Victim and Witness Assistance

Traditionally, the criminal justice system in this country has been offender-oriented, focusing on the apprehension, prosecution, punishment and rehabilitation of wrong doers. Victims and witnesses have been considered only when they play a role in the identification and prosecution of offenders. The justice system cannot function without the assistance and cooperation of victims and witnesses, yet little if any recognition has been given to their rights and needs. Indeed, specific damage has been done to them in overcoming the frustrations and economic sacrifices that involvement in criminal proceedings causes.

This attitude has begun to change in the last decade, particularly in the last few years. A strong national victim and witness assistance movement has had remarkable success in establishing programs to assist victims and witnesses and in increasing the public's awareness of their problems and rights. Hundreds of local assistance programs have been established throughout the country to respond to the special needs of crime victims and witnesses. Community organizations, church groups, bar associations, service groups and national lobbying groups have been active in the field. At the national level the President last year appointed a Task Force on Victims of Crime and the Congress enacted the Federal Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982.

State legislatures have been active in responding to victim and witness needs. Legislation in 25 states have enacted measures to provide compensation to victims of crimes. Others have enacted specific authority for courts to order criminal offenders to make restitution to their victims. States have also enacted legislation to assist victims and witnesses in understanding and participating in the criminal justice process. A few states have enacted comprehensive legislation recognizing a "bill of rights" for crime victims and witnesses. Further efforts are necessary, however, to ensure that the broad scope of victim/witness concerns are met in a comprehensive and effective manner in all jurisdictions.

The implementation of new programs in this area will impose substantial operating demands upon all components of the criminal justice system. For this reason, it is essential that prompt recognition be given to the technical, administrative and policy changes which may be required in order to ensure that new programs meet the objectives established in current and future victim/witness legislation. Specifically, the new programs will require rapid availability of information describing the criminal justice process and the individuals involved as victims and/or witnesses. To ensure program effectiveness, such data must be accurate, complete and timely.

There will also be an added demand for statistical information about criminal victimization and victim/witness programs for use in research and planning as well as in evaluating existing programs and services. Since the mission of the Bureau of Justice Statistics includes the collection and production of statistical data, this area is under consideration.

Provision must be made also to ensure that policies regulating data disclosure are modified where necessary to best balance the data needs of victim/witness programs...
As a nation we are faced with a desperate and often deadly menace. It takes no account of the size or age, race, or economic status of our victims. It is a threat that affects them all, and the facts are that more of our women are raped and tortured, their lives forever changed. This indifference to the suffering of the innocent must stop. We must do something to protect the children who are the victims of violence and the elderly who are the victims of theft.

In addition to providing financial assistance to victims and witnesses, most states have enacted laws that seek to assist such victims in various ways. The Illinois law stipulates that if there is no need for the employee's job but does not require the employer to compensate a witness for lost time.

Despite these programs, there are still those that remain without adequate protection. In some cases, the law enforcement agency may be able to provide witnesses and victims with the necessary assistance. In other cases, the law enforcement agency may not be able to provide assistance due to insufficient resources or funding.

We believe that every state should have the ability to protect its citizens from violence and injustice. We must continue to work towards making our communities safer and ensuring that all of our citizens are treated with respect and dignity.

Overview of legislation to aid victims

Financial assistance programs

The majority of the states have enacted legislation providing some form of financial assistance for crime victims who lost property or money. These legislative initiatives are aimed at providing compensation programs which help to alleviate the financial burden on crime victims in specific situations, and victims whose personal tragedies should be the focus of our concern. Urban dwellers and so-called "millionaire" women have been subjected to understandable and reasonable demands. Yet often little or nothing has been done to assist them.

We are face with a situation that has been characterized by a lack of response and a failure to act. In many cases, the victim is left to fend for himself or herself.

The American Bar Association has recommended several changes to the manner in which property is handled in cases of theft. Among these changes is a proposal that would require the prosecution to offer a witness to the court that the property is being held in care of the victim.

Some states have enacted new laws to authorize the police to seize property from offenders. These laws often require that the police have probable cause to believe that the property was stolen. In some cases, the police have been able to seize property without probable cause. This has led to concerns about the integrity of the police and the courts.

In many cases, the police have been able to seize property without probable cause. This has led to concerns about the integrity of the police and the courts. The police have been able to seize property without probable cause in situations where there was no evidence of theft. This has raised questions about the legality of the seizures.

Victim compensation programs

At least 30 states have enacted legislation providing for victim compensation programs. These programs vary in terms of the amount of funds available, the criteria for eligibility, and the procedures for applying for compensation. In general, the laws provide for the payment of compensation to victims who have suffered economic losses due to violent crimes.

Some states have incorporated the programs into existing administrative structures or designated existing agencies such as the court to administer the programs. Restitution

Restitution is a monetary payment made by the defendant to the victim, reflecting the defendant's financial ability to pay. The law is generally understood to be a mechanism for compensating victims for financial losses sustained as a result of a criminal offense.

In most states, the law provides for the payment of reasonable attorney fees to a victim who is a party to a proceeding for victim compensation. In some cases, the law provides for the payment of additional fees to a victim who is a party to a proceeding for victim compensation. In other cases, the law provides for the payment of additional fees to a victim who is a party to a proceeding for victim compensation.

Victim participation in criminal proceedings

Some states have enacted laws that give crime victims a greater voice in the criminal justice process. These laws often provide for the appointment of victim advocates who can assist victims in the proceedings and provide them with information about their rights.

Some states have enacted laws that provide for the appointment of victim advocates who can assist victims in the proceedings and provide them with information about their rights.

Counsel for victims

Victims and witnesses are not officially parties to criminal cases and thus have no right to be present in court even if their conduct is drawn into question. This is true even if their conduct is drawn into question. The American Bar Association has recommended the appointment of counsel for crime victims and witnesses to protect their rights and interests in criminal cases. The American Bar Association has recommended the appointment of counsel for crime victims and witnesses to protect their rights and interests in criminal cases.

Victim compensation programs, in addition to providing some measure of financial assistance to victims, also have the potential to alleviate some of the emotional and psychological distress experienced by victims of crime. By providing some financial assistance, these programs help to reduce the financial burden on crime victims and may also help to reduce the emotional and psychological distress experienced by victims of crime.
have sought to help provide for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, including legal aid, victim advocates, and other programs. A few states (including Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Wisconsin) have enacted a new crime. The aim of the legislation is to protect the public and to provide for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, including legal aid, victim advocates, and other programs. A few states (including Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Wisconsin) have enacted a new crime.

Domestic violence

State legislatures have sought to deal with the pervasive problem of domestic violence. Many states have enacted laws that require state and local governments to provide domestic violence services and to maintain written records of all incidents.

Several states (including Connecticut, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, and Washington) have enacted legislation for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, including legal aid, victim advocates, and other programs. A few states (including Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Wisconsin) have enacted a new crime.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs.

The President's Task Force on Victims of Crime on October 12, 1982, Congress enacted the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The legislation also requires the Attorney General to report to Congress on the status of criminal cases and scheduled court appearances. The legislation provides for the appointment of victim advocates, funding programs for the appointment and maintaining new response programs, and other programs. 

As evidenced by the above discussion, the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime has continued to pursue its efforts to achieve meaningful and comprehensive legislation to protect and serve the needs of special victims. The task force continues to work on the development of new and innovative approaches to address the needs of special victims.
Security and privacy considerations

Just as the criminal justice system has historically been offender-oriented, criminal justice information systems also have been offender-oriented. Many state laws dealing with criminal records, these state laws treating offenders exclusively, to criminal history ombudsman needs this information to follow a purposeful order or in剩贴 the offender on bail, probation, or parole, in states that permit victims or witnesses to participate in this way in the criminal process.

A more difficult question arises when the request is for a private organization performing victim/witness services to provide the requested information. Literally hundreds of such organizations have sprung up around the country in recent years. Typically, they provide special assistance to aid or protect certain classes of victims, distributed to various classes of victims, and, to a limited extent, to offenders, including rape victims, the elderly or children who have been abused. Sometimes these organizations are backed by or witness who may need their services. All states have record laws that would apply to such information. However, in most states, questions concern

Codes are instructive to balance the requests. The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. §552, among others, need to deal with these issues by enacting existing criminal record laws. In the meantime, criminal justice agencies may be required to resolve some new security and privacy issues independently of legal mandates.

The priority issue concerns the authority to disclose victim and witness information in response to requests for record information about offenders, to victims in some states, to those who may need their services. All states have record laws that would apply to such information. However, in most states, questions concern

due to the potential, harm caused by disclosure. Indeed, disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for certain other types of criminal justice offenses can defend policies that permit disclosure to criminal justice policymakers. In its comments, the task force recommended that a study be commissioned at the federal level to view the disclosure of particular types of victim and witness identifying data and their privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

The impact of these decisions seems to be largely in the area of a law to govern the access to and use of criminal justice system documents. The decision that determines whether a law should be adopted and how it should be worded is an important one.Disclosure of such information is ordinarily based on the public's interest in seeing the data or the public's interest in seeing the data or the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Victims and witnesses have the right to make strong policy arguments in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.

Conclusions

The views of the courts as constitutionally permissible. Victim and witness assistance organizations may be required to make the requested information available in favor of obtaining necessary information. Although victims and witnesses arguably do not have a constitutional right to maintain the confidentiality of the information about themselves, the availability of the information is compelling since it is perceived as compelling for the protection of the public's interest in seeing the data. Indeed, disclosure may be required by the states that have public record laws that make the names and addresses of all crime victims publicly available. The report did, however, in certain other states, that there are no constitutional privacy interests that forbid the disclosure to criminal justice agencies of information about individuals arrested for serious crimes.