

Resources for Appropriate Response to Victims of Crime with Disabilities

“Police Response to People with Disabilities”, Eight-Part Series - Designed for use in roll-call training, this videotape addresses law enforcement situations involving people who have mobility disabilities, mental illnesses, mental retardation, epilepsy or seizure disorders, speech disabilities, deafness or hard of hearing, and blindness or low vision. The eight segments range from 5 ½ to 10 ½ minutes in length. <http://www.ada.gov/policeinfo.htm>

“Crime Victims with Disabilities: What the Prosecutor Needs to Know About Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Traumatic Brain Injury”, (2006) by the California District Attorneys Association under a grant from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, available at www.cdaa.org,

“Victims with Disabilities: The Forensic Interview—Techniques for Interviewing Victims with Communication and/or Cognitive Disabilities” (April 2007)

This 57-minute DVD (NCJ 212894) provides a specific set of guidelines for law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim advocates, forensic interviewers, and others for interviewing adults and children with communication and/or cognitive disabilities. An interactive companion [discussion guide](#) (PDF 831 kb) including a complete transcript of the DVD and a glossary of terms and concepts used in the film is also available. www.ovc.gov. \$5.00 for every two items includes S & H.

“Serving Crime Victims With Disabilities” (April 2007)

This DVD (NCJ 213366) presents two popular award-winning videos, “Meet Us Where We Are” and “The Time Is Now,” originally produced in December 2002 and no longer available in VHS form. “The Time Is Now” helps crime victim service providers reach out and serve people with disabilities. “Meet Us Where We Are,” which presents first person accounts of how crime affects people with disabilities, educates disability service providers and people with disabilities about crime victims' rights and resources. www.ovc.gov.

“First Response to Victims of Crime” (April 2008)

This educational multimedia package, produced by the National Sheriffs' Association, looks at the impact of crime on victims and describes steps that law enforcement can take, as first responders, to meet victims' needs. The special needs of older victims, child victims, immigrants, and victims with disabilities are addressed as well. This 30-minute video is available in DVD (NCJ 211619) and VHS (NCJ 211618). A companion [guidebook](#) (PDF 470 kb) (NCJ 217272) is also available. www.ovc.gov. \$5.00 for every two items includes S & H.

“Victims with Disabilities: Collaborative, Multidisciplinary First Response” (March 2009)

This 72-minute training DVD (NCJ 223940), developed under the guidance of a national advisory board, demonstrates effective techniques for first responders who have been called to the scene of a crime in which the victim has a disability. It not only provides guidelines for interacting with adult and adolescent victims of crime who have communication and/or intellectual disabilities, but also helps law enforcement personnel gain a deeper understanding of the lives, personal attributes, and abilities of individuals with disabilities. A trainer's [guide](#) (870 kb PDF) accompanies this video. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/infores/other.htm>.

“Serving Victims of Crime with Autism” (July 2008) This OVC networking grant project developed materials specific to meeting the needs of individuals on the Autism Spectrum, however can be used by multi-disciplinary teams as foundational information for many disabilities. A series of six fact sheets for professionals in the area of crime victim services such as law enforcement, judicial sector, domestic violence and sexual assault counselors, and others, provide a path toward understanding Autism and how to best meet the needs of crime victims living with the disorder. Also available are two brochures to assist individuals with autism and their families or care providers on what to do when victimization occurs and resources available. These materials are free for downloading via the ASA website at http://www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=shop_downloads.