Your child may express his/her feelings in writing or by drawing pictures. The judge will look at the Victim Impact Statement before the person found guilty of the crime is sentenced. You may also read the statement out loud in court if you want to.

You do not have to prepare a Victim Impact Statement but you can if you want to.

### How do I give a Victim Impact Statement?

If you want the court to know how a crime has affected you and your child, you must each describe the impact in your own way. Please use the forms in this brochure to prepare your statement. If you do not have enough room you can add more pages.

### When should I write my statement?

You and your child may prepare your statement at any time, but please remember that it must get to the judge before the person found guilty of the crime is sentenced.

Please note it is important the police receive this statement as quickly as possible so that it may be given to the crown prosecutor. Failure to do so may result in the judge not considering your Victim Impact Statement. When you finish writing your statement, please mail it or drop it off at the address stamped on the front page of this brochure.

### What happens to my statement once I have completed it?

Once you and your child have completed the statement, return it to the Victims Services office or your local police at the address stamped on the front of this brochure. They will put it on the police file.

When someone is charged with a crime, the police will make sure your statement is put on the court file for the judge to see. A copy of your statement will be given to the prosecutor, the person charged with the crime and his/her lawyer. This happens to all information that police gather about a crime.

### Where can I get help if I have questions or need more information?

If you need help or do not understand exactly what you should do to prepare your statement, phone the number stamped on the front of this brochure. Someone from your local Victims Services office or police service will help you. They can also put you in contact with other services in your community. Anyone you feel comfortable with such as a friend or relative can also help you complete the form.

### Will I have to go to court to testify about the statement?

Usually you and your child will not have to go to court. If you choose, you and/or your child can tell the prosecutor you want to read your statement out loud in court. Sometimes the judge, the crown prosecutor or the defence lawyer may have questions about the statement. If they do, you and/or your child may be asked to come to court to answer their questions.

## Only You and Your Child Can Tell the Court the Effects of This Crime

This Victim Impact Statement has two parts. The first part will allow your child to tell the judge how he/she feels about what happened to him/her. The second part is for you, the parent or guardian, to tell the court how this crime has affected your life, your child's life and the lives of those close to you.



