

Employment Protections for Victims of Crime

21 V.S.A. § 472c

What is the law?

Alleged victims are protected from harassment or other discrimination by employers based on their status as an alleged victim. Employers are also required to provide alleged victims with job-protected, unpaid leave to attend certain legal proceedings relating to a relevant crime.

Effective as of: July 1, 2022

Who is an alleged victim?

An “alleged victim” is a person whom a prosecutor or other law enforcement official alleges, in a filed affidavit, has sustained:

- Physical, emotional, or financial injury or death
- As direct result of commission or attempted commission of a crime
- As direct result of commission or attempted commission of delinquency

Employee Rights

Employees who are alleged victims have the right to take unpaid leave to attend:

- Criminal proceedings where the employee is an alleged victim and has a legal right or obligation to appear at the proceeding;
- Relief from abuse hearings and neglect or exploitation hearings when the employee is a plaintiff; or
- Hearings concerning an order against stalking or sexual assault.

While on alleged victim leave, employees may use any accrued sick leave, vacation leave, or any other paid leave. Employees must continue to receive employment benefits while on leave and have the right to return to their same job or a comparable position upon return.

THIS IS A MANDATORY POSTER

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