

APPROVED THIRD DISTRICT VICTIMS' RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING June 9, 2025	
Committee	Third District Victims' Rights Committee Meeting
Date Time Location	June 9, 2025 12:00-2:00 pm 350 E 500 S # 200 Salt Lake City, UT 84111; ZOOM Link: https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/86287710268?pwd=UPkUJ2oalx3E8Ky0qKOBICdkq8bp38.1
Members Present	<u>Virtual Attendance</u> : Wendy Isom, Chief Rich Ferguson, Sheriff Rosie Rivera, Noora Chingaliyeva <u>In-Person Attendance</u> : Rachel Miller, Doug Fawson, Vickie Walker, Brandon Simmons
Staff & Visitors	<u>Staff</u> : Katie Fox <u>Visitors</u> : None
Agenda Item	Welcome & Introductions/Establish Quorum - Rachel Miller
Notes	Rachel Miller welcomed everyone to the June District Victims' Rights Committee meeting. A quorum was established. Motion : Doug Fawson makes a motion to approve the April 21, 2025 and May 19, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Brandon Simmons pointed out a sentence that needed to be fixed. Katie Fox will fix the sentence. Vickie Walker seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously, None were opposed.
Agenda Item	Follow up Complaints
Notes	<p>A. K.B. The Committee discussed K.B.'s complaint. K.B.'s complaint listed several protective order violations and concerns with the lack of filing criminal cases from the violation. The Committee discussed the case that was filed that resulted in a plea in abeyance. It was a misdemeanor so it is unclear if she requested notifications or received them. Rachel reached out to K.B. to get clarification about the violations and complaint. K.B. was not made aware of hearing dates or of the plea offer. K.B. was never given an opportunity to speak to the judge. K.B. feels like they provided adequate information about violations, but the violations never went anywhere. The original case was a misdemeanor case with Murray City. The Committee discussed the frustrations with lack of notification requirements for misdemeanor cases.</p> <p>Motion: Brandon Simmons makes a motion to close the complaint with no victim rights violation found as this is a misdemeanor case where there is no right to notice in misdemeanor cases. Rachel Miller seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously. None were opposed.</p> <p>Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare a letter closing the complaint. Katie Fox will send the letter to K.B. and offer resources.</p> <p>B. J.R. The Committee discussed J.R.'s complaint. J.R. was not told their case was being dismissed until they called for an update, despite having filled out paperwork requesting to be updated. West Valley City admitted they closed the case without discussing it with them first and made them aware after the fact. J.R. also feels they are getting the "runaround" from city officials and lacks "clear explanations." The response from West Valley City acknowledges that they should have notified J.R. in advance of dismissing the case.</p> <p>Motion: Brandon Simmons makes a motion to support a violation of J.R.'s right to be informed and assisted as to his role in the criminal justice process. Rachel Miller seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously. None were opposed.</p>

Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare letters sustaining the violation for J.R. and the West Valley City Prosecutor's Office. Katie Fox will send the letters to J.R. and the subject.

C. R.F.

The Committee discussed R.F.'s complaint. This is the second complaint this committee has received from R.F. The Committee was sent the video from the last meeting for those members that were not present for Mr. Montgomery's statements. The victim, RF, from out-of-state, was subpoenaed to appear in District Court (transferred from Justice Court) in South Jordan but was not provided with travel funds, despite statutes indicating municipalities *shall* pay for such expenses. R.F. was not adequately prepped or supported for testifying. Katie Fox discussed the Jury and Witness Act and the relevant parts of that Act that apply to witness travel. The state has funds dedicated to reimburse district and justice court cases for victim and witness travel. Under that statute cities shall pay for victim and witness travel. Despite this, many city agencies may not be aware of this.

Motion: Wendy Isom makes a motion to support a violation of R.F.'s right to be informed and assisted as to his role in the criminal justice process. Rachel Miller seconds the motion. The motion passes. Brandon Simmons abstained from the vote. None were opposed.

Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare letters sustaining the violation for R.F. and the South Jordan City Prosecutor's Office. Katie Fox will send the letters to R.F. and the subject. Katie Fox will also inquire about VSC's ability to research this issue further and provide clarity to prosecutor offices. Brandon Simmons will ask his office how they handle travel on misdemeanor cases.

D. M.R.

The Committee discussed M.R.'s complaint. Doug Fawson is the PREA Coordinator for the prison. Doug Fawson met with M.R. at the Gunnison Prison. He provided an update on his meeting with M.R. There is additional information that Doug Fawson would like to gather before making a determination about the complaint.

Motion: Rachel Miller makes a motion to hold this complaint over to the next meeting. Brandon Simmons seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Action Items: Doug Fawson will follow-up with Lieutenant Hunter and PREA before the next meeting.

E. T.L.

The Committee discussed T.L.'s complaint. The complainant alleges numerous violations related to T.L.'s ex-partner, primarily through "Our Family Wizard," and feeling threatened in court. T.L. also claims their picture was "posted everywhere" (implying the jail). T.L. generally alleges "unfairness" in police treatment. Rachel Miller was able to review several of the police reports and could not see evidence of "disparate treatment" or failure to return calls was found. It appeared that the police were careful to talk to both parties and review evidence.

Motion: Brandon Simmons makes a motion to close the complaint with no victim rights violation found. Doug Fawson seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously. None were opposed.

Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare a letter closing the complaint. Katie Fox will send the letter to T.L. and offer resources.

F. K.M.

	<p>The Committee discussed K.M.'s complaint. The Committee was sent the video of the last meeting for those who were not able to hear K.M.'s input. The response received from the A.G.'s office was sent to the Committee. The Committee discussed potential rights violations focusing on K.M. not being allowed to have family members speak at the sentencing while the defendant's mother was allowed to and not being notified of the restitution hearing. The Committee would like to review the audio of the Sentencing Hearing prior to making a determination.</p> <p>Motion: Rachel Miller makes a motion to hold this complaint over to the next meeting. Doug Fawson seconds the motion. Noora Chingaliyeva recused herself from the discussion and the vote. The motion passes unanimously.</p> <p>Action Items: Katie Fox will get the audio from the Sentencing Hearing and send it to the Committee for review prior to the next meeting.</p>
Agenda Item	New Complaints
Notes	<p>A. R.A. The Committee discussed R.A.'s complaint. R.A. was a victim of a 2002 assault and is upset that they were not notified when the suspect was apprehended 23 years later. R.A. reports that the charges were dismissed because they were not properly notified of court dates and could not attend. R.A. felt "put into danger" by the lack of notification of apprehension. The suspect turned himself in after learning of the warrant. The Utah Victim's Rights Constitutional Amendment was enacted in 2004, meaning the victim's rights provisions relevant to this complaint were not in place at the time of the original incident. Brandon Simmons told the Committee that the prosecutor did talk with R.A. about the dismissal and the reasons for it.</p> <p>Motion: Doug Fawson makes a motion to close the complaint with no victim rights violation found. Rachel Miller seconds the motion. Brandon Simmons and Wendy Isom abstained from voting. The motion passes. None were opposed.</p> <p>Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare a letter closing the complaint. Katie Fox will send the letter to R.A. and offer resources.</p> <p>B. K.C. The Committee discussed K.C.'s complaint. K.C. stated that they are not getting what they need from the assigned advocate, feels the advocate is not "emotionally invested" in the job, and received "not genuine responses." K.C. reached out to the supervisor, who declined to remove the advocate.</p> <p>Motion: Rachel Miller makes a motion to hold this complaint over to the next meeting. Doug Fawson seconds the motion. Brandon Simmons abstained from the vote. The motion passes. None were opposed..</p> <p>Action Items: Rachel Miller will reach out to K.C. to get more specific information about what happened with the advocate before we continue.</p> <p>C. H.M. The Committee discussed H.M.'s complaint. H.M. is describing a crime (domestic violence) but not a specific victim's rights violation. Katie Fox sent H.M. contact information for the Murray City Victim Advocate and the UDCV Helpline.</p>

	<p>Motion: Brandon Simmons makes a motion to close the complaint with no victim rights violation found. Rachel Miller seconds the motion. The motion passes. None were opposed.</p> <p>Action Items: Rachel Miller will prepare a letter closing the complaint. Katie Fox will send the letter to H.M. and offer resources. Rachel Miller will also try to reach out to H.M. and offer resources.</p>
Agenda Item	Other Business
Notes	The Committee discussed the July 21, 2025 meeting. Most members could attend. The Committee also discussed future meetings. Katie Fox will send out a Doodle Poll to get an idea of availability of the members.
Agenda Item	Public Comment
	No public comment was given during the meeting.
Agenda Item	Adjourn
Notes	<p>Motion: Doug Fawson made a motion to adjourn. Wendy Isom seconded the motion. The committee is adjourned.</p> <p>Next Meeting: July 21, 2025 12:00-2:00 pm</p> <p>Zoom link: https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/86287710268?pwd=UPkUJ2oalx3E8Ky0qKOBICdkq8bp38.1 </p>