
Purpose

This policy recognizes that Bemidji Police Officers will become involved with many different types of crime victims. Often these victims are unfamiliar with the criminal justice system or where to seek further help.

Policy

It is the policy of the Bemidji Police Dept. that the police officer will provide information regarding victim's rights to all crime victims as defined by Minnesota State Statute 611A.01.

Procedure

- A.** The initial notice of the rights of crime victims must be distributed by a peace officer to each victim at the time of initial contact with the victim.
 - a.** This will be achieved through the victim notification cards supplied by the department.
- B.** Following any domestic assault related arrest, the officer should seek current contact information from the victim and advise the victim that a domestic assault advocate will be in contact within the next 24 hours to explain legal rights and service options available.
- C.** It shall be the responsibility of the arresting officer to ensure that notification is made to a domestic violence advocate that an arrest has been made and provide the victims contact information. If the officer is not able to make notification, plans should be made to notify their office as soon as practicable.

Reference or Revision Date(s):

- A. REFERENCE;**
 - a.** Minnesota Statute 611A.01 – 611A.06
- B. REVISION DATE(S):**