

1. Responsible Officials. For cases in which charges have been instituted, the responsible official is the U.S. Attorney in whose district the prosecution is pending.

2. Services to Crime Victims

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b. Information, Notice, and Referrals

(1) Notice of Rights. Officers and employees of the Department of Justice shall make their best efforts to see that crime victims are notified of the rights enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a).

(2) Notice of Right To Seek Counsel. The prosecutor shall advise the crime victim that the crime victim can seek the advice of an attorney with respect to the rights described in 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a).

(3) Notice of Right To Attend Trial. The responsible official should inform the crime victim about the victim's right to attend the trial regardless of whether the victim intends to make a statement or present any information about the effect of the crime on the victim during sentencing.

(4) Notice of Case Events. During the prosecution of a crime, a responsible official shall provide the victim, using VNS (where appropriate), with reasonable notice of—

(a) The filing of charges against a suspected offender.

(b) The release or escape of an offender or suspected offender.

(c) The schedule of court proceedings.

(i) The responsible official shall provide the victim with reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding or parole proceeding that involves the crime against the victim. In the event of an emergency or other last-minute hearing or change in the time or date of a hearing, the responsible official should consider providing notice by telephone or expedited means. This notification requirement relates to postsentencing proceedings as well.

(ii) The responsible official shall also give reasonable notice of the scheduling or rescheduling of any other court proceeding that the victim or witness is required or entitled to attend.

(d) The acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or the rendering of a verdict after trial.