

<b>SUBJECT:            VICTIM/WITNESS COORDINATION &amp; REFERRAL</b>
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**VICTIM/WITNESS POLICY**

- A.     The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation is committed to the fair treatment of victims and witnesses as prescribed by G. S. 15A-825. All Bureau employees, sworn and non-sworn, have an obligation to ensure that victims, witnesses and others who suffer severe personal hardship are treated with fairness, compassion, and dignity. The Bureau recognizes that without the cooperation of victims and witnesses, the criminal justice system would cease to function. Accordingly, the Bureau is dedicated to the development, implementation and the continuation of programs serving the needs of victims and witnesses.
  
- B.     The primary mission of the Bureau's Victim/Witness Coordination and Referral Program is to ensure that individuals who have experienced personal tragedy are referred to appropriate support agencies and other advocacy programs providing assistance.