# How Can Filling a V.O.I.D. Assist You?

Our officers and civilian victim advocate work together to support victims of impaired drivers.

***Officers will:***

- Contact you after the incident to explain the Filling a V.O.I.D. program.
- Provide support, information, and assistance to victims and their families.
- Refer you to the appropriate agency or the victim hotline if you have specific needs or require further information or service.

## The civilian victim advocate at the hotline can assist you.

An advocate is a supporter, defender, or someone who can intervene and mediate on someone else's behalf.

***Our civilian victim advocate will:***

- Provide information and assistance regarding the criminal justice system and securing your rights as a crime victim.
- Provide information concerning your crash or case status.
- Initiate contact with law enforcement and/or the prosecuting attorney.
- Help you obtain copies of reports and information.
- Find resources and services that are specific to your needs.

## Who is eligible for services provided by the Filling a V.O.I.D. program?

Program services focus on victims of impairment-related crashes, however, any crime victim may call the hotline number for assistance. Victims would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Someone injured or killed by an impaired (alcohol or drugs) driver, their family members, and their minor children, or victims of vehicular injury, involuntary manslaughter, homicide, and similar acts;
- Passengers in a vehicle driven by an impaired driver;
- Children who are injured or killed in a vehicle driven by their impaired parent or caretaker; and
- Pedestrians who have been involved in an impairment-related crash or their families.

# Crash Report

Crash reports are usually available within 10 days following the investigation; reconstruction reports may take up to 90 days. You may obtain a copy of the basic crash report for a nominal fee. Additional fees will apply for witness statements, photographs, reconstruction reports, etc. Please contact the Patrol Records Division for more information.

***To obtain a traffic crash:***

1. Access the Missouri State Highway Patrol's website at www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov.
2. Select "Request A Traffic Crash Report" under the "Publications" heading on the left side of the web page.
3. Complete and print the "MSHP Request for Traffic Crash Report."
4. Mail the completed form to one of the nine MSHP troop headquarters listed on the form along with a check or money order (NO CASH) payable to "DPS - Missouri State Highway Patrol," with the applicable fee listed on page two of the form.
5. If you have questions, contact the appropriate troop headquarters or the Patrol Records Division. Staff is available to take your call from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except state holidays.

**Incident #:** _____

## Supplemental Reports

Supplemental reports, e.g. alcohol influence reports, property records, or laboratory results, may also be requested by visiting www.mshp.dps.mo.gov, and selecting the Public Records Center link under the "Public Record Requests" heading. The Public Records Center web page includes frequently asked questions and the "Submit A Request" option. On the request form, indicate the specific records you are requesting or state "any and all records related to the incident."

# Important Things To Know

- **Utilize the Filling a V.O.I.D. civilian victim advocate and resources on the MSHP's website under the V.O.I.D. link.** Enlist the advocate's assistance to help you understand the criminal justice process, address your concerns, and request information. The Filling a V.O.I.D. program is provided by the Missouri State Highway Patrol at no charge.

## Crime Victim Hotline
## 1-888-773-1800

- **Find out what your rights are** as a victim of a crime. This information may be obtained by contacting our hotline, website, or other victim service agencies and advocates.
- **Secure your rights.** Send the appropriate prosecuting attorney a letter to secure your rights in order to be kept informed about your case. The law requires your request be in writing. A Letter To Secure Rights is provided on the MSHP's Filling a V.O.I.D. web page.
- **Contact the investigating officer** to discuss any questions you may have regarding the crash.
- **Register for MOVANS (Missouri Victim Automated Notification System),** so that you can be informed by e-mail or phone of court dates, parole hearings, and offender custody status. You may register for the service on the Missouri Case Net website or by calling 1-866-566-8267.
- **Keep a record of all expenses** related to the case. This information may be needed for the prosecutor to obtain restitution for you.

# Crime Victims' Compensation Fund

The state of Missouri established the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund to reimburse some crime victims for certain financial losses.

- A claim must be filed within two years from the incident date or discovery of the crime.
- Once a claim is filed, expenses are paid for three years from the incident date.
- The crime must have been reported to proper authorities.
- Financial assistance is available for medical costs, lost wages at work, loss of support, funeral costs, and counseling. Property damage is not a recoverable expense.

The parameters of the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund are detailed in Sections 595.010 to 595.220 RSMo and is managed by the Department of Public Safety. **The Crime Victims' Compensation Fund is a payor of last resort, and may withhold, restrict, or deny payment based on fund guidelines.** For more information, an application, and brochure contact:

## Crime Victims' Compensation
## 1-800-347-6881

# After The Case Has Ended ...

As a victim of crime, you are entitled to information about the offender's custody status, parole hearings, hearing results, release to the community, escape, and death. This information can be obtained through MOVANS or by contacting:

## Department of Corrections
## Office of Victim Services
## (573) 526-6516

**Crime Victim Hotline**
**1-888-773-1800**

**Emergency Assistance**
**1-800-525-5555**
**or Cellular *55**

**Road Conditions**
**1-888-275-6636**

**Missouri State Highway Patrol Headquarters:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Troop A | 816-622-0800 | [Lee's Summit] |
| Troop B | 660-385-2132 | [Macon] |
| Troop C | 636-300-2800 | [Weldon Spring] |
| Troop D | 417-895-6868 | [Springfield] |
| Troop E | 573-840-9500 | [Poplar Bluff] |
| Troop F | 573-751-1000 | [Jefferson City] |
| Troop G | 417-469-3121 | [Willow Springs] |
| Troop H | 816-387-2345 | [St. Joseph] |
| Troop I | 573-368-2345 | [Rolla] |
| GHQ | 573-751-3313 | [Jefferson City] |

This publication was produced by the
Public Information and Education Division

Published by:
Missouri State Highway Patrol
1510 E. Elm St.
Jefferson City, MO 65101
(573) 751-3313
V/TDD (573) 751-3313
www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov
mshppied@mshp.dps.missouri.gov

An Internationally Accredited Agency

SHP-166 L 1/2020

# Missouri State Highway Patrol

# Filling a V.O.I.D.

## Victims Of Impaired Drivers

In Missouri, 3 percent of all traffic crashes involves drinking. This statistic may seem insignificant — until you or someone you love becomes one. When that happens, it becomes evident that driving a vehicle or operating a watercraft while impaired is a serious and devastating crime.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol strives to provide service and protection to all individuals living or traveling through Missouri. Those who suffer at the hands of the impaired driver are entitled to receive the same service and protection as victims of any other crime. The Missouri State Highway Patrol is committed to providing comprehensive assistance to victims of DWI- and BWI-related (driving/boating while impaired) crashes through the Filling a V.O.I.D. (Victims Of Impaired Drivers) program. Officers and advocates often impact the long-term recovery of a victim by helping them and their families obtain assistance from victim service providers and other organizations during a traumatic time in their lives.

This brochure strives to give a brief overview of the services offered through Filling a V.O.I.D. For further information, services, support, or an educational packet, please contact the civilian victim advocate by calling:

**1-888-773-1800**
*Crime Victim Hotline*

**"THESE STATISTICS MAY SEEM INSIGNIFICANT — UNTIL YOU OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE BECOME ONE."**