

**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILD
COMPLETING SCHOOL-AGED
CHILD VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT.**

Helping Your Child Complete the Victim Impact Statement

Your child will find it helpful to know that by filling out a statement, he or she can tell the judge how they "feel" about what happened. If your child is nervous or scared and does not want to complete the form, let your child know that it is okay to feel this way and let them take some time to think about what you are asking them to do and what they would like to say or draw. Your child can always fill out the form another day.

Tell your child that they are not being asked to "tell" what the defendant did, but rather how they are "feeling" about what has happened. Let your child know if they make a mistake on the statement, they can start over. Your child can write or draw as much or as little as they wish. Some children may feel that the statement must be perfect from spelling everything just right to using "big" words. Let your child know that what they are feeling is more important than spelling everything right or using big words. **This is not a test.** Let your child know there are no right or wrong answers.

If at anytime your child feels that he or she cannot fill out the form, or if you can see that your child is becoming too upset, stop and tell your child that you are proud they tried to fill out the statement, and that you understand how they feel. Let your child know that they do not have to fill out the statement unless they want to.

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE SCHOOL-AGED CHILD

WHAT IS YOUR NAME? _____

HOW OLD ARE YOU? _____ WHAT GRADE ARE YOU IN? _____

1. PLEASE WRITE OR DRAW ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE THE JUDGE TO KNOW ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL BECAUSE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU. YOU MAY WANT TO WRITE ABOUT ANYTHING THAT HAS CHANGED IN YOUR LIFE OR IN YOUR FAMILY. YOU CAN EVEN TELL A STORY OR WRITE A POEM, IF YOU WOULD LIKE. YOU CAN ADD MORE PAPER IF YOU RUN OUT OF ROOM.

2. PLEASE WRITE OR DRAW ANYTHING YOU WANT THE JUDGE TO KNOW THAT MAY BE DIFFERENT AT SCHOOL, IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, OR WITH YOUR FRIENDS BECAUSE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU. YOU CAN ADD MORE PAPER IF YOU RUN OUT OF ROOM.

3. PLEASE WRITE OR DRAW ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK SHOULD HAPPEN TO THE PERSON WHO HURT YOU. YOU CAN ADD MORE PAPER IF YOU RUN OUT OF ROOM.