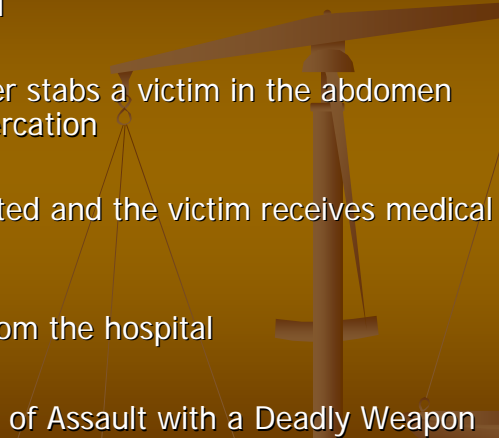


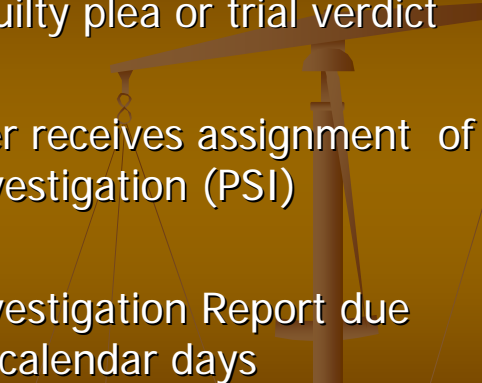


A Victim's Role in the Federal Sentencing Process

Offense/Crime

- A crime is committed
 - Example: An offender stabs a victim in the abdomen during a physical altercation
 - The offender is arrested and the victim receives medical treatment
 - The victim is billed from the hospital
 - Offender is convicted of Assault with a Deadly Weapon
- 
- A faint, stylized image of a balance scale is visible in the background of the slide, symbolizing justice and the legal process.

Court

- Conviction by guilty plea or trial verdict
 - Probation Officer receives assignment of Presentence Investigation (PSI)
 - Presentence Investigation Report due within 30 to 40 calendar days
- 
- A faint, stylized image of a balance scale is visible in the background of the slide, symbolizing justice and the legal process.

PSI

- The presentence report is a document which is written for the Court/Judge and copies are provided to Defense Counsel and the Assistant United States Attorney
- The PSI contains a summary of the offense, determines the guideline sentencing range, and includes Victim information

Victim Impact

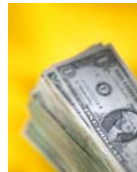
- The PSI reflects how the offense affected the victim and those close to the victim

Includes: medical treatment
 counseling
 traditional treatment
 statements from victim, family
 members, significant others



Restitution-reimbursement of loss

- Expenses incurred for treatment caused by the offense
- Medical-hospital costs
- Counseling costs
- Mandatory Victim Restitution Act
- Verification of loss



Obstacles

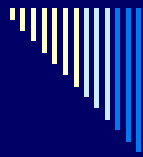
VICTIM:

- Victim's lack of understanding
- Timeliness
- Distance/
Transportation Issues

PROBATION/COURT:

- Contacting victim
- Locating victim





Suggestions for Improvement

- Educate victim ASAP after offense
- Maintain contact with victim by law enforcement, United States Attorney Office, Victim Advocates
- Maintain Victim Advocates in Indian Country
- Sharing information between agencies

SUMMARY

- How a victim can participate in the federal sentencing process
- Importance of victim impact to sentencing
- Improve process for victim in federal sentencing

