

**5.04**  
**CRAIG POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Office of Chief of Police**  
**General Order**

**Date Issued:** December 17, 1997  
**Subject:** Victim's Rights  
**To:** All Officers

**Revision Date:** August 16, 2007  
**Reference:** CACP STD 250.1-4

**I. Policy:**

The Craig Police Department shall uphold the rights of victims and witnesses as stated in Colorado Revised Statute 24-4.1-302.5. Members shall treat victims and witnesses with fairness, compassion, and dignity.

**II. Definitions:**

Advocates-Crisis Support Services (ACSS) will provide referrals for the elimination of physical and emotional violence, focusing on power and control issues, by assuming a predominate role in the prevention, education, and active intervention through the re-empowerment of individuals.

Moffat County Victim Advocate Program (MCVAP) will provide on-call assistance to victims 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to a crime or incident scene as requested by a law enforcement agency.

Police Department Chaplain Program is available to provide psychological, emotional and spiritual support, and guidance to victims and any member of the Department or their families. Chaplains may be called 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to situations such as: chronic domestic violence situations, death notifications, serious injury accidents, etc. Chaplain can be contacted through dispatch.

**III. Procedure**

A. Every employee will provide information about the services available from ACSS, MCVAP or Chaplains to victims of crime, which are listed in The Rights of Victims of Crimes Brochure and to victims in the event of a traumatic event.

1. When requested by a victim, an advocate (of the victim's choice) from any of the above will be contacted to assist the victim.

B. If the victim declines assistance from an advocate the officer or supervisor will, after leaving the scene, notify ACSS of the call and that their assistance was not requested, and indicate that in the report.

C. In the event an employee receives a fatal injury or an injury where a substantial risk of death occurs, a member of ACSS, MCVAP or Chaplain will be asked to assist the employee and their family.

D. The Police Department will accept and deliver emergency messages. If these messages are death notifications the coroner will generally make them. In the event the coroner cannot deliver the message, an officer, who will be accompanied whenever possible by a member of ACSS, MCVAP or a Chaplain, will deliver the message.

**Authorized By:**

**Walter K. Vanatta**  
**Chief of Police**