

Constitution of the State of Connecticut

Article First, Section 8(b) – Rights of Victims of Crime

In all criminal prosecutions, a victim, as the general assembly may define by law, shall have the following rights:

- (1) the right to be treated with fairness and respect throughout the criminal justice process;**
- (2) the right to timely disposition of the case following arrest of the accused, provided no right of the accused is abridged;**
- (3) the right to be reasonably protected from the accused throughout the criminal justice process;**
- (4) the right to notification of court proceedings;**
- (5) the right to attend the trial and all other court proceedings the accused has the right to attend, unless such person is to testify and the court determines that such person's testimony would be materially affected if such person hears other testimony;**
- (6) the right to communicate with the prosecution;**
- (7) the right to object to or support any plea agreement entered into by the accused and the prosecution and to make a statement to the court prior to the acceptance by the court of the plea of guilty or nolo contendere by the accused;**
- (8) the right to make a statement to the court at sentencing;**
- (9) the right to restitution which shall be enforceable in the same manner as any other cause of action or as otherwise provided by law; and**
- (10) the right to information about the arrest, conviction, sentence, imprisonment and release of the accused.**

The general assembly shall provide by law for the enforcement of this subsection. Nothing in this subsection or in any law enacted pursuant to this subsection shall be construed as creating a basis for vacating a conviction or ground for appellate relief in any criminal case.

November 1996