

## DRAFT FIRST VICTIMS' RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 9, 2026

<b>Committee</b>	<b>First District Victims' Rights Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Date</b> <b>Time</b> <b>Location</b>	April 9, 2026 1:30-3:00 pm Virtual via ZOOM: <a href="https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/7326466029?pwd=GikZaNCDbUxwY6mHm6ulBqjOqbnkoO.1&amp;omn=85080368594">https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/7326466029?pwd=GikZaNCDbUxwY6mHm6ulBqjOqbnkoO.1&amp;omn=85080368594</a>
<b>Members Present</b>	<u>Virtual Attendance</u> : Blair Wardle, Cheryl Burgan, Steven Hadfield, Sarah Owen, Chad Reyes, Dane Murray, Curtis Hooley, Clinton Lund
<b>Staff &amp; Visitors</b>	<u>Staff</u> : Katie Fox <u>Visitors</u> : None
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions/Establish Quorum -Blair Wardle</b>
<b>Notes</b>	Blair Wardle welcomes everyone to the committee meeting and establishes a quorum.
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Approval of July 10, 2025 Minutes</b>
<b>Notes</b>	<b>Motion</b> : Dane Murray motions for the committee to approve the minutes from July 31, 2025 as presented. Chad Reyes seconds the motions. The motion passes unanimously.
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>New Complaints</b>
	<p>1. <b>L.M.</b></p> <p>The Committee discussed the complaint filed by L.M. This case was originally investigated in Ogden but was transferred to the Cache County Attorney's Office as a conflict-of-interest case at the request of the Weber County Attorney's Office. Cache County screened the case and filed a third-degree felony forgery charge against Rich Williams. The allegation centered on a document filed with the court that differed from the mediation agreement LM had purportedly signed. Following the filing, an affidavit was provided by Williams's legal assistant/paralegal, stating the discrepancy was a technical clerical error. L.M. alleges violations of the right to be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity, and the right to be informed and assisted. L.M. noted multiple times in the complaint material that they have cognitive disabilities. L.M. requested an two-hour-in person meeting to understand the proceedings.</p> <p>Dane Murray and Sarah Owens excused themselves from the meeting to allow an open discussion of the complaint. The committee clarified that under Utah law, victims do not have the right to veto or dictate a prosecutor's decision to dismiss a case. The Committee determined the focus of the inquiry must remain on whether the information relayed to the victim was fair and sufficient, rather than the merits of the dismissal itself. A significant portion of the discussion centered on whether informed is a subjective standard that changes based on the victim's capacity. Committee members compared the situation to providing accommodations for a blind person; if a victim discloses a cognitive delay, standard written communication (emails) may not satisfy the statutory requirement to be informed. The Committee determined that the current record is insufficient to decide if a violation occurred.</p> <p><b>Action Items</b>- Blair Wardle will email the Cache County Attorney's Office to request internal communication logs and records of all efforts made to contact and inform LM. Once the county's records are reviewed, the Committee may reach out to L.M. to see if any additional context could be provided regarding those specific communications. The Committee will meet on May 11, 2026 to review the information and determine the next steps.</p>

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
<b>Notes</b>	None
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>
	No public comment was given
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>
<b>Notes</b>	<p><b>Motion:</b> Chad Reyes made a motion to adjourn. Curtis Hooley seconded the motion. The committee adjourns.</p> <p>Next Meeting: May 11, 2026 10:00-11:00 am  Zoom link:  <a href="https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/7326466029?pwd=GikZaNCDbUxwY6mHm6ulBqjOqbnkoO.1&amp;omn=83337422672">https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/7326466029?pwd=GikZaNCDbUxwY6mHm6ulBqjOqbnkoO.1&amp;omn=83337422672</a></p>