

By Senator Crist

13-1134-02

See HB

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to crime victims; creating s. 960.0021, F.S.; providing legislative findings; providing for an advisement from the court to the victim of a crime with respect to the rights of victims; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 960.0021, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

960.0021 Legislative intent; advisement to victims.--The Legislature finds that in order to ensure that crime victims can effectively understand and exercise their rights under s. 16, Art. I of the State Constitution, and to promote law enforcement that considers the interests of crime victims, victims must be properly advised in the courts of this state. Any judge who presides over a criminal docket at which accused persons are arraigned or sentenced, or when cases are considered for case management, shall announce the following advisement:

If you are the victim of a crime with a case pending before this court, you are advised that you have the right:

(1) To be informed.

(2) To be present.

(3) To be heard, when relevant, at all crucial stages of criminal proceedings to the extent that these rights do not interfere with the constitutional rights of the accused.

- 1           (4) To receive advance notification, when  
2           possible, of judicial proceedings and  
3           notification of scheduling changes, pursuant to  
4           section 960.001, Florida Statutes.  
5           (5) To seek crimes compensation and  
6           restitution.  
7           (6) To consult with the state attorney's  
8           office in certain felony cases regarding the  
9           disposition of the case.  
10           (7) To make an oral or written  
11           victim-impact statement at the time of  
12           sentencing of a defendant.

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14           For further information regarding additional  
15           rights afforded to victims of crime, you may  
16           contact the state attorney's office or obtain a  
17           listing of your rights from the Clerk of Court.  
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19           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
20 law.

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23           HOUSE SUMMARY

24           Requires the court to advise crime victims of described  
25           victim rights. See bill for details.  
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