

## ◎ Measures to support victims

To reduce the burden of victims, their families of those who got involved in crimes, and traffic accidents, the police provide various supports and aids.

### ■ Information provision

- Handbooks for victims of crime  
The police issue handbooks for victims, which summarize Japanese criminal procedures and all aids provided, etc.
- Victim liaison system  
The police provide victims with the progress of investigation, updates and how the suspects have been punished.
- Visit / Liaison activities  
Victims who live in Japan may request officers from corresponding police boxes or residential police boxes to contact them.

### ■ Direct support

- Designated victim support personnel  
Outside of investigators, designated police personnel (designated victim support personnel) offer various supports such as accompanying victims to hospitals after a crime occurs, along with consoling victims.
- Treatment for sexual crime victims  
At the requests of sexual crime victims, the police is solicitous for those victims,  
The police take into consideration victims of sexual crimes be having them deal with a police officer of their preferred gender accompany them.
- Interview  
Interview will take place in a comfortable room to put victims at ease.
- Victim support vehicle  
At the scene of an incident, the police take into consideration victim's privacy, by using a minivan with concealment.

### ■ Reducing the financial burden of the victims

Medical fees and a part of the counseling fee are paid at public expense.

- sexually transmitted infection testing
- emergency contraception and abortion
- transporting the body after an autopsy
- accommodation costs in case the victim needs temporary evacuation

\*This system may not be available in cases where the crime was committed among relatives or the victim.

## ■ Counseling

Victims of crimes suffering from shock are encouraged to consult with professional counselors if they have any worries or concerns.

## ■ Victims of crime benefit system

The government will issue benefits to bereaved families and victims who are severely injured, or suffer from a disability as a result of the intentional criminal act.

Foreign residents may also participate in this system as long as their address was in Japan at the time when the crime which caused their injury was committed.

\*This system might be only partially available.

## ■ Ensuring safety

The police will contact victims and provide them with the necessary guidance and advice, and will patrol at their home and workplaces depending on the situation to prevent further harm.

## ■ Victims and the family members

Victims of crime and the family members will be asked for a great deal during the course of the criminal procedure. When all a person wants to do is move on with their life, it can be intensely difficult to continue to revisit the crime. However, without the support of the victim or family members, it may be impossible to ensure that justice is carried out.

Please cooperate with the police in the following ways.

### ○ Police questioning

After the crime, the victim will be in a state of shock, and as a result you may not be able to remember or answer well. The police may also ask you about things that may seem unrelated to the crime, but please understand that these are necessary for the investigation.

The police take into consideration victims of sexual crimes by having them deal with a police officer of their preferred gender accompany them.

### ○ Submission of evidence

Victims may submit evidence such as the cloth or items worn at the crime.

If it is not necessary to keep items submitted to the police as material evidence the items will be returned.

### ○ Crime scene visit and review

Victims may be asked to revisit the crime scene and explain what happened.

### ○ Prosecutors questioning

The prosecutor may also question the victim.

Some questions may be asked repeatedly. It is important to understand that the prosecutor is not attempted to harass the victim, only to collect enough information to proceed with an indictment.

### ○ Appearances in court

Victims may appear at the trial as witnesses.