



Victim of a crime?

Your rights with the Dutch police

« waakzaam en dienstbaar »

Are you a victim of a crime? Or are you a surviving relative of a victim?

If so, you have a number of rights. These rights also apply if you do not live in the Netherlands or if you have no residency status in the Netherlands. More information can be found at www.politie.nl/slachtoffer or you can ask your question to a police officer.

You have a right to information

You have a right to information, not only about your rights, but also about reporting a crime and about what happens to your case after that. If you have any questions about your case, you can call the police

(T. +31 900-8844) or the Public Prosecution Service (regional telephone numbers can be found at www.slachtofferloket.nl).

You have a right to assistance

For free assistance, advice, and information, you can contact a number of organizations, for example Victim Support Netherlands (T. +31 900-0101).

You can be given protection

If you fear for your safety, you should talk to us about this. Together with you, we will assess what we can do to protect you and what action you can take yourself. You can ask us not to put your address in

your report, for example.

You may report to the police

Anyone may report a crime to the police, including minors. There are several ways to report a crime. The best way for you to report a crime also depends on what happened. www.politie.nl/aangifte

You may be represented

You may always be represented by a lawyer, for example if you report to the police. In a number of cases, you do not have to pay any lawyer's fees. You may also ask us if someone else can represent you.

You can ask for an interpreter if you have difficulties understanding the Dutch language

Do you have difficulties understanding the Dutch language? We will arrange for an interpreter when you report a crime. If we are investigating your case, you are also entitled to an interpreter during interviews or a translation of documents.

You can request compensation for your damage

Did you suffer damage as a result of the crime and is there a suspect? If so, it is often possible to request compensation from the offender. A lawyer or Victim Support Netherlands can help you with this.

You may ask for contact with the suspect or offender

Victim Support Netherlands can refer you to organizations that will help you to make contact with a suspect or offender.

You have a right to be treated well

We must treat you well and have to take account of what matters to you. You can file a complaint if you think you have not been treated well.

Your other rights during the criminal proceedings

- You may complain if the Public Prosecution Service decides that there will be no criminal proceedings
- You may ask to inspect the file of the criminal case
- You can be paid compensation if you have to testify
- In some cases, you have a right to address the court
- You have a right to be informed if the suspect or offender is granted leave, released, or escapes.

www.politie.nl



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