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VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Writing a Victim Impact Statement provides anyone affected by the crime(s) an opportunity to have their voice heard by the Court. This is your right as provided by Utah Code Annotated § 77-38-3. These statements are a powerful tool used in the sentencing phase of criminal cases, and will be a part of the court record. This is a great tool to inform the Court (Judge) how the crime has and continues to affect the lives of you and your loved ones. Writing your statement can be a difficult task and may bring up some undesired emotions. Be patient with yourself and take breaks as needed.

In writing a victim impact statement, you should include some information as to what happened during this incident. We understand that this may be an emotional process. You do not need to go into full detail, but it is good to hear a summary from your viewpoint. Additionally, please address how this incident has impacted and continues to impact your life. Your statement can include the physical, mental, emotional and social impacts. You can also include any future or anticipated impacts. Finally, please include anything that you would like to see regarding sentencing and any conditions imposed for Probation or Parole. Your input will be used to assist the Judge in determining the appropriate sentence for the defendant.

Remember, the Prosecuting Attorney and Victim Coordinator are here to help you. They can assist you in the completion of this Victim Impact Statement if you need any further guidance.

IMPORTANT: The contents of a Victim Impact Statement can be viewed by the defendant, Prosecutor, Judge, Defense Attorney, Adult Probation and Parole, and the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole by court order. This letter can also be used in open court at sentencing or at any follow up reviews of the sentence. Please do not include any information you do not want the defendant to know. **Although you are not required to write a Victim Impact Statement, we strongly encourage you to do so.**

When you have completed your Victim Impact Statement you can email them directly to the Victim Coordinator who has been helping you with your case.

Please reach out to the coordinator that has been assisting you through the court proceedings in this case if you have any questions. We are here to help.