

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the rights of crime victims;
3 amending s. 960.001, F.S.; providing that a victim may
4 refuse to communicate with the defendant's attorney;
5 providing that a victim may require that the
6 prosecutor be notified of and present for
7 communications with the defendant's attorney; amending
8 s. 960.0021, F.S.; revising an announcement by which a
9 court may advise a crime victim of his or her rights;
10 providing an effective date.
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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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14 **Section 1. Subsections (7), (8), and (9) of section**
15 **960.001, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (8),**
16 **(9), and (10), respectively, and a new subsection (7) is added**
17 **to that section to read:**

18 960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and
19 witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.—

20 (7) A victim may:

21 (a) Refuse to communicate with the defendant's attorney.

22 (b) Require that the prosecutor be notified of and present
23 for any and all communications between the defendant's attorney
24 and the victim.

25 **Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**

26 **960.0021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

27 960.0021 Legislative intent; advisement to victims.—

28 (2) The courts may fulfill their obligation to advise
29 crime victims by doing one of the following:

30 (a) Making the following announcement at any arraignment,
31 sentencing, or case-management proceeding:

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33 "If you are the victim of a crime with a case pending before
34 this court, you are advised that you have the right, upon
35 request:

36 1. To be informed.

37 2. To be present.

38 3. To be heard at all stages of criminal proceedings.

39 4. To receive advance notification, when possible, of
40 judicial proceedings and notification of scheduling changes,
41 pursuant to section 960.001, Florida Statutes.

42 5. To seek crimes compensation and restitution.

43 6. To consult with the state attorney's office in certain
44 felony cases regarding the disposition of the case.

45 7. To make an oral or written victim impact statement at
46 the time of sentencing of a defendant.

47 8. To refuse to communicate with the defendant's attorney.

48 9. To have the prosecutor notified of and present for any
49 and all communications with the defendant's attorney.

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51 For further information regarding additional rights afforded to
52 victims of crime, you may contact the state attorney's office or
53 obtain a listing of your rights from the Clerk of Court."

54 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.