

VICTIM'S RIGHTS AT EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Eastern University is concerned for those within the community who might become victims related to the actions of others in the community as well as those outside the community. Although internal incidents are rare, victims should know their rights and advocate for themselves regarding them. The following are Victim's Rights at Eastern University.

- To request advice and personal support from authorities without making a formal complaint
- To make a complaint and then withdraw the complaint
- To present a spoken or written report and or complaint concerning the matter, to appropriate authorities
- To have a friend or personal counselor accompany them at meetings concerning the matter
- Should the case go before the Student-Faculty Judiciary Board:
 - To submit a written statement to the Dean of Students to be read during the hearing
 - To request to the Dean of Students, anonymity during the hearing
 - To be informed of the outcome of the hearing. This may be done verbally or in writing by the Dean of Students or designee.

Victims may consider bringing their case through the legal system and/ or to other external authorities. The choice to do this or not rests solely with the victim. Note that adjudication of matters relative to student behavior within a private university setting is not subject to laws regarding legal proceedings, nor is it meant to be a substitute for the legal process.

Regardless of the victim's decision relative to bringing external charges, when school policy has been broken internal disciplinary procedures will be followed and concluded, with or without reference to external adjudication, at the discretion of the Dean of Students.

Victims who participate in the legal system should understand their rights under the law within the state of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania, victim's rights can be found here:

http://crime.about.com/od/victims/qt/victims_pa.htm

Victim's rights differ state by state. Victims are advised to check policy in the appropriate state where the concerning event occurred

Excerpt from Student Handbook

Updated August 2011

Published by Student Development, Eastern University