#### Kansas Victims' Bill of Rights

- Victims should be treated with courtesy, compassion and with respect for their dignity and privacy and should suffer the minimum of necessary inconvenience from their involvement with the criminal justice system.
- 2. Victims should receive, through formal and informal procedures, prompt and fair redress for the harm which they have suffered.
- Information regarding the availability of criminal restitution, recovery of damages in a civil cause of action, the crime victims compensation fund and other remedies and the mechanisms to obtain such remedies should be made available to victims.
- 4. Information should be made available to victims about their participation in criminal proceedings and the scheduling, progress and ultimate disposition of the proceedings.
- The views and concerns of victims should be ascertained and the appropriate assistance provided throughout the criminal process.
- 6. When the personal interests of victims are affected, the views or concerns of the victim should, when appropriate and consistent with criminal law and procedure, be brought to the attention of the court.
- 7. Measures may be taken when necessary to provide for the safety of victims and their families and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation.
- Enhanced training should be made available to sensitize criminal justice personnel to the needs and concerns of victims and guidelines should be developed for this purpose.
- 9. Victims should be informed of the availability of health and social services and other relevant assistance that they might continue to receive the necessary medical, psychological and social assistance through existing programs and services.
- Victims should report the crime and cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

K.S.A. 74-7333

#### **Important Information**

Crisis Hotline:

Law Enforcement:

Prosecutor:

Prosecutor Address:

Case Number:

Friend:

Neighbor:

Day Care:

Emergency Health Care:

#### Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline Numbers

#### Kansas Crisis Hotline (888) 363-2287

Atchison (800) 367-7075 or (913) 367-0363 Dodge City (620) 225-6510 El Dorado (800) 870-6967 or (316) 321-7104 Emporia (800) 825-1295 or (620) 342-1870

Garden City (620) 275-5911

Great Bend (866) 792-1885 or (620) 792-1885 Hays (800) 794-4624 or (785) 625-3055 Hutchinson (800) 701-3630 or (620) 663-2522

Iola (620) 365-7566

Kansas City, KS

El Centro, Inc. ¡Si Se Puede! (dv)

(913) 677-0177

Friends of Yates / Joyce H. Williams Center (dv)

(913) 321-0951

Kansas City, MO

KCAVP (816) 561-0550 MOCSA (sv) (816) 531-0233

Lawrence

GaDuGi Safe Center (sv) (785) 843-8985 The Willow Domestic Violence Center (dv)

(785) 843-3333

Leavenworth (800) 644-1441 or (913) 682-9131

Liberal (620) 624-8818

Manhattan (800) 727-2785 or (785) 539-2785

Mayetta (866) 966-0173 or (785) 966-0173

Newton (800) 487-0510 or (316) 283-0350

Overland Park (888) 432-4300 or (913) 262-2868

Pittsburg (800) 794-9148 or (620) 231-8251

Salina (800) 874-1499 or (785) 827-5862

Topeka (888) 822-2983 or (785) 354-7927

evening: (785) 234-3300

Ulysses (888) 229-8812 or (620) 356-2608

Wichita

Catholic Charities Harbor House (dv)

(866) 899-5522 or (316) 263-6000

StepStone (dv) (316) 265-1611 Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center (sv)

(316) 263-3002

por español: (316) 263-0185

YWCA Women's Crisis Center (dv)

(316) 267-SAFE (7233)

Winfield (800) 794-7672 or (620) 221-4357

(dv) = Domestic Violence Services only (sv) = Sexual Violence Services only

# **Information for Stalking Victims**



## Office of the Attorney General Victims' Services Division

120 SW 10th Ave, 2nd Floor Topeka, KS 66612-1597 (800) 828-9745 www.ag.ks.gov

Provided by Kansas Attorney General

#### Kris W. Kobach

in partnership with the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

#### What is stalking?

In Kansas, as in most other states, stalking is a crime. Criminal stalking is "... engaging in a course of conduct targeted at a specific person which would cause a reasonable person [...] to fear for such person's safety or the safety of a member of such person's immediate family and the targeted person is actually placed in such fear."

K.S.A. 21-3438.

Stalking is defined differently for purposes of the Kansas Protection from Stalking Act. Under this Act, stalking is the "intentional harassment of another person that places the other person in reasonable fear for that person's safety."

K.S.A. 60-31a02

#### What can I do if I am being stalked?

First and foremost, you should think about your safety. Keep in mind, different stalkers respond differently. Actions taken that increase safety for one victim can,

in different circumstances, increase risk for another. An advocate can assist you in developing a safety plan that takes into consideration your specific circumstances.

You can contact your local domestic violence/sexual assault program in Kansas (see list) for this service. The following suggestions are recommended by experts to increase safety of victims:

- Report each incident of stalking to your local law enforcement agency. While officers may not have enough evidence to arrest the stalker, it is important to develop this "official" record of the stalking behavior. Keep in mind that if a law enforcement report is made, the information may become public.
- Is your stalker a former intimate or dating partner? Often a victim tries to call off a relationship without success. If you have been clear and firm about ending the relationship or not dating, don't succumb to the harassment of the stalker to "meet one last time" or pleas of "if you just talk with me, I will leave you alone." Harassment that continues, even after you make clear that you do not want a relationship, is a red flag for potentially dangerous and escalating behavior.
- <u>Cease communication.</u> Instead, let the "system" communicate with him through a law enforcement officer, probation officer, or through a protection order. A formal letter from you, given to your stalker by law enforcement, can document your fear and demand for no contact.

#### What can I do if I am being stalked?

- Avoid contact. Try to avoid mediation, joint therapy, shared custody, face-to-face child exchanges, or other forms of contact.
- Consider obtaining a protection from stalking order. A protection from stalking order may or may not be effective in ending the stalking. These orders tend to be most effective if issued when the stalking behavior first begins, and where violations of the order are taken very seriously by law enforcement, prosecutors, and judges. Keep in mind that the face-to-face hearing contact could be detrimental contact.
- <u>Keep a log of all stalking behaviors.</u> Include the following (see Incident Log):
  - Date of incident
  - Times and places the incidents occurred
  - Description of stalking behavior
  - Witnesses to the incident
- <u>Retain and record all communications possible.</u> This
  may include but is not limited to phone calls, voice and
  text messages, and emails.
- **Prepare for your safety.** Things to consider:
  - Have critical phone numbers available, such as law enforcement, friends, domestic violence or sexual assault programs, and other important people or services you may need after reaching a safe location, such as neighbors, attorneys, prosecutors, medical care, child care, or pet care.
  - Keep a reserve of necessities in case you have to leave your home quickly, such as a suitcase in the trunk of your car or at a friend's house; include money, medication, toys or items important to the children.
  - Have important documents such as passports, immigration documents, birth certificates, and social security numbers readily accessible.
  - Alert people who may be part of your safety plan, such a law enforcement, employers, coworkers, family, friends, neighbors, or security personnel.
  - Have a cell phone for 911 access. (If you do not have one, it can be provided to you by your local domestic violence/sexual assault program.)
     Note: If your cell phone was purchased by your stalker, or his name is on the account, your stalker might be able to use its GPS features to locate you.

#### Other safety measures

Consider whether any of the following measures would help decrease or prevent some of your danger:

- Changing locks, securing all spare keys.
- Installing outside lighting.
- Trimming bushes and vegetation around your residence.
- Identifying locations that may be safe for you, such as police stations, residences of family/friends, local churches, or other public places.
- Getting an unlisted number or, if you have financial means, using a "dummy" answering machine connected to your published phone line. The private or unlisted number can be reserved for close friends or family and the stalker may not realize you have another line.
- Varying travel routes and other routines.
- Limiting time walking or jogging alone.
- Informing a trusted neighbor about the situation and, if possible, giving them a description or a photo of the stalker, asking them to call law enforcement if they see anything unusual.
- Trying not to be alone at places the stalker typically contacts you.
- Arranging for others to be with you when arriving and leaving from work.

### Can I receive compensation for my losses as a crime victim?

The Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board (CVCB) in the Office of the Attorney General handles applications from victims of violent crimes seeking compensation for loss of earnings and out-of-pocket expenses as a direct result of the incident.

Contact the CVCB, 120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor, Topeka, KS 66612-1597 or call (785) 296-2359 for an application or for further information.

| Incident Log |           |  |  |
|--------------|-----------|--|--|
| Date:        |           |  |  |
| Time:        |           |  |  |
| Place:       |           |  |  |
| Witnesses    | <b>::</b> |  |  |