

1 ~~Rule 4-602. Victims' Rights Committees.~~

2 ~~Intent:-~~

3 ~~To provide consistency in the establishment of the Victims' Rights Committees in accordance with~~
4 ~~Utah Code Ann. Section 77-37-5.-~~

5 ~~To establish the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice as the responsible agency for the~~
6 ~~development of policies and procedures which govern the operation of the Victims' Rights Committees.-~~

7 ~~Applicability:-~~

8 ~~This rule shall apply to the judiciary and the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.-~~

9 ~~Statement of the Rule:-~~

10 ~~(1) On or before July 1st of each odd-numbered year, the presiding judge of the district court in each~~
11 ~~judicial district shall appoint the chair of the Victims' Rights Committee for that judicial district.-~~

12 ~~(2) The chair of the committee shall have experience in and knowledge of the criminal justice system~~
13 ~~and shall have an interest in the rights of victims and witnesses. The chair shall not be a member of the~~
14 ~~judiciary or be employed by the judicial branch of government.-~~

15 ~~(3) On or before September 1st of each odd-numbered year, the chair shall appoint the members of~~
16 ~~the Victims' Rights Committee. Members shall consist of: a county attorney, a sheriff, a corrections field~~
17 ~~services administrator, a juvenile court representative, an appointed victim advocate, a municipal~~
18 ~~attorney, a municipal chief of police and other representatives as appropriate. Members shall have~~
19 ~~experience in and knowledge of the criminal justice system and shall have an interest in the rights of~~
20 ~~victims and witnesses.-~~

21 ~~(4) The chair may succeed himself or herself at the discretion of the presiding judge. The members of~~
22 ~~the committee may succeed themselves at the discretion of the chair.-~~

23 ~~(5) The Committee shall act as a clearinghouse to distribute and standardize information relevant to~~
24 ~~victims of crime and the services available to them within the judicial district. It shall assume a leadership~~
25 ~~role in developing an educational program for the public as well as professionals who provide services to~~
26 ~~victims. Victims who have complaints may submit them in writing to the Committee. The Committee will~~
27 ~~note them for informational purposes and then forward them to the appropriate agency for action. Minutes~~
28 ~~of the Committee meetings shall be forwarded to the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice for~~
29 ~~distribution to local Committees on a statewide basis. The Commission shall also provide minutes of the~~
30 ~~meetings of the Governor's Council on Victims to the local Committees.-~~