

ITHACA POLICE DEPARTMENT
120 East Clinton Street, PO Box 6557, Ithaca, NY 14851-6557
(607) 272-3245

**RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF FAMILY OFFENSES,
INTIMATE PARTNER OFFENSES & NON-FAMILY OFFENSES**

If you wish to make a complaint against a family member who has injured, threatened or harassed you, you may choose to go to Criminal Court, Family Court, or both Courts.

The purpose of the Criminal Court is to prosecute the offender for a crime, regardless of whether that person is related to you. A criminal charge must be filed and if there is a conviction, the Court may decide to order the offender into counseling or give a jail sentence. The Criminal Court may also give you an Order of Protection but cannot order custody or child support.

Family Court is a Civil Court and its purpose is to stop the violence and protect you and your family. The Family Court can order custody and child support, arrange for counseling or other services, and give you an Order of Protection. The victim may choose to go to Family Court if the victim and offender are related by blood, are currently or were previously married, have a child in common, or who are or have been in an intimate relationship, regardless whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time.

A written complaint, or a statement of what happened, must be made. Ask the Police Officer how to file this Complaint in your local Court or call the Advocacy Center at 607-277-5000 for help with filing for an Order of Protection.

Victims of Non-Family offenses must file their complaint with Criminal Court and do not have the option of filing a complaint in Family Court.

For criminal court matters, you should contact the Tompkins County District Attorney's Office at (607) 274-5461 during business hours or you may send an email message to the District Attorney's Office via their website: <https://tompkinscountyny.gov/da> in order to communicate with the assigned prosecutor.

YOU CAN GET HELP

The Officer who has given you this form can give you information about services (including shelters) that are available in Ithaca/Tompkins County to victims of Family Offenses and Non-Family Offenses. If you want more information about such services, just ask the officer.

SERVICES AVAILABLE IN ITHACA and TOMPKINS COUNTY

Advocacy Center of Tompkins County

Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Services

607-277-5000 24 hour hotline or email info@actompkins.org

NYS Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence

Hotline (800) 942-6906 24 hour hotline

Available in most languages

or TEXT (844) 997-2121

NYS Child Abuse

Reporting Hotline

(800) 342-3720

OFFICE USE ONLY

Complaint Number

Investigating Officer