



Victim Impact Video Statements

The Board of Parole has created a new process to submit victim impact video statements, allowing victims and interested parties to have their voices heard at parole hearings without having to be physically present. Beginning in 2022, victim impact video statements are now allowed to be submitted into the Board. Previously, only written statements or those attending in person were allowed.

What is a victim impact statement?

Victim impact statements, whether they are submitted in writing or via video, provide the opportunity for victims to describe to the parole board the impact the crime has had on their life – financially, physically, and emotionally.

Victim impact statements give Board members insight into the continuing impact of the crime. Victims can also inform the board about any concerns they have for their safety or the safety of the community.

Why are victim impact video statements available?

Victims and interested parties who may be unable to attend the hearing, or for whatever reason choose not to attend, have this option available to them. It is also available to victims and interested parties who are attending the hearing but may not be comfortable reading their statement.

How do you submit a victim impact video statement?

All victim impact video statements must be scheduled through the Board of Parole's Victim Services Division at either BDVictim.Impact@tn.gov, 615.532.8112 or toll free at 866.795.7467.

Are victim impact statements considered confidential?

Victim impact video statements are confidential property of the Board of Parole. The recordings will not be played during the hearings, nor will the content be discussed during the hearings. The recordings will be viewed by the hearings officer and/or Board members who are voting on a parole case.

How long should my video statement be?

Video Impact Statements can be up to five minutes long.

Do videos have to be submitted for each parole hearing?

Once a victim impact statement is submitted, it will be considered at each subsequent hearing the offender has until the BOP is notified by the victim or person in opposition of their desire to no longer have the video considered.

Who can view my video impact statements?

Victim Impact Statements are viewable to only Victim Services staff, hearings officers and Board members. They become a permanent and confidential part of the offender's file unless a victim or interested party submits a [Victim Impact Video Statement Discontinuation Form](#).