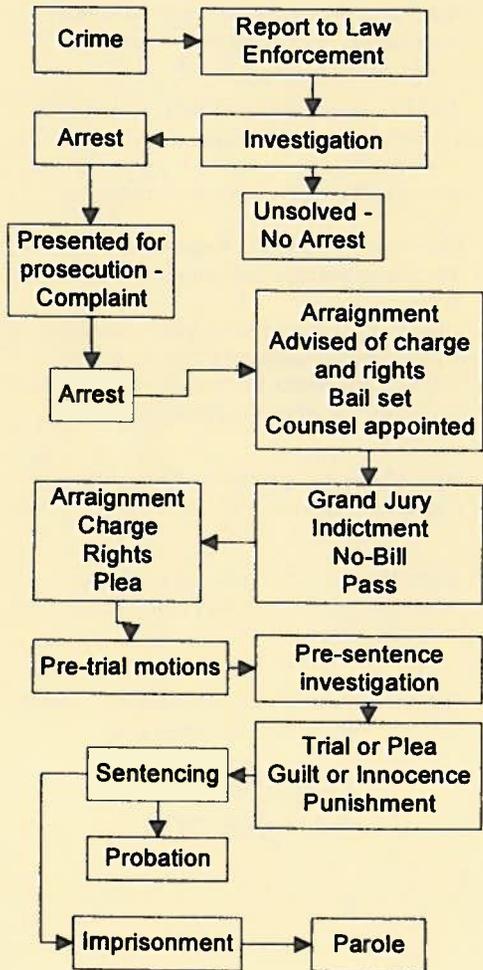


If you have filed charges against a person and that person, their family member, or an acquaintance threatens or otherwise intimidates you, contact the Gainesville Police Department immediately.

What happens when you file charges?



Telephone Numbers

**Gainesville Police
Department**
(940) 668-7777

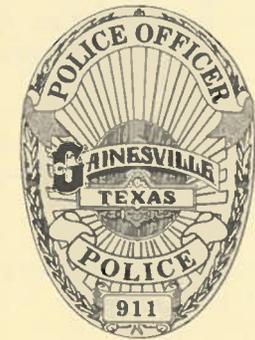
**Cooke County Sheriff's
Office**
(940) 665-3471

**Cooke County District
Attorney**
(940) 668-5466

Cooke County Attorney
(940) 668-5459

Abigail's Arms
(940) 665-2873

Gainesville Police Department



Information for Victims of Crime

Case Number:

Officer Name:

If you have additional information or questions about your case, please contact the Gainesville Police Department at (940) 668-7777 and refer to the case number and the officer's name.

TEXAS CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS

Pursuant to the Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 56, Rights of Crime Victims, a victim of violent crime is: (1) someone who is the victim of sexual assault, kidnapping, or aggravated robbery or who has suffered bodily injury or death because of the criminal conduct of another; (2) the close relative (spouse, parent, adult brother or sister, or child) of a deceased victim; or (3) the guardian of a victim. These rights also apply to victims of juvenile crime, including victims who suffer property loss. Victims of crime have the right to:

- receive adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts;
- have their safety considered by the magistrate when setting bail;
- receive information, on request, of relevant court proceedings, including appellate proceedings, cancellations and rescheduling prior to the event, and of appellate court decisions after the decisions are entered but before they are made public;
- receive information, on request, from a peace officer about the defendant's right to bail and criminal investigation procedures, and from the prosecutor's office about general procedures in the criminal justice system, including plea agreements, restitution, appeals, and parole;
- provide pertinent information concerning the impact of the crime to the probation department conducting the pre-sentencing investigation;
- information about the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Fund and payment for a medical examination for a victim of sexual

assault and, on request, referrals to social service agencies that provide other types of assistance;

- information, on request, about parole procedures, notification of parole proceedings and the inmate's release, the right to participate in the parole process, and the right to submit written information to the Board of Pardons and Paroles for inclusion in the defendant's file for consideration by the Board prior to parole;
- a separate or secure waiting area at all public court proceedings;
- the prompt return of any property that is no longer needed as evidence;
- notification, upon request, to the victim's employer by the prosecutor that the need for the victim's testimony may involve the victim's absence from work;
- testing, and counseling on request regarding AIDS and HIV infection and testing for victims of sexual assault;
- request victim-offender mediation coordinated by the Victim Services Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; and
- be informed of the use and purpose of a victim impact statement, complete a victim impact statement, and have the statement considered before sentencing and acceptance of a plea bargain and before an inmate is release on parole.

A victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a deceased victim is entitled to be present at all public court proceedings, with the consent of the presiding judge.

A judge, attorney for the state, peace officer, or law enforcement agency is not liable for a failure or inability to provide a right enumerated herein.

It is a crime for any person to cause you any physical injury or threaten physical harm, EVEN IF THAT PERSON IS A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD.

Please tell the investigating peace officer:

If you, your child, or any other household resident has been injured; or if you feel you are going to be in danger when the officer leaves or at a later time.

You have the right to:

- Ask the local prosecutor to file a criminal complaint against the person committing family violence.
- Apply to a court for an order to protect you. (You should consult a legal aid office, a District Attorney, or a private attorney). For example, the court can enter an order that:
 1. The abuser not commit further acts of violence;
 2. The abuser not threaten, harass, or contact you at home;
 3. Directs the abuser to leave your household; and
 4. Establishes the temporary custody of the children and directs the abuser not to interfere with the children or any property.
- Apply for benefits under the Crime Victims Compensation Act.
- A violation of certain provisions of court-ordered protection (such as 1 and 2 above) is a criminal offense.
- Call the following violence shelters or social organizations if you need protection:

**Abigail's Arms
(940) 665-2873**