



# COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS

A community impact statement is a written statement made by a person on behalf of a community describing the harm or loss suffered by that community as a result of a crime.



If a community chooses to submit a community impact statement, the Court must consider it when an offender is sentenced.

The statement must clearly say why a person is speaking for the community. For example, the community may have held a community meeting open to all members to decide who would present the statement.



The community representative can choose to present their community impact statement by:



reading  
it aloud



reading it with a  
support person close by



reading it behind a screen or  
outside the courtroom by  
closed-circuit television



The Court can also allow a community representative to present their community impact statement in another way that it considers appropriate, such as through a pre-recorded video.

The community representative may also include a drawing, poem or letter to express how the offence has impacted the community.

