



Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office Sheriff Leroy Ravenell

VICTIMS' SERVICES UNIT

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office Victims' Services Unit is to ensure the rights of victims are protected while providing advocacy and support by extending compassionate and knowledgeable service to all victims of crime in Orangeburg County.

Know Us, Before You Need Us

Our unit provides support and assistance to all persons who have the unfortunate experience of being a victim of a crime. It is our duty to guide you through the criminal justice process pertaining to your case. We are that listening ear, supportive shoulder and resource to help mend what has been damaged after a crime.

It is our hope that you will not need our services, but if you or a family members becomes a victim of crime, we are here for you.

**You have the right to know,
you have the right to be seen,
you have the right to be heard,
and you have the right to be treated fairly!**

How we assist you

When a crime is committed in Orangeburg County, one of the primary concerns of the Sheriff's Office is the victim. In an effort to ensure the rights of the victim, the Sheriff's Office has established a Victims' Services Unit. Crime victims often suffer emotional trauma, fear, confusion, and financial loss. It is our goal to make contact with the victim and maintain a relationship as long as we are needed.

Services provided include:

- Moral Support
- Assistance in applying for the Victims Compensation Fund
- Insight into the criminal justice system and relevant case information
- Referrals to agencies for counseling and other services
- Court escorts

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. If I need to find out about the status of my case or make an adjustment to the information to my report who do I contact?

A. There are several options that you can consider.

- The Sheriff's Office at (803) 531-4647 and supply the information to the Desk Sergeant.
- The Communications Department at (803) 534-3550 and ask the Dispatcher to relay a message for the Deputy who responded to your call.
- Contact your assigned Victims Advocate.

Q. How will I know if the suspect in my case has been released from the Orangeburg Calhoun Detention Center?

A. A representative from the Detention Center will contact the victim(s) in the case upon release of the suspect. If you need further information, please contact the Detention Center at (803) 531-4658.

Q. After the bond hearing what happens next?

A. If the case has a General Sessions charge, you will be contacted by the Solicitor's Office Victims' Advocate. If it is a Magistrate level charge then the Magistrates Court will notify you in addition to a Victims' Advocate from the Sheriff's Office about the status of the case.

Q. I have some expenses as a result of a criminal act, is there anyway you can help?

A. This office can assist in completing applications for agencies if found eligible work with services that provide reimbursement for medical bills, burial, counseling, workman's compensation, medication, home repairs after burglaries, and travel.

Important Numbers

OCSO Victims' Services Unit
1032 Chestnut Street, Orangeburg, SC 29115
(803) 533-5944
www.orangeburgcounty.org/ocso

CASA Family Systems	(803) 534-2272
CASA Hotline	(803) 531-6211
State Office of Victims Assistance	800-220-5370
SC Victim Assistance Network	888-852-1900
SC Centers for Equal Justice	800-522-9554