

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

RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF FAMILY 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 concurrently in 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, end family disruption, 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, or have a child in common regardless whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time.

A written complaint, a statement of what happened, must be made. Ask the Police Officer how to file this Complaint in your local Court or call one of the numbers listed below for assistance.

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.

If your complaint is filed in Criminal Court, you should contact the City Prosecutor's Office as soon as possible during business hours at 272-7584 so that the Prosecutor can discuss the matter more fully with you.

YOU CAN GET HELP

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

SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE ITHACA COMMUNITY

Tompkins County Task Force for Battered Women

P.O. Box 164
Ithaca, New York 14851
Telephone (607) 277-5000

Ithaca Rape Crisis, Inc.

P.O. Box 713
Ithaca, New York 14851
Telephone (607) 277-5000

Domestic Violence Statewide Hotlines

(800) 942-6906 24 Hour Hotline
(800) 942-6908 (Espanol) 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Child Sexual Abuse Project

P.O. Box 164
Ithaca, New York 14851
Telephone (607) 277-5000

Family and Children's Services

204 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca, New York 14850
Telephone (607) 273-7494

Child Abuse Statewide Hotline

(800) 342-3720

OFFICE USE ONLY

_____ **Complaint Number**

_____ **Investigating Officer**