

## Victims Registers

The NSW Police Force does not maintain the victims registers. However, police should inform victims about the existence of victims registers. The victims registers contain information about adult offenders, young offenders and forensic patients who have been found guilty of a crime, sentenced and currently in custody or if they were found not guilty by reason of mental illness or unfit at a special hearing and received a limiting term.

As part of the Charter of Victims Rights, victims have the right to:

Right 15: Information about impending release, escape or eligibility for absence from custody

"A victim will, on request, be kept informed of the offender's impending release or escape from custody or of any change in security classification that result in the offender being eligible for unescorted absence from custody."

Right 16: Submissions on parole and eligibility for absence from custody of serious offenders

"A victim will, on request, be provided with the opportunity to make submissions concerning the granting of parole to a serious offender or any change in security classification that would result in a serious offender being eligible for unescorted absence from custody."

A newly revised Charter of Victims Rights - Part 6A of the Victims Rights and Support Act 2013 No 37 *explicitly applies to victims of forensic patients.*

Victims of crime may be able to be listed on a victims register to receive information about an offender who is an adult or a young person in custody, or who is a forensic patient. There are 3

victims registers in NSW. They are:

### FOR VICTIMS OF ADULT OFFENDERS

1. The Victims Support Unit (VSU) is the primary point of contact for victims of **offenders supervised by Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW)**. The unit maintains the Victims Register and keeps registered victims of sentenced offenders in NSW, informed of:

- impending release, change in classification, escape, death or eligibility for absence from custody of an offender.
- assists registered victims to make submissions on parole and eligibility for absence from custody of serious offenders.

To be eligible to join the register, the person must be a victim of the sentenced offender or a family representative of a victim who is deceased, incapacitated or under the age of 18.

For further information or to formally register on the Victims Register for adult offenders please contact:

Victims Register  
Locked Bag 5111  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124  
T: 02 8688 6833

E: [victims.support@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:victims.support@justice.nsw.gov.au)

Please visit [www.correctiveservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/CorrectiveServices/support-families-community/victims.aspx](http://www.correctiveservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/CorrectiveServices/support-families-community/victims.aspx)

### FOR VICTIMS OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

2. The Juvenile Justice Victims Register Officer is the primary point of contact for victims of

## Victims Registers

juvenile offenders supervised by Juvenile Justice NSW.

For further information or to formally register on the Victims Register for juvenile offenders please contact:

Victims Register  
Strategy and Engagement Directorate  
Juvenile Justice  
GPO Box 31 Sydney NSW 2001  
T: 02 8346 1333  
E: [JVictimsRegister@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:JVictimsRegister@justice.nsw.gov.au)

### FOR VICTIMS OF FORENSIC PATIENTS

3. The Specialist Victims Support Service (SVSS), Victims Services (VS) is the primary point of contact for victims of **forensic patients**.

The Specialist Victims Register is managed by the SVSS on behalf of the Commissioner of Victims Rights. The SVSS sits within Victims Services and is the primary point of contact for victims of forensic patients.

This register informs victims of:

- Tribunal hearings and decisions in relation to the forensic patient, including where leave and release will be considered;
- Tribunal orders to apprehend and detain a forensic patient who has breached their leave or release conditions and any known safety concerns that may affect a victim in relation to a Tribunal hearing or if a forensic patient has breached a Tribunal order;
- Forensic patient appeals against the Tribunal's decision; and

- When the forensic patient is no longer a forensic patient

The SVSS can provide registered victims with crisis referrals, planned support and counselling, Tribunal process support, communication and education from early in the justice process. This includes assisting victims to make submissions to the Tribunal and supporting victims to attend and understand Tribunal hearings.

How to contact the SVSS:

T: Specialist Victims Support Service (SVSS)  
1800 411 822  
E: [svss@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:svss@justice.nsw.gov.au)

Please visit [www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au](http://www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au) for further information.