



Ohio Revised Code Section 2930.14 Victim's statement.

Effective: April 6, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 343

(A) Before imposing sentence upon, or entering an order of disposition for, a defendant or alleged juvenile offender for the commission of a criminal offense or delinquent act, the court shall permit the victim and victim's representative, if applicable, to be heard orally, in writing, or both during the sentencing or disposition proceeding. The court may give copies of any written statement made by a victim or victim's representative to the defendant or alleged juvenile offender and defendant's or alleged juvenile offender's counsel and may give any written statement made by the defendant or alleged juvenile offender to the victim, victim's representative, or victim's attorney, if applicable, and the prosecutor. The court may redact any information contained in a written statement that the court determines is not relevant to and will not be relied upon in the sentencing or disposition decision. The victim's or victim's representative's oral statement is not subject to cross-examination. The written statement of the victim or victim's representative or the defendant or alleged juvenile offender is confidential and is not a public record as used in section 149.43 of the Revised Code. Any person to whom a copy of a written statement was released by the court shall return it to the court immediately following sentencing or disposition.

(B) The court shall consider a statement made by a victim or victim's representative under division (A) of this section along with other factors that the court is required to consider in imposing sentence or in determining the order of disposition. If the statement includes new material facts, the court shall not rely on the new material facts unless it continues the sentencing or dispositional proceeding or takes other appropriate action to allow the defendant or alleged juvenile offender an adequate opportunity to respond to the new material facts.
