

Meeting with Law Enforcement or Prosecutors

A quick checklist for advocating for yourself in systems' settings

- You can ask about options for meeting locations. The meeting location does not always have to be at the police station or the DA's office.
 - What does a safe location look like for you?
 - Can you meet at a public business, community center, or your home?
 - If meeting in person is not safe, ask about meeting virtually.
- If you have a Victim Advocate, they should ask about transportation needs. If they have not, you can ask them about things like:
 - Bus pass
 - Taxi
 - Reimbursements for travel costs
 - Childcare options/assistance
- Please note that the Bias Response Hotline may be able to help with these costs if the Victim Advocate cannot.
- What other accessibility needs do you have? Are language interpretation services needed?
- Who do you want to be in attendance with you as a support person?
- Ask who else will be present in the meeting/hearing.
- Do you want to designate someone as the main point of contact for follow-up?
- What questions do *you* have for *them*? Make a list and take your time going through it.
 - You can take a pen and paper with you to write down responses or questions.
- Ask about their knowledge on hate crimes and bias incidents.
- Ask if the meeting is going to be recorded or not. Let them know your comfort level with this.
- What constitutional and statutory victim rights are available to you?

- Ask about how your privacy will be protected.
- If you have additional incidents that occur, ask about how you can report them.
- Request their contact information and case numbers if you need to get in contact with them again.